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Retail trade sales (Preliminary)

June 2012

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Results for June 2012

Retail trade sales estimates	June 2012 (R million)	% change between June 2011 and June 2012	% change between April to June 2011 and April to June 2012	% change between January to June 2011 and January to June 2012
At current prices	54 444	12,7	9,9	10,3
At constant 2008 prices	45 827	8,3	5,4	5,6

Seasonally adjusted estimates	June 2012 (R million)	% change between May and June 2012	% change between January to March 2012 and April to June 2012
At current prices	56 200	2,4	3,0
At constant 2008 prices	47 365	1,9	2,1

Measured in real terms (constant 2008 prices), seasonally adjusted retail trade sales increased by 1,9% in June 2012 compared with May 2012. This followed month-on-month changes of -0,6% in May 2012 and 1,2% in April 2012.

Retail trade sales in real terms increased by 8,3% year-on-year in June 2012. The highest annual growth rates were recorded for:

- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (16,4%);
- retailers in pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries (8,7%); and
- all 'other' retailers (8,5%) see Table 10 on page 8.

In real terms, retail trade sales for the second quarter of 2012 reflected an increase of 5,4% compared with the second quarter of 2011. The largest contributors to the 5,4% increase were:

- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (9,4% and contributing 2,0 percentage points);
- general dealers (3,8% and contributing 1,4 percentage points); and
- all 'other' retailers (6,8% and contributing 0,8 of a percentage point) see Table C on page 3.

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

Type of retailer	April to June 2011 (R million)	Weight 1/	April to June 2012 (R million)	Difference between April to June 2011 and April to June 2012 (R million)	% change between April to June 2011 and April to June 2012	Contribution (% points) to the % change in total sales 2/
General dealers	57 511	39,6	63 337	5 826	10,1	4,0
Retailers of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	14 380	9,9	15 345	965	6,7	0,7
Retailers in pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	10 407	7,2	11 447	1 040	10,0	0,7
Retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	29 062	20,0	32 607	3 545	12,2	2,4
Retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment	7 527	5,2	7 599	72	1,0	0,1
Retailers in hardware, paint and glass	10 635	7,3	12 350	1 715	16,1	1,2
All other retailers	15 684	10,8	16 957	1 273	8,1	0,9
Total 3/	145 205	100,0	159 642	14 437	9,9	9,9

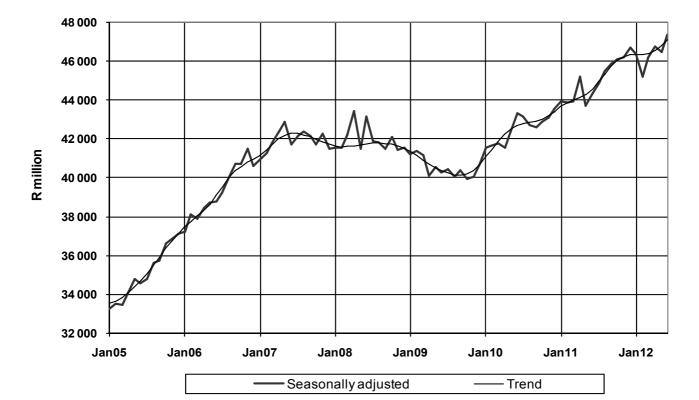
Table C – Contribution of each type of retailer to the percentage change in retail trade sales at constant 2008 prices

Type of retailer	April to June 2011 (R million)	Weight 1/	April to June 2012 (R million)	Difference between April to June 2011 and April to June 2012 (R million)	% change between April to June 2011 and April to June 2012	Contribution (% points) to the % change in total sales 2/
General dealers	48 639	38,1	50 480	1 841	3,8	1,4
Retailers of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	11 933	9,3	11 852	-81	-0,7	-0,1
Retailers in pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	8 471	6,6	9 027	556	6,6	0,4
Retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	27 216	21,3	29 787	2 571	9,4	2,0
Retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment	7 990	6,3	8 220	230	2,9	0,2
Retailers in hardware, paint and glass	8 913	7,0	9 720	807	9,1	0,6
All other retailers	14 599	11,4	15 599	1 000	6,8	0,8
Total 3/	127 761	100,0	134 685	6 924	5,4	5,4

1/ Weight is the percentage contribution of each type of dealer 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 dealer with its corresponding weight, divided by 100.

3/ Figures have been rounded off. Therefore discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and the totals.



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PJ Lehohla Statistician-General

Tables

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

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 ^{1/}	2012 ^{1/}
January	25 227	28 257	32 788	36 430	40 935	42 918	46 228	50 356
February	24 957	28 942	32 747	37 557	40 214	41 906	44 913	50 145
March	26 666	30 777	35 830	39 707	42 502	44 970	48 000	53 492
April	27 080	31 091	35 533	40 130	41 775	44 194	49 528	52 461
Мау	27 790	32 100	37 074	40 380	43 147	45 643	47 382	52 737
June	27 229	31 410	35 900	40 482	41 959	45 809	48 295	54 444
July	27 615	32 141	36 046	40 161	42 756	46 749	49 613	
August	28 090	32 531	36 763	40 827	42 139	44 498	49 471	
September	28 677	34 349	37 338	41 222	42 869	45 726	51 059	
October	30 394	34 734	38 285	43 375	44 257	47 431	53 015	
November	32 056	37 700	40 964	45 167	45 513	49 754	55 506	
December	42 445	47 617	52 098	58 621	60 479	65 998	74 805	
Total	348 226	401 649	451 366	504 064	528 545	565 596	617 815	

1/ Preliminary.

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in total retail trade sales at current prices 1/

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
January	5,9	12,0	16,0	11,1	12,4	4,8	7,7	8,9
February	7,8	16,0	13,1	14,7	7,1	4,2	7,2	11,6
March	9,1	15,4	16,4	10,8	7,0	5,8	6,7	11,4
April	12,9	14,8	14,3	12,9	4,1	5,8	12,1	5,9
Мау	9,7	15,5	15,5	8,9	6,9	5,8	3,8	11,3
June	8,0	15,4	14,3	12,8	3,6	9,2	5,4	12,7
July	7,8	16,4	12,1	11,4	6,5	9,3	6,1	
August	13,4	15,8	13,0	11,1	3,2	5,6	11,2	
September	10,0	19,8	8,7	10,4	4,0	6,7	11,7	
October	11,6	14,3	10,2	13,3	2,0	7,2	11,8	
November	11,6	17,6	8,7	10,3	0,8	9,3	11,6	
December	12,7	12,2	9,4	12,5	3,2	9,1	13,3	
Total	10,2	15,3	12,4	11,7	4,9	7,0	9,2	

1/ The year-on-year percentage change is the difference between retail trade sales of the relevant month of the current year and the corresponding month of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted total retail trade sales at current prices (R million)

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
January	27 352	30 902	35 514	39 212	43 395	45 617	49 248	53 891
February	27 490	31 801	35 873	39 559	43 939	45 812	49 142	53 061
March	27 327	31 759	36 602	40 747	44 170	46 278	49 303	54 456
April	28 163	32 411	37 458	41 964	43 489	45 872	50 848	55 122
Мау	28 486	32 641	37 697	40 811	44 188	47 287	49 683	54 904
June	28 540	32 930	37 279	43 029	43 997	47 805	50 522	56 200
July	28 754	33 665	37 963	41 761	44 392	48 047	51 355	
August	29 447	33 976	38 386	42 591	44 297	47 150	52 034	
September	29 479	34 950	38 455	42 563	44 199	47 388	52 787	
October	30 471	35 033	38 305	43 408	43 938	47 481	53 372	
November	30 450	35 964	39 065	43 239	44 233	47 906	53 325	
December	30 982	35 105	38 692	43 426	44 588	48 474	54 279	

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 ^{1/}	2012 ^{1/}
January	30 727	33 760	37 601	38 204	38 772	38 913	41 381	43 109
February	30 361	34 578	37 554	39 315	37 788	38 051	40 068	42 756
March	32 401	36 639	40 949	41 204	39 336	40 394	42 309	45 163
April	32 904	36 969	40 333	41 305	38 496	39 853	43 848	44 340
Мау	33 808	38 078	41 939	41 083	39 554	41 122	41 580	44 518
June	33 206	37 172	40 428	40 855	38 462	41 337	42 333	45 827
July	33 392	37 724	40 007	40 218	39 113	42 216	43 475	
August	34 007	38 137	40 622	40 071	38 308	40 152	43 230	
September	34 718	40 081	40 941	40 104	38 940	41 188	44 357	
October	36 752	40 248	41 659	42 002	40 234	42 729	45 938	
November	38 622	43 634	44 333	43 377	41 366	44 782	47 988	
December	50 893	55 049	56 261	56 325	55 187	59 655	64 850	
Total	421 791	472 069	502 627	504 063	485 556	510 392	541 357	

Table 4 – Total retail trade sales at constant 2008 prices (R million)

1/ Preliminary.

Table 5 – Year-on-year percentage change in total retail trade sales at constant 2008 prices 1/

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
January	4,0	9,9	11,4	1,6	1,5	0,4	6,3	4,2
February	5,8	13,9	8,6	4,7	-3,9	0,7	5,3	6,7
March	7,2	13,1	11,8	0,6	-4,5	2,7	4,7	6,7
April	10,7	12,4	9,1	2,4	-6,8	3,5	10,0	1,1
Мау	7,9	12,6	10,1	-2,0	-3,7	4,0	1,1	7,1
June	6,1	11,9	8,8	1,1	-5,9	7,5	2,4	8,3
July	5,3	13,0	6,1	0,5	-2,7	7,9	3,0	
August	10,8	12,1	6,5	-1,4	-4,4	4,8	7,7	
September	8,0	15,4	2,1	-2,0	-2,9	5,8	7,7	
October	9,9	9,5	3,5	0,8	-4,2	6,2	7,5	
November	10,2	13,0	1,6	-2,2	-4,6	8,3	7,2	
December	10,5	8,2	2,2	0,1	-2,0	8,1	8,7	
Total	8,2	11,9	6,5	0,3	-3,7	5,1	6,1	

1/ The year-on-year percentage change is the difference between retail trade sales of the relevant month of the current year and the corresponding month of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Table 6 – Seasonally adjusted total retail trade sales at constant 2008 prices (R million)

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
January	33 258	37 204	40 932	41 517	41 218	41 528	43 947	46 340
February	33 497	38 081	41 247	41 546	41 358	41 638	43 857	45 193
March	33 443	37 868	41 840	42 183	41 146	41 758	43 900	46 178
April	34 079	38 462	42 362	43 425	40 091	41 541	45 180	46 737
Мау	34 765	38 741	42 878	41 489	40 565	42 375	43 695	46 475
June	34 583	38 786	41 702	43 123	40 281	43 336	44 282	47 365
July	34 763	39 231	42 140	41 852	40 412	43 130	44 867	
August	35 621	39 997	42 390	41 837	40 073	42 699	45 466	
September	35 732	40 737	42 171	41 479	40 361	42 603	45 849	
October	36 586	40 706	41 716	42 068	39 933	42 871	46 086	
November	36 844	41 511	42 251	41 456	40 033	43 086	46 203	
December	37 103	40 582	41 458	41 543	40 635	43 515	46 667	

Year	and month 1/	Type A	Type B	Type C	Type D	Type E	Type F	Type G	Total 2/
2011	January	17 799	4 446	3 465	9 182	2 442	3 328	5 567	46 228
	February	17 858	4 381	3 230	8 063	2 216	3 706	5 461	44 913
	March	19 884	4 804	3 483	8 109	2 337	3 747	5 637	48 000
	April	18 808	5 101	3 585	10 893	2 492	3 369	5 280	49 528
	Мау	18 829	4 570	3 411	9 293	2 494	3 564	5 220	47 382
	June	19 874	4 709	3 411	8 876	2 541	3 702	5 184	48 295
	July	19 035	4 939	3 674	9 786	2 655	4 019	5 505	49 613
	August	19 540	4 882	3 462	8 872	2 690	4 015	6 012	49 471
	September	20 973	4 949	3 515	8 933	2 552	4 123	6 015	51 059
	October	19 820	5 457	3 668	10 591	2 866	4 466	6 146	53 015
	November	21 119	5 415	3 616	11 362	3 162	4 767	6 065	55 506
	December	29 120	8 025	4 087	17 554	4 259	4 232	7 527	74 805
	Total	242 659	61 678	42 607	121 514	32 706	47 038	69 619	617 815
2012	January	20 076	5 033	3 739	9 511	2 496	3 637	5 865	50 356
	February	20 518	4 964	3 437	8 628	2 342	4 122	6 134	50 145
	March	22 192	5 421	3 758	9 407	2 523	4 030	6 162	53 492
	April	20 321	5 198	3 840	11 418	2 340	3 884	5 460	52 461
	Мау	20 726	4 976	3 779	10 604	2 593	4 265	5 795	52 737
	June	22 290	5 171	3 828	10 585	2 666	4 201	5 702	54 444

Table 7 – Retail trade sales according to type of retailer at current prices (R million)

Figures are preliminary.
 Figures have been rounded off. Therefore, discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and the totals.

Table 8 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales according to type of retailer at current prices 1/

Yea	r and month	Type A	Type B	Type C	Type D	Type E	Type F	Type G	Total
2011	January	7,0	1,1	18,5	6,2	5,8	21,1	6,1	7,7
	February	7,0	2,8	12,8	5,4	1,4	22,3	4,6	7,2
	March	9,7	-1,8	7,4	3,5	5,1	12,1	6,1	6,7
	April	12,0	9,6	12,2	16,1	5,5	10,9	10,6	12,1
	Мау	9,2	-4,3	7,3	-1,3	2,2	-1,3	4,8	3,8
	June	7,3	2,6	8,7	4,2	2,8	7,4	1,2	5,4
	July	4,3	4,9	6,7	8,5	7,4	13,8	3,2	6,1
	August	12,0	7,6	10,1	8,3	10,8	11,8	16,5	11,2
	September	13,1	6,2	9,0	8,8	5,2	19,9	15,2	11,7
	October	10,7	13,6	6,3	13,0	11,5	20,1	9,6	11,8
	November	12,8	13,0	6,4	11,9	5,5	20,7	5,5	11,6
	December	15,9	15,5	6,8	14,4	2,8	7,9	12,2	13,3
	Total	10,3	6,3	9,2	8,8	5,4	13,7	8,0	9,2
2012	January	12,8	13,2	7,9	3,6	2,2	9,3	5,4	8,9
	February	14,9	13,3	6,4	7,0	5,7	11,2	12,3	11,6
	March	11,6	12,8	7,9	16,0	8,0	7,6	9,3	11,4
	April	8,0	1,9	7,1	4,8	-6,1	15,3	3,4	5,9
	Мау	10,1	8,9	10,8	14,1	4,0	19,7	11,0	11,3
	June	12,2	9,8	12,2	19,3	4,9	13,5	10,0	12,7

1/ The year-on-year percentage change is the difference between retail trade sales by type of retailer of the relevant month of the current year and the corresponding month of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Group type	Type of retailer included in group type 1/
Type A	General dealers
Туре В	Retailers of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores
Туре С	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 10 for more detailed specifications.

Year	and month 1/	Type A	Type B	Type C	Type D	Type E	Type F	Type G	Total 2/
2011	January	15 410	3 826	2 857	8 670	2 541	2 840	5 237	41 381
	February	15 435	3 764	2 652	7 599	2 330	3 146	5 142	40 068
	March	16 937	4 027	2 841	7 621	2 463	3 162	5 258	42 309
	April	16 020	4 258	2 929	10 228	2 645	2 838	4 930	43 848
	Мау	15 876	3 783	2 762	8 685	2 645	2 982	4 847	41 580
	June	16 743	3 892	2 780	8 303	2 700	3 093	4 822	42 333
	July	15 996	4 055	2 975	9 146	2 824	3 344	5 135	43 475
	August	16 365	3 998	2 806	8 253	2 865	3 324	5 619	43 230
	September	17 434	4 037	2 844	8 287	2 732	3 396	5 627	44 357
	October	16 313	4 394	2 953	9 788	3 065	3 670	5 755	45 938
	November	17 311	4 322	2 907	10 482	3 407	3 907	5 652	47 988
	December	23 869	6 374	3 291	16 179	4 624	3 472	7 041	64 850
	Total	203 709	50 730	34 597	113 241	34 841	39 174	65 065	541 357
2012	January	16 282	3 957	3 001	8 734	2 693	2 971	5 471	43 109
	February	16 627	3 921	2 743	7 908	2 532	3 330	5 695	42 756
	March	17 725	4 189	2 987	8 591	2 736	3 224	5 711	45 163
	April	16 218	4 008	3 033	10 427	2 535	3 087	5 032	44 340
	Мау	16 515	3 845	2 973	9 693	2 800	3 356	5 336	44 518
	June	17 747	3 999	3 021	9 667	2 885	3 277	5 231	45 827

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Table 9 – Retail trade sales according to type of retailer at constant 2008 prices (R million)

1/ Figures are preliminary.

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

Table 10 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales according to type of retailer at constant 2008 prices 1/

Yea	r and month	Type A	Type B	Type C	Type D	Type E	Type F	Type G	Total
2011	January	4,2	-3,8	13,8	6,8	11,3	18,2	8,4	6,3
	February	3,6	-2,5	7,9	5,6	7,2	18,9	6,6	5,3
	March	6,4	-7,3	2,8	3,4	11,1	8,7	7,7	4,7
	April	8,7	3,3	8,0	16,0	11,4	7,6	10,8	10,0
	Мау	5,1	-10,2	2,8	-2,2	6,8	-4,5	4,5	1,1
	June	2,7	-4,3	5,7	3,2	7,3	3,9	0,5	2,4
	July	-0,5	-2,5	3,7	7,3	11,5	9,9	2,4	3,0
	August	6,6	0,1	7,0	6,5	14,6	7,7	15,7	7,7
	September	7,2	-1,7	6,1	6,7	9,1	15,4	14,3	7,7
	October	4,0	4,0	2,8	10,6	15,4	15,5	9,2	7,5
	November	6,0	2,9	3,5	9,4	10,0	16,0	4,9	7,2
	December	8,7	4,9	3,9	11,5	7,5	3,8	11,8	8,7
	Total	5,3	-1,2	5,5	7,4	10,2	9,9	8,1	6,1
2012	January	5,7	3,4	5,0	0,7	6,0	4,6	4,5	4,2
	February	7,7	4,2	3,4	4,1	8,7	5,8	10,8	6,7
	March	4,7	4,0	5,1	12,7	11,1	2,0	8,6	6,7
	April	1,2	-5,9	3,6	1,9	-4,2	8,8	2,1	1,1
	Мау	4,0	1,6	7,6	11,6	5,9	12,5	10,1	7,1
	June	6,0	2,7	8,7	16,4	6,9	5,9	8,5	8,3

1/ The year-on-year percentage change is the difference between retail trade sales by type of retailer of the relevant month of the current year and the corresponding month of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Group type	Type of retailer included in group type 1/
Туре А	General dealers
Туре В	Retailers of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores
Туре С	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 10 for more detailed specifications.

Table 11 - Quarterly and cumulative estimates and percentage changes in total retail trade sales

Retail trade sales estimates	April to June 2011 (R million)	April to June 2012 (R million)	% change between April to June 2011 and April to June 2012	January to June 2011 (R million)	January to June 2012 (R million)	% change between January to June 2011 and January to June 2012
At current prices	145 205	159 642	9,9	284 346	313 635	10,3
At constant 2008 prices	127 761	134 685	5,4	251 519	265 713	5,6

Table 12 – Monthly and quarterly estimates and percentage changes in seasonally adjusted total retail trade sales

Retail trade sales seasonally adjusted estimates	May 2012 (R million)	June 2012 (R million)	% change between May and June 2012	January to March 2012 (R million)	April to June 2012 (R million)	% change between January to March 2012 and April to June 2012
At current prices	54 904	56 200	2,4	161 408	166 226	3,0
At constant 2008 prices	46 475	47 365	1,9	137 711	140 577	2,1

Explanatory notes		
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 2011 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).
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 retailer: General dealers; Retail trade in non-specialised stores with food, beverages and tobacco predominating; and Other retail trade in non-specialised stores. Retailers of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores: Retailers of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores: Retailers in fruit and vegetables; Retailers in bakery products; Retailers in bakery products; Retailers in tobacco; and Retailers in other food in specialised stores. Retailers in other food in specialised stores. Retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods: Retailers in ladies', girls' and infants' clothing; Retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment; Retailers in neading matter and stationery; Retailers in jewellery, watches and clocks; Retailers in jewellery, watches and clocks; Retailers in other specialised stores; Retailers in bousehold goods; Retailers in bousehold goods; Retailers in sports goods and entertainment requisites; Retailers in other specialised stores; Retailers in other specialised stores; Retailers in other specialised stores; Retailers in the specialised stores; Retailers in other specialised stores; Retailer
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 (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 June 2012 was 80,7%. The improved collection rate for the survey on retail trade sales for May 2012 was 86,0%.
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. 8 Survey The survey is conducted on a monthly basis. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of about 2 500 enterprises from a population of about 30 000 enterprises. methodology and Completed questionnaires are required to be returned to Stats SA within 10 days design after the end of the reference month. Fax and telephone reminders are used to follow up non-respondents. 9 The value of sales is obtained monthly from the sample of about 2 500 enterprises (which was drawn in April 2011) at the SIC four-digit level from a population then of about 30 000 retail enterprises. The retail sampling frame 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 10 For those strata not completely enumerated, the weights to produce estimates are methodology 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 www.statssa.gov.za/publications/publicationsearch.asp. Seasonal 11 Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month, using the X-12 Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by the US Bureau of the Census, 1968. adjustment 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. **Constant prices** 12 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 aggregating the deflated sales by type of retailer. 13 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. Trend cycle 14 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. **Reliability of** 15 Data presented in this publication are based on information obtained from a sample estimates 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. 16 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	17	to their figur	Normally 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	18	-	Users may also wish to refer to the following publications available from Stats SA:			
			of Statistics issued quarterly; and tistics issued annually.			
Rounding-off of figures	19		es have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of ent items and the totals.			
Symbols and Abbreviations	20	BR BSF GDP ISIC SARS SIC SNA Stats SA VAT	Business register Business sampling frame 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 Figures not available			
Changes in the next publication	21	sample drav	published in the next publication (July 2012) will be based on a new wn in April 2012. The periodic introduction of a new sample is part of strategic approach in improving the basis from which surveys are			

Technical note

Neyman optimal allocation A stratified random sample was drawn from the population of enterprises on the 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.

$$n_{h} = \frac{N_{h}S_{h}}{\sum N_{h}S_{h}}$$

 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 4,0%.

Class limits

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	

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 <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>
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.
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.

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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