STATISTICAL RELEASE

P6242.1

Retail trade sales (Preliminary)

May 2022

To convert retail sales at current prices to sales at constant prices, Statistics South Africa constructs deflators using components of the consumer price index and weights calculated from the retail structural industry survey (SIS). Previously the weights were based on the 2015 SIS. With effect from this publication (May 2022), the deflators were updated with weights from the 2018 SIS (starting from January 2018). For a short note on the retail deflator and the change in deflator weights, see page 5 of this statistical release.

In addition, this is the first statistical release presenting retail trade sales at constant prices with 2019 (instead of 2015) as the base year (see note on page 5).

Embargoed until:
13 July 2022
13:00

ENQUIRIES:
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FORTHCOMING ISSUE:
June 2022

EXPECTED RELEASE DATE:
17 August 2022

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Sales at constant 2019 prices: results for May 2022

Table A – Key growth rates in retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices

	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	3,0	8,1	-0,9	1,7	4,3	0,1
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,7	2,6	-1,3	0,3	0,6	-1,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	5,3	4,0	2,9	2,7	1,0	0,3

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

Measured in real terms (constant 2019 prices), retail trade sales increased by 0,1% year-on-year in May 2022. Positive annual growth rates were recorded for:
- general dealers (3,7%); and
- all 'other' retailers (2,1%) – see Table 5.

The largest positive contributor to this increase was general dealers (contributing 1,6 percentage points).

The largest negative contributors were retailers in:
- textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (contributing -0,7 of a percentage point); and
- hardware, paint and glass (contributing -0,6 of a percentage point) – see Table 6.

Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales decreased by 1,0% in May 2022 compared with April 2022. This followed month-on-month changes of 0,6% in April 2022 and 0,3% in March 2022. In the three months ended May 2022, seasonally adjusted retail trade sales increased by 0,3% compared with the previous three months.

Table B – Retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices for the latest three months by type of retailer

Type of retailer	Mar – May 2021 (R million)	Weight	Mar – May 2022 (R million)	% change between Mar – May 2021 and Mar – May 2022	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
General dealers	119 658	44,8	123 993	3,6	1,6
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	21 179	7,9	21 133	-0,2	0,0
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	21 221	7,9	21 754	2,5	0,2
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	43 209	16,2	44 300	2,5	0,4
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	12 892	4,8	13 406	4,0	0,2
Hardware, paint and glass	22 289	8,3	20 533	-7,9	-0,7
All other retailers	26 691	10,0	27 229	2,0	0,2
Total	**267 139**	**100,0**	**272 348**	**1,9**	**1,9**

Retail trade sales increased by 1,9% in the three months ended May 2022 compared with the three months ended May 2021. The largest positive contributor to this increase was general dealers (3,6% and contributing 1,6 percentage points) – see Table B.

Figure 1 – Retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices
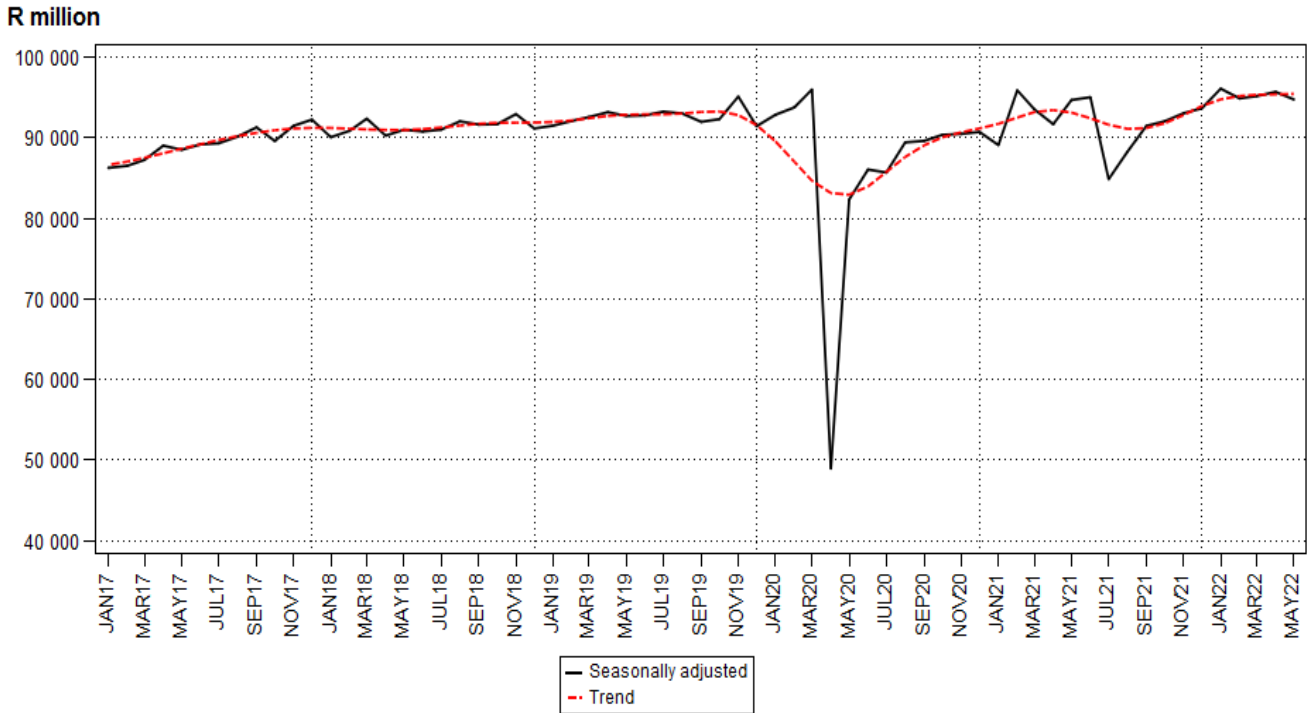
Figure 2 – Retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices: year-on-year percentage change
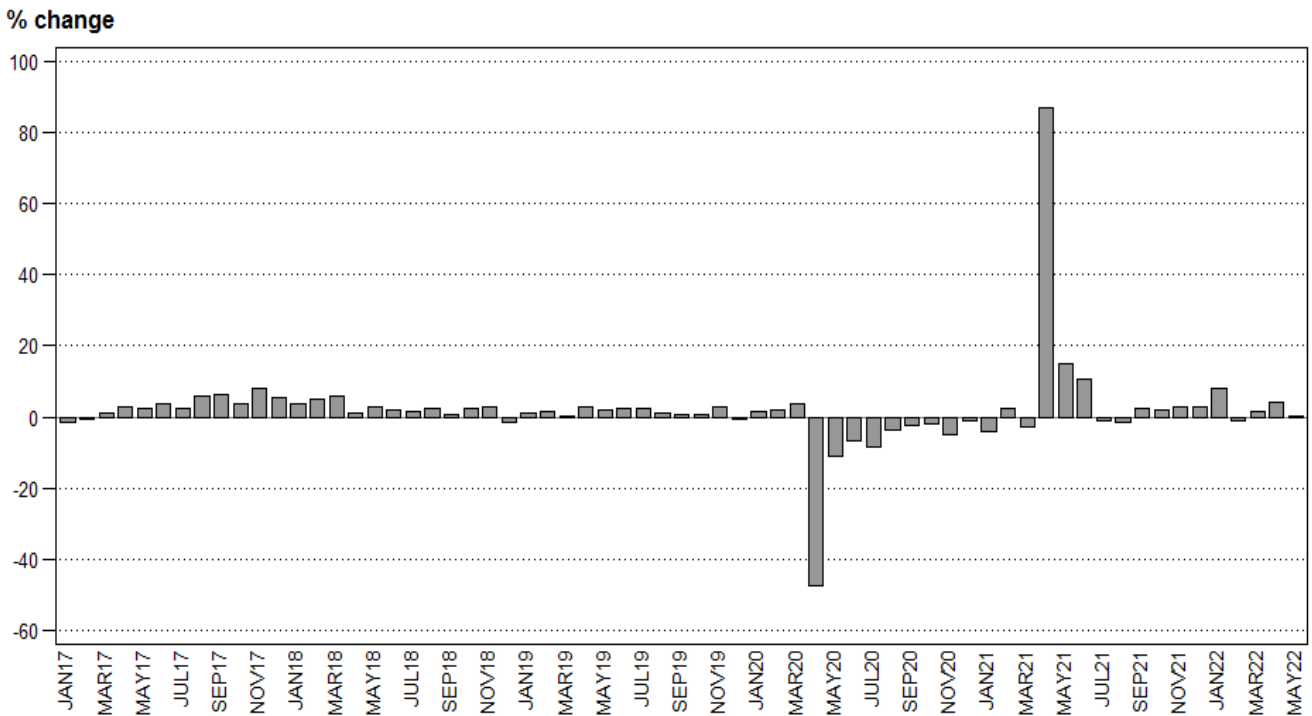
Sales at current prices: results for May 2022

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

	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	6,3	11,9	2,8	5,6	8,4	4,9
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	1,0	2,5	-0,6	0,6	0,6	0,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	6,2	4,7	3,6	3,4	2,0	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	Mar – May 2021 (R million)	Weight	Mar – May 2022 (R million)	% change between Mar – May 2021 and Mar – May 2022	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
General dealers	127 934	45,6	139 744	9,2	4,2
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	23 139	8,3	24 664	6,6	0,5
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	22 703	8,1	24 623	8,5	0,7
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	43 511	15,5	45 218	3,9	0,6
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	12 691	4,5	13 399	5,6	0,3
Hardware, paint and glass	23 733	8,5	22 937	-3,4	-0,3
All other retailers	26 748	9,5	27 423	2,5	0,2
Total	**280 456**	**100,0**	**298 009**	**6,3**	**6,3**

Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Note: Updating the weights of the deflators and the base year for retail trade sales

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) publishes monthly data for the retail trade industry. The monthly statistical release provides estimated sales at current and constant prices. To convert retail sales at current prices to sales at constant prices, Stats SA constructs deflators using components of the consumer price index and weights calculated from the retail structural industry survey (SIS). With effect from January 2018, the weights have been updated from the 2015 SIS to the 2018 SIS.

An updated deflator for each type of retailer was compiled according to the following procedure (same method as before but using new information).

(1) Using the 2018 retail SIS, identify the products sold by each type of retailer (previously, the 2015 retail SIS was used).
(2) Calculate the weight of each product's sales within each type of retailer (sales of the product as a percentage of the sales of the type of retailer).
(3) Match each product with a corresponding component of the CPI (December 2021 = 100).
(4) Multiply each CPI component from (3) by its weight from (2) and sum the results to derive a deflator for each type of retailer.
(5) Convert the results from (4) from December 2021 = 100 to 2019 = 100 (on average).

Retail trade sales at constant prices by type of retailer are obtained by deflating estimated sales at current prices by the relevant deflator. To obtain total retail trade sales at constant prices, estimates of the deflated sales for each type of retailer are aggregated. The impact of the new deflators and new base year on total sales is illustrated in Figure 3, Figure 4 and Table E.

Figure 3 – Total retail trade sales at constant prices showing change in deflator weights (with effect from January 2018) and different base years: R million
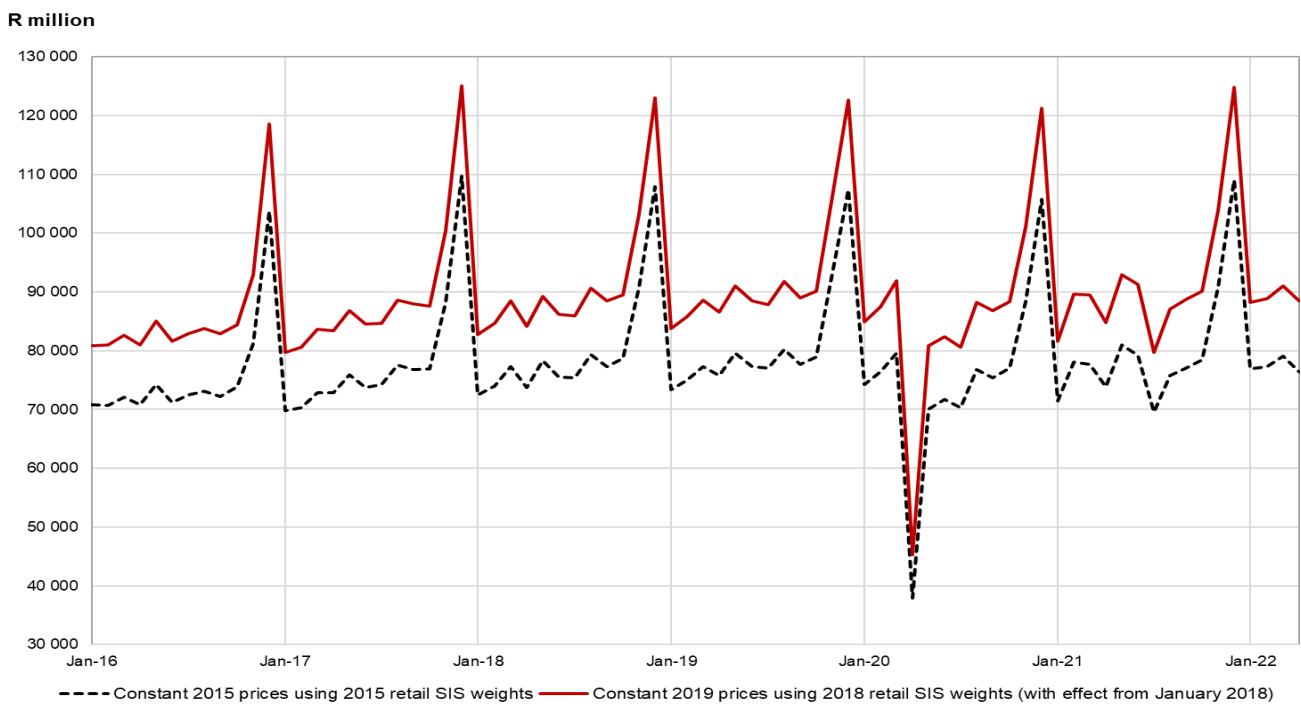
Figure 4 – Total retail trade sales at constant prices showing change in deflator weights (with effect from January 2018) and different base years: year-on-year percentage change

- - - Constant 2015 prices using 2015 retail SIS weights ——— Constant 2019 prices using 2018 retail SIS weights (with effect from January 2018)
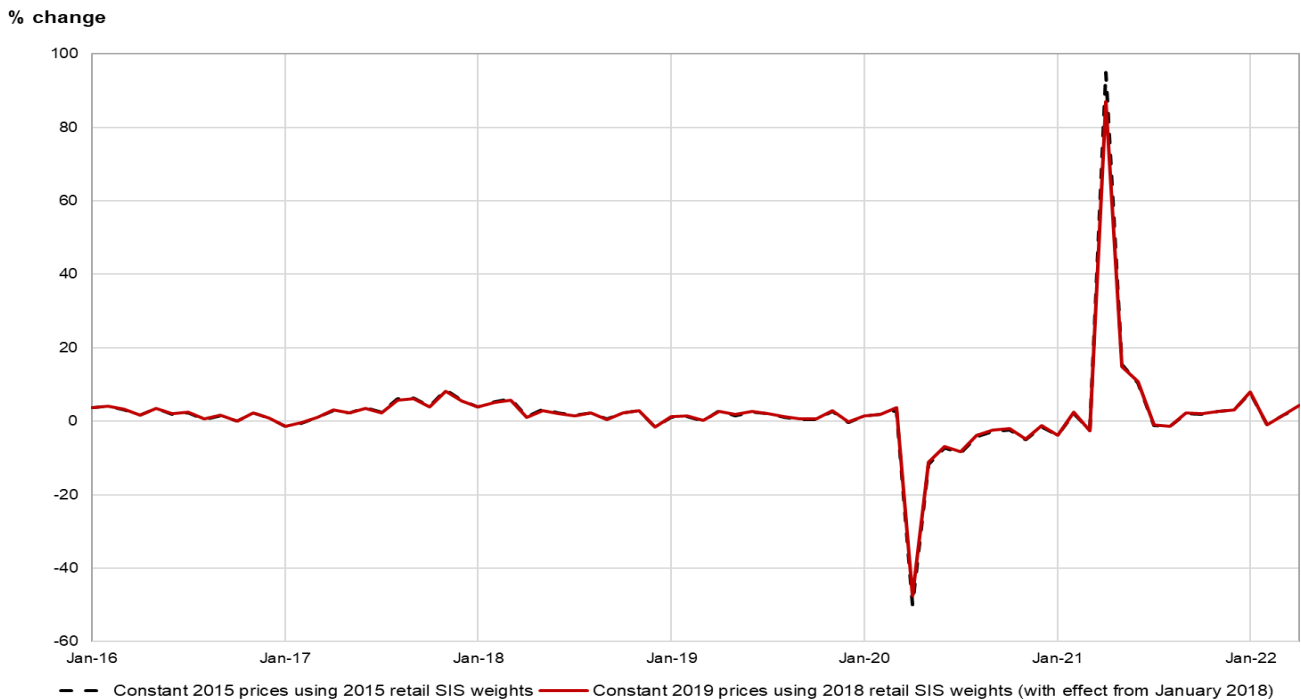
Table E – Total retail trade sales at constant prices showing change in deflator weights and different base years: annual growth rates (%) for total sales and components

Type of retailer	2018		2019		2020		2021	
	2015 prices, 2015 weights	2019 prices, 2018 weights	2015 prices, 2015 weights	2019 prices, 2018 weights	2015 prices, 2015 weights	2019 prices, 2018 weights	2015 prices, 2015 weights	2019 prices, 2018 weights
General dealers	0,8	0,7	1,2	1,3	-0,5	-0,5	1,0	1,0
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	-2,2	-2,2	0,8	1,1	-7,6	-7,7	5,9	5,7
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	2,8	3,2	1,3	1,9	-0,2	0,3	5,3	5,9
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	3,5	3,4	1,9	2,0	-12,0	-11,9	19,4	19,3
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	9,7	9,8	2,8	2,7	-2,2	-2,3	13,2	13,2
Hardware, paint and glass	-1,7	-1,8	-1,4	-1,3	-1,3	-1,3	8,8	8,8
All other retailers	8,3	8,7	1,9	2,3	-29,5	-28,9	6,4	7,2
Total	**2,3**	**2,2**	**1,2**	**1,4**	**-7,1**	**-6,5**	**6,4**	**6,2**

Tables

Table 1 – Retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices (R million)

Month	2016 *	2017 *	2018 *	2019 *	2020 *	2021 *	2022 1/ *
Jan	80 882	79 744	82 771	83 770	84 948	81 622	88 195
Feb	80 977	80 621	84 687	85 870	87 523	89 659	88 808
Mar	82 673	83 618	88 459	88 621	91 858	89 465	90 973
Apr	80 980	83 426	84 219	86 545	45 345	84 782	88 435
May	85 014	86 858	89 310	91 006	80 801	92 892	92 940
Jun	81 603	84 510	86 261	88 487	82 384	91 237	
Jul	82 874	84 715	85 988	87 849	80 577	79 753	
Aug	83 831	88 595	90 638	91 737	88 273	87 129	
Sep	82 926	87 973	88 433	88 934	86 803	88 726	
Oct	84 370	87 628	89 542	90 181	88 360	90 118	
Nov	92 895	100 427	103 257	106 216	101 120	103 852	
Dec	118 588	125 075	122 989	122 715	121 222	124 837	
Total	**1 037 613**	**1 073 190**	**1 096 554**	**1 111 931**	**1 039 214**	**1 104 072**	

1/ Figures for latest month are preliminary.
* Revised, see note on page 5.

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	*2022 year-to-date*
Jan	-1,4	3,8	1,2	1,4	-3,9	8,1	*8,1*
Feb	-0,4	5,0	1,4	1,9	2,4	-0,9	*3,3*
Mar	1,1	5,8	0,2	3,7	-2,6	1,7	*2,8*
Apr	3,0	1,0	2,8	-47,6	87,0	4,3	*3,1*
May	2,2	2,8	1,9	-11,2	15,0	0,1	*2,5*
Jun	3,6	2,1	2,6	-6,9	10,7		
Jul	2,2	1,5	2,2	-8,3	-1,0		
Aug	5,7	2,3	1,2	-3,8	-1,3		
Sep	6,1	0,5	0,6	-2,4	2,2		
Oct	3,9	2,2	0,7	-2,0	2,0		
Nov	8,1	2,8	2,9	-4,8	2,7		
Dec	5,5	-1,7	-0,2	-1,2	3,0		
Total	**3,4**	**2,2**	**1,4**	**-6,5**	**6,2**		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019	2020	2021	2022
Jan	91 507	92 861	89 097	96 100	0,4	1,5	-1,8	2,6
Feb	92 100	93 770	95 896	94 891	0,6	1,0	7,6	-1,3
Mar	92 580	96 003	93 539	95 171	0,5	2,4	-2,5	0,3
Apr	93 184	48 940	91 690	95 701	0,7	-49,0	-2,0	0,6
May	92 707	82 339	94 691	94 762	-0,5	68,2	3,3	-1,0
Jun	92 786	86 059	95 038		0,1	4,5	0,4	
Jul	93 251	85 689	84 858		0,5	-0,4	-10,7	
Aug	93 015	89 432	88 288		-0,3	4,4	4,0	
Sep	91 980	89 616	91 481		-1,1	0,2	3,6	
Oct	92 316	90 365	92 048		0,4	0,8	0,6	
Nov	95 120	90 486	93 050		3,0	0,1	1,1	
Dec	91 445	90 726	93 658		-3,9	0,3	0,7	

Table 4 – Retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices by type of retailer (R million)

Type of retailer	Dec-21 *	Jan-22 *	Feb-22 *	Mar-22 *	Apr-22	May-22 1/
General dealers	53 782	36 997	41 254	42 900	38 692	42 401
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	10 299	7 418	6 670	7 293	7 143	6 697
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	7 888	7 402	6 682	7 207	7 557	6 990
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	27 436	15 455	13 851	12 955	15 334	16 011
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	6 194	4 185	4 233	4 702	4 290	4 414
Hardware, paint and glass	7 800	6 663	6 914	6 760	6 410	7 363
All other retailers	11 438	10 075	9 204	9 156	9 009	9 064
Total	**124 837**	**88 195**	**88 808**	**90 973**	**88 435**	**92 940**

1/ Figures are preliminary.

* Revised, see note on page 5.

Table 5 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices by type of retailer

Type of retailer	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
General dealers	-1,0	6,3	-2,0	2,2	5,2	3,7
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	1,7	66,9	-4,6	1,1	3,9	-5,6
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	3,3	-2,7	8,3	4,3	3,5	-0,3
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	16,1	17,4	1,7	2,3	10,6	-4,0
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	1,3	2,2	2,1	6,4	6,1	-0,3
Hardware, paint and glass	-5,4	-12,2	-5,0	-8,9	-8,0	-6,8
All other retailers	2,4	1,7	-1,8	3,5	0,5	2,1
Total	**3,0**	**8,1**	**-0,9**	**1,7**	**4,3**	**0,1**

Table 6 – Contribution of each type of retailer to the year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices (percentage points)

Type of retailer	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
General dealers	-0,4	2,7	-0,9	1,0	2,3	1,6
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	0,1	3,6	-0,4	0,1	0,3	-0,4
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	0,2	-0,3	0,6	0,3	0,3	0,0
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	3,1	2,8	0,3	0,3	1,7	-0,7
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,3	0,3	0,0
Hardware, paint and glass	-0,4	-1,1	-0,4	-0,7	-0,7	-0,6
All other retailers	0,2	0,2	-0,2	0,3	0,1	0,2
Total	**3,0**	**8,1**	**-0,9**	**1,7**	**4,3**	**0,1**

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

Month	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 1/
Jan	72 295	75 885	80 046	82 627	86 080	84 567	94 610
Feb	73 080	76 845	82 111	84 962	88 991	93 241	95 876
Mar	75 133	80 072	85 788	88 061	93 703	93 763	99 027
Apr	74 740	79 929	82 155	86 120	46 449	89 035	96 521
May	78 529	83 528	87 277	90 922	82 102	97 658	102 461
Jun	75 420	81 035	84 311	88 547	83 850	96 438	
Jul	76 928	81 482	84 161	87 914	82 142	84 419	
Aug	78 099	85 074	88 634	92 086	90 321	92 652	
Sep	77 238	84 362	86 601	89 471	89 019	94 374	
Oct	79 282	84 412	87 748	90 638	91 054	96 191	
Nov	87 418	96 693	101 458	106 983	104 445	110 743	
Dec	112 299	120 421	120 815	123 595	125 259	133 121	
Total	**960 461**	**1 029 738**	**1 071 105**	**1 111 926**	**1 063 415**	**1 166 202**	

1/ Figures for latest month are preliminary.

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

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	*2022 year-to-date*
Jan	5,0	5,5	3,2	4,2	-1,8	11,9	*11,9*
Feb	5,2	6,9	3,5	4,7	4,8	2,8	*7,1*
Mar	6,6	7,1	2,6	6,4	0,1	5,6	*6,6*
Apr	6,9	2,8	4,8	-46,1	91,7	8,4	*7,1*
May	6,4	4,5	4,2	-9,7	18,9	4,9	*6,6*
Jun	7,4	4,0	5,0	-5,3	15,0		
Jul	5,9	3,3	4,5	-6,6	2,8		
Aug	8,9	4,2	3,9	-1,9	2,6		
Sep	9,2	2,7	3,3	-0,5	6,0		
Oct	6,5	4,0	3,3	0,5	5,6		
Nov	10,6	4,9	5,4	-2,4	6,0		
Dec	7,2	0,3	2,3	1,3	6,3		
Total	**7,2**	**4,0**	**3,8**	**-4,4**	**9,7**		

Table 9 – Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at current prices

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019	2020	2021	2022
Jan	90 329	94 160	92 368	103 123	-0,2	1,3	-2,2	2,5
Feb	91 053	95 306	99 737	102 479	0,8	1,2	8,0	-0,6
Mar	91 487	97 410	97 553	103 135	0,5	2,2	-2,2	0,6
Apr	92 065	49 800	95 653	103 772	0,6	-48,9	-1,9	0,6
May	92 191	83 248	98 992	103 830	0,1	67,2	3,5	0,1
Jun	92 684	87 425	100 264		0,5	5,0	1,3	
Jul	93 271	87 339	89 858		0,6	-0,1	-10,4	
Aug	93 418	91 555	93 930		0,2	4,8	4,5	
Sep	92 697	92 044	97 455		-0,8	0,5	3,8	
Oct	92 898	93 255	98 390		0,2	1,3	1,0	
Nov	96 042	93 756	99 581		3,4	0,5	1,2	
Dec	92 928	94 484	100 598		-3,2	0,8	1,0	

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

Type of retailer	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22 1/
General dealers	58 887	40 734	45 717	47 923	43 480	48 341
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	11 661	8 477	7 640	8 435	8 317	7 912
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	8 702	8 195	7 436	8 100	8 553	7 970
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	27 818	15 686	14 065	13 192	15 644	16 382
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	6 139	4 162	4 208	4 687	4 289	4 423
Hardware, paint and glass	8 458	7 294	7 609	7 504	7 160	8 273
All other retailers	11 457	10 062	9 201	9 185	9 077	9 161
Total	**133 121**	**94 610**	**95 876**	**99 027**	**96 521**	**102 461**

1/ Figures are preliminary.

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

Type of retailer	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
General dealers	3,2	11,1	2,9	7,2	10,5	10,2
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	8,0	77,7	1,6	7,9	10,6	1,4
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	9,0	2,0	14,2	10,1	9,4	5,9
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	17,7	18,5	2,8	3,4	12,0	-2,5
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	1,8	2,2	2,6	7,1	7,6	2,2
Hardware, paint and glass	-1,6	-8,0	-0,6	-4,6	-3,5	-2,0
All other retailers	2,6	2,2	-1,5	3,5	1,0	3,2
Total	**6,3**	**11,9**	**2,8**	**5,6**	**8,4**	**4,9**

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	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
General dealers	1,5	4,8	1,4	3,4	4,6	4,6
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	0,7	4,4	0,1	0,7	0,9	0,1
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	0,6	0,2	1,0	0,8	0,8	0,5
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	3,3	2,9	0,4	0,5	1,9	-0,4
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,3	0,3	0,1
Hardware, paint and glass	-0,1	-0,8	0,0	-0,4	-0,3	-0,2
All other retailers	0,2	0,3	-0,2	0,3	0,1	0,3
Total	**6,3**	**11,9**	**2,8**	**5,6**	**8,4**	**4,9**

Survey information

Introduction	**1**	Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey of the retail trade industry, covering retail enterprises (see point 4 below). This survey is based on a sample drawn from Stats SA's 2021 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 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, cosmetics 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 sport goods and entertainment requisites;
  - ➢ Retailers in 'other' specialised stores;
  - ➢ Repair of personal and household goods;
  - ➢ Retail trade in second-hand goods in stores; and
  - ➢ Retail trade not in stores.

Classification	**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. 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 May 2022 was 64,0%. The improved collection rate for April 2022 was 73,1%.

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 publication available from Stats SA:

- *Stats in Brief* 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 website. To access the data electronically, use the following link: Click to download historical data
Past publications	**12**	Past retail trade sales releases are available on the Stats SA website. To access the releases electronically, use the following link: Click to download past releases

Technical notes

Survey methodology and design	**1**	The survey is conducted on a monthly basis. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of 3 095 enterprises from a population of 22 041 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 2021 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).

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

$$nh = n * (Nh * Sh) / [\, \Sigma \, (Ni * Si) \,].$$

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 8,0%.

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	1 167 786	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 United States Census Bureau. 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. The X-12-ARIMA procedure for retail trade sales is described in more detail on the Stats SA website: [Click to download seasonal adjustment retail trade sales February 2022](#)
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 *System of National Accounts* (SNA) in the same way as in the *Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities* (SIC)*,* Fifth Edition*,* Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993.

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   BSF   Business sampling frame
abbreviations   CPI   Consumer price index
                         GDP   Gross domestic product
                         ISIC   International Standard Industrial Classification
                         SARS   South African Revenue Service
                         SIC   Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities
                         SNA   System of National Accounts
                         Stats SA   Statistics South Africa
                         VAT   Value added tax

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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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