

# Statistical release P6242.1

# Retail trade sales (Preliminary)

September 2013

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**Enquiries:** 

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### Sales at constant 2012 prices: results for September 2013

Table A - Key growth rates in retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices

	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	2,1	6,1	1,4	2,9	3,2	0,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,4	2,0	-0,5	-0,4	1,2	-0,7
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	0,8	0,6	0,9	0,9	0,8	0,4

<sup>1/</sup> 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 0,2% year-on-year in September 2013. Positive annual growth rates were recorded for retailers in:

- textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (5,9%); and
- hardware, paint and glass (3,4%) see Table 5.

Positive contributors to the 0,2% increase were retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (contributing 1,1 percentage points) and retailers in hardware, paint and glass (contributing 0,3 of a percentage point) – see Table 6.

Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales decreased by 0,7% month-on-month in September 2013. This followed month-on-month changes of 1,2% in August 2013 and -0,4% in July 2013.

Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales increased by 0,4% in the third quarter of 2013 compared with the previous quarter.

Table B – Retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices for the latest three months by type of retailer

Type of retailer	Jul – Sep 2012 (R million)	Weight	Jul – Sep 2013 (R million)	% change between Jul – Sep 2012 and Jul – Sep 2013	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
General dealers	62 813	39,5	63 157	0,5	0,2
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	14 711	9,3	14 788	0,5	0,0
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	12 058	7,6	11 982	-0,6	0,0
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	31 414	19,8	33 754	7,4	1,5
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	8 654	5,4	8 239	-4,8	-0,3
Hardware, paint and glass	13 003	8,2	13 786	6,0	0,5
All other retailers	16 323	10,3	16 565	1,5	0,2
Total	158 978	100,0	162 271	2,1	2,1

Retail trade sales increased by 2,1% in the third quarter of 2013 compared with the third quarter of 2012. The main contributors to this increase were retailers in:

- textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (7,4% and contributing 1,5 percentage points); and
- hardware, paint and glass (6,0% and contributing 0,5 of a percentage point) see Table B.

Figure 1 - Retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices

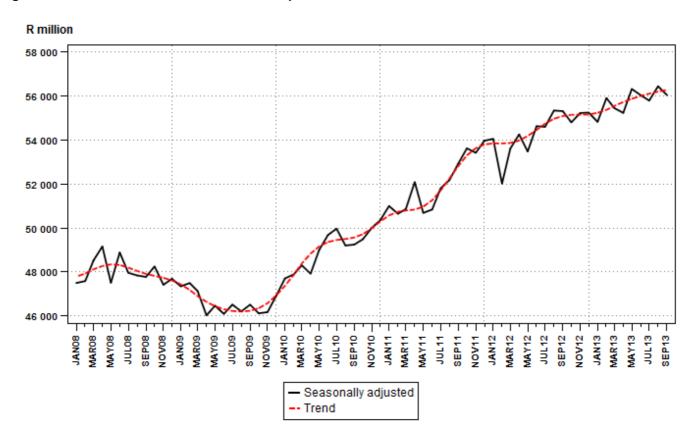
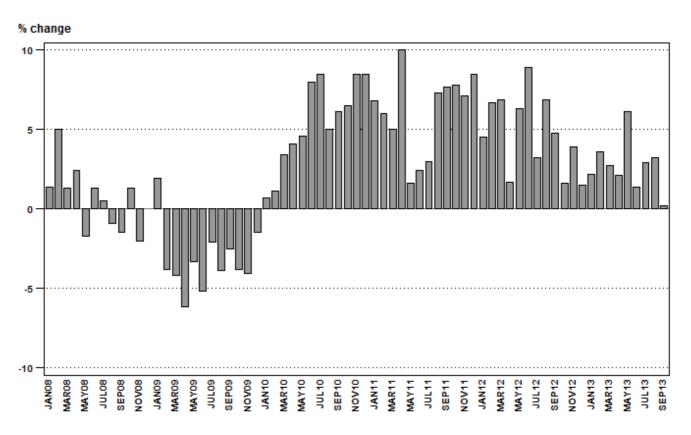


Figure 2 – Retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices: year-on-year percentage change



### Sales at current prices: results for September 2013

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

	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	6,5	10,4	5,6	7,0	7,6	4,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,6	1,5	-0,1	-0,4	1,8	-0,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	2,1	1,4	1,7	1,3	1,4	1,2

<sup>1/</sup> 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	Jul – Sep 2012 (R million)	Weight	Jul – Sep 2013 (R million)	% change between Jul – Sep 2012 and Jul – Sep 2013	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
General dealers	62 712	39,5	66 117	5,4	2,1
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	14 596	9,2	15 581	6,7	0,6
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	12 098	7,6	12 432	2,8	0,2
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	31 396	19,8	34 864	11,0	2,2
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	8 660	5,4	8 241	-4,8	-0,3
Hardware, paint and glass	13 126	8,3	14 462	10,2	0,8
All other retailers	16 322	10,3	17 193	5,3	0,5
Total	158 909	100,0	168 892	6,3	6,3

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	42 921	43 538	44 369	44 662	47 699	49 837	50 924
Feb	42 867	45 006	43 315	43 771	46 387	49 495	51 297
Mar	46 717	47 310	45 313	46 868	49 188	52 599	54 020
Apr	46 081	47 178	44 246	46 054	50 652	51 496	52 594
May	47 828	47 019	45 449	47 550	48 328	51 395	54 527
Jun	46 128	46 739	44 303	47 858	49 030	53 377	54 138
Jul	45 715	45 936	44 979	48 807	50 259	51 861	53 374
Aug	46 383	45 970	44 197	46 422	49 819	53 275	54 964
Sep	46 805	46 116	44 979	47 704	51 366	53 842	53 933
Oct	47 564	48 176	46 361	49 377	53 240	54 090	
Nov	50 635	49 600	47 546	51 578	55 249	57 383	
Dec	64 153	64 134	63 188	68 547	74 348	75 487	
Total	573 797	576 722	558 245	589 198	625 565	654 137	

<sup>1/</sup> 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	1,4	1,9	0,7	6,8	4,5	2,2	2,2
Feb	5,0	-3,8	1,1	6,0	6,7	3,6	2,9
Mar	1,3	-4,2	3,4	5,0	6,9	2,7	2,8
Apr	2,4	-6,2	4,1	10,0	1,7	2,1	2,7
May	-1,7	-3,3	4,6	1,6	6,3	6,1	3,4
Jun	1,3	-5,2	8,0	2,4	8,9	1,4	3,0
Jul	0,5	-2,1	8,5	3,0	3,2	2,9	3,0
Aug	-0,9	-3,9	5,0	7,3	6,9	3,2	3,0
Sep	-1,5	-2,5	6,1	7,7	4,8	0,2	2,7
Oct	1,3	-3,8	6,5	7,8	1,6		
Nov	-2,0	-4,1	8,5	7,1	3,9		
Dec	0,0	-1,5	8,5	8,5	1,5		
Total	0,5	-3,2	5,5	6,2	4,6		

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

NA 41-		R mi	llion		Month-on-month % change					
Month	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013		
Jan	47 701	50 997	54 055	54 825	1,7	1,3	0,2	-0,8		
Feb	47 886	50 645	52 017	55 910	0,4	-0,7	-3,8	2,0		
Mar	48 301	50 864	53 610	55 453	0,9	0,4	3,1	-0,8		
Apr	47 916	52 088	54 257	55 236	-0,8	2,4	1,2	-0,4		
May	48 998	50 684	53 477	56 326	2,3	-2,7	-1,4	2,0		
Jun	49 680	50 838	54 630	56 042	1,4	0,3	2,2	-0,5		
Jul	49 966	51 805	54 602	55 795	0,6	1,9	-0,1	-0,4		
Aug	49 201	52 185	55 344	56 449	-1,5	0,7	1,4	1,2		
Sep	49 242	52 935	55 316	56 049	0,1	1,4	-0,1	-0,7		
Oct	49 484	53 623	54 805		0,5	1,3	-0,9			
Nov	49 997	53 420	55 229		1,0	-0,4	0,8			
Dec	50 349	53 968	55 249		0,7	1,0	0,0			

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

Type of retailer	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13 1/
General dealers	19 605	21 083	21 663	19 914	21 164	22 079
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	4 596	4 711	4 796	4 933	5 003	4 852
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	4 128	3 990	3 915	4 239	3 956	3 787
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	12 189	12 216	11 397	11 369	11 700	10 685
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	2 445	2 715	2 748	2 771	2 791	2 677
Hardware, paint and glass	3 986	4 432	4 306	4 539	4 705	4 542
All other retailers	5 645	5 380	5 313	5 609	5 645	5 311
Total	52 594	54 527	54 138	53 374	54 964	53 933

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.

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

Type of retailer	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13
General dealers	-1,2	5,5	0,4	-0,6	2,8	-0,6
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	-3,6	2,2	0,2	4,8	2,0	-4,9
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	3,7	0,9	-2,4	-0,6	-0,3	-1,0
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	5,0	13,6	4,1	8,7	7,7	5,9
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	-2,8	-0,7	-2,7	-1,3	-6,9	-6,0
Hardware, paint and glass	4,9	6,2	6,7	10,5	4,5	3,4
All other retailers	13,4	3,6	2,3	2,1	3,5	-1,1
Total	2,1	6,1	1,4	2,9	3,2	0,2

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	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13
General dealers	-0,5	2,1	0,2	-0,2	1,1	-0,2
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	-0,3	0,2	0,0	0,4	0,2	-0,5
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	0,3	0,1	-0,2	0,0	0,0	-0,1
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	1,1	2,8	0,8	1,8	1,6	1,1
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	-0,1	0,0	-0,1	-0,1	-0,4	-0,3
Hardware, paint and glass	0,4	0,5	0,5	0,8	0,4	0,3
All other retailers	1,3	0,4	0,2	0,2	0,4	-0,1
Total	2,1	6,1	1,4	2,9	3,2	0,2

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

Month	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013 1/
Jan	31 976	35 528	39 922	41 856	45 084	48 951	52 232
Feb	31 936	36 628	39 218	40 869	43 802	48 647	52 632
Mar	34 944	38 725	41 451	43 858	46 814	52 049	55 648
Apr	34 653	39 137	40 742	43 100	48 208	51 078	54 411
May	36 158	39 381	42 080	44 513	46 376	51 076	56 391
Jun	35 011	39 480	40 921	44 676	47 029	53 102	56 054
Jul	35 155	39 167	41 698	45 593	48 348	51 680	55 287
Aug	35 854	39 817	41 097	43 397	48 064	53 148	57 167
Sep	36 414	40 203	41 808	44 594	49 694	54 081	56 438
Oct	37 338	42 302	43 162	46 259	51 847	54 850	
Nov	39 951	44 049	44 387	48 523	53 932	58 425	
Dec	50 809	57 172	58 983	64 365	72 598	77 040	
Total	440 199	491 589	515 469	551 603	601 796	654 135	

<sup>1/</sup> 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	6,7	6,7
Feb	14,7	7,1	4,2	7,2	11,1	8,2	7,4
Mar	10,8	7,0	5,8	6,7	11,2	6,9	7,3
Apr	12,9	4,1	5,8	11,9	6,0	6,5	7,1
May	8,9	6,9	5,8	4,2	10,1	10,4	7,7
Jun	12,8	3,6	9,2	5,3	12,9	5,6	7,4
Jul	11,4	6,5	9,3	6,0	6,9	7,0	7,3
Aug	11,1	3,2	5,6	10,8	10,6	7,6	7,3
Sep	10,4	4,0	6,7	11,4	8,8	4,4	7,0
Oct	13,3	2,0	7,2	12,1	5,8		
Nov	10,3	0,8	9,3	11,1	8,3		
Dec	12,5	3,2	9,1	12,8	6,1		
Total	11,7	4,9	7,0	9,1	8,7		

Table 9 - Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at current prices

Month		R million				Month-on-month % change				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013		
Jan	44 534	48 014	52 909	55 902	1,7	1,5	0,4	-0,8		
Feb	44 812	48 009	51 373	57 722	0,6	0,0	-2,9	3,3		
Mar	45 079	48 237	52 858	56 937	0,6	0,5	2,9	-1,4		
Apr	45 088	49 747	54 019	57 271	0,0	3,1	2,2	0,6		
May	45 581	48 425	52 944	58 138	1,1	-2,7	-2,0	1,5		
Jun	46 514	48 880	54 402	58 080	2,0	0,9	2,8	-0,1		
Jul	46 752	49 939	54 563	57 870	0,5	2,2	0,3	-0,4		
Aug	46 093	50 445	55 393	58 883	-1,4	1,0	1,5	1,8		
Sep	46 076	51 325	55 619	58 812	0,0	1,7	0,4	-0,1		
Oct	46 300	52 132	55 468		0,5	1,6	-0,3			
Nov	46 926	51 969	56 148		1,4	-0,3	1,2			
Dec	47 317	52 684	56 355		0,8	1,4	0,4			

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

Type of retailer	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13 1/
General dealers	20 370	21 884	22 530	20 730	22 138	23 249
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	4 858	4 970	5 045	5 194	5 258	5 129
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	4 260	4 130	4 052	4 392	4 098	3 942
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	12 482	12 509	11 693	11 676	12 086	11 102
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	2 457	2 726	2 740	2 763	2 788	2 690
Hardware, paint and glass	4 165	4 614	4 495	4 730	4 940	4 792
All other retailers	5 820	5 558	5 499	5 800	5 859	5 534
Total	54 411	56 391	56 054	55 287	57 167	56 438

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.

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

Type of retailer	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13
General dealers	3,6	10,5	5,2	4,0	8,0	4,3
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	2,7	8,9	6,8	12,0	8,6	0,3
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	7,5	4,5	1,4	3,0	3,1	2,2
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	8,5	17,2	7,5	12,2	11,4	9,5
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	-2,0	-0,5	-3,2	-1,7	-7,0	-5,6
Hardware, paint and glass	10,9	10,9	10,7	14,3	8,8	7,7
All other retailers	17,7	7,5	6,1	5,6	7,5	2,9
Total	6,5	10,4	5,6	7,0	7,6	4,4

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	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13
General dealers	1,4	4,1	2,1	1,5	3,1	1,8
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	0,3	0,8	0,6	1,1	0,8	0,0
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	0,6	0,3	0,1	0,2	0,2	0,2
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	1,9	3,6	1,5	2,5	2,3	1,8
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	-0,1	0,0	-0,2	-0,1	-0,4	-0,3
Hardware, paint and glass	0,8	0,9	0,8	1,1	0,7	0,6
All other retailers	1,7	0,8	0,6	0,6	0,8	0,3
Total	6,5	10,4	5,6	7,0	7,6	4,4

### **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 2013 business sampling frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered for value added tax (VAT).
- 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

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

- 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, 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 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

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**

The preliminary collection rate for the survey on retail trade sales for September 2013 was 77,9%, accounting for 81,9% of the total estimate. The improved collection rate for August 2013 was 83,2%.

#### Statistical unit

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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**

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

Past retail trade sales releases are available on the Stats SA webpage. To access the releases electronically, use the following link:

<a href="http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5">http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5">http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5">http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5">http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5">http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5">http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5">http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5">http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5">http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5">http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5">http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5">http://www.stat

### **Technical notes**

# Survey methodology and design

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The survey is conducted on a monthly basis. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of about 2 500 enterprises from a population of about 26 700 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.

A stratified random sample was drawn at the SIC four-digit level in April 2013 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:

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

 $N_h$  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 4,2%.

#### **Class limits**

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

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

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**

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**

- 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

- 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.
- 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

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

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)

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, Fifth Edition,

Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993 (SIC).

**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<br/>abbreviationsBSF<br/>CPIBusiness sampling frame<br/>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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