## Statistical release

# Motor trade sales (Preliminary) 

July 2010

## Embargoed until: <br> 22 September 2010 <br> 14:30

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| Forthcoming issue: | Expected release date |
| :--- | :--- |
| August 2010 | 13 October 2010 |

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## Summary of findings: Motor trade sales

Table A - Key figures for July 2010

| Actual estimates | July 2010 (R million) | \% change between July 2009 and July 2010 | \% change between May to July 2009 and May to <br> July 2010 | \% change <br> between <br> January to <br> July 2009 <br> and <br> January to <br> July 2010 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Motor trade sales | 29824 | 11,4 | 15,1 |  |


| Seasonally adjusted estimates | July 2010 (R million) | \% change between June and July 2010 | \% change <br> between <br> February to <br> April 2010 and May to <br> July 2010 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Motor trade sales | 28131 | -1,7 |  |

## Key findings for July 2010

## Actual motor trade sales estimates

Table A indicates that the actual motor trade sales estimates for the three months ended July 2010 increased by 15,1\% compared with the three months ended July 2009. Sales for the corresponding period in 2009 decreased by 12,5\%.

The major contributors to the increase of $15,1 \%$ were 'new vehicle sales' ( $36,2 \%$ and contributing 8,0 percentage points) and 'fuel sales' (16,1\% and contributing 4,0 percentage points) - see Table B.

Motor trade sales rose by 11,4\% in July 2010 compared with July 2009, the eighth consecutive positive growth rate recorded since December 2009 - see Table 2.

## Seasonally adjusted motor trade sales

Seasonally adjusted motor trade sales for the three months ended July 2010 remained constant compared with the three months ended April 2010, while sales between June and July 2010 decreased by 1,7\% - see Table A.

Table B - Contribution of each type of activity to the percentage change in motor trade sales

| Type of activity | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ \text { to } \\ \text { July } 2009 \\ \text { (R million) } \end{gathered}$ | Weight 1/ | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ \text { to } \\ \text { July } 2010 \\ \text { (R million) } \end{gathered}$ |  | ```Percentage change between May to July 2009 and May to July 2010``` | Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in total sales 2/ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| New vehicle sales | 16613 | 22,1 | 22630 | 6017 | 36,2 | 8,0 |
| Used vehicle sales | 14616 | 19,4 | 15105 | 489 | 3,3 | 0,6 |
| Workshop income | 6322 | 8,4 | 6856 | 534 | 8,4 | 0,7 |
| Income from the sales of accessories | 14667 | 19,5 | 15549 | 882 | 6,0 | 1,2 |
| Income from fuel sales | 18581 | 24,7 | 21568 | 2987 | 16,1 | 4,0 |
| Income from convenience store sales 3/ | 4351 | 5,8 | 4792 | 441 | 10,1 | 0,6 |
| Total 4/ | 75148 | 100,0 | 86497 | 11349 | 15,1 | 15,1 |

1/ Weight is the percentage contribution of each type of activity to the total motor 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 activity with the corresponding weight, divided by 100.

3 / Includes other sales and trading income.
4/ The figures have been rounded off. Therefore discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and totals.

Figure 1 below shows the seasonally adjusted and trend patterns for motor trade sales between January 2006 and July 2010.

Figure 1 - Total motor trade sales


## PJ Lehohla <br> 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 motor trade sales from a new sample drawn in April 2010, which replaces the previous sample that was drawn in April 2009. The sample was drawn from a business register of enterprises with an annual turnover of at least R300 000000 and that are required to register with the South African Revenue Service (SARS) for value added tax.

Owing to the evolving nature of business, the business register is 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, Stats SA undertakes quality improvement surveys related to the business register, the primary objective of which is to capture up-to-date information about the structures and activities of large and complex businesses. This process enables Stats SA to review classification codes for these businesses. These changes are an essential part of the statistical architecture.

## Comparison of total sales between the previous and new samples of the motor trade industry

The reported level of total sales for the monthly survey of the motor trade industry for the months April to June 2010 based on the new sample was $6,6 \%$ lower than the level of total sales recorded for the previous sample (see Table C and Figure A). The previous sample was drawn in April 2009 and was operational for the last half of 2009 and the first half of 2010.

Table C - Total sales for previous and new samples for the motor trade sales industry - April to June 2010

| Motor trade sales <br> industry | Previous <br> sample <br> (R million) | New sample <br> (R million) | Difference <br> (R million) | Difference <br> (percentage) |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | 89650 | 83702 | -5948 | $-6,6$ |

Figure A - Total value of motor trade sales: monthly levels of previous and new samples for April to June 2010


## Comparison of sales between the previous and new samples by type of activity

The differences in sales between the previous and new samples by type of activity are shown in Table D. The largest change in relative (i.e. percentage) terms took place in the income from fuel sales (10,5\% lower in the new sample). The largest change in absolute (i.e. rand) terms also took place in the income from fuel sales (R2 508 million lower in the new sample), followed by new vehicle sales (-R1 899 million). Various data quality improvements account for these differences, for example the reclassification of enterprises from one industry to another.

Table D - Motor trade sales for previous and new samples by type of activity: April to June 2010

| Type of activities | Previous sample | New sample | Difference | Difference |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | R million | R million | R million | (percentage) 1/ |
| New vehicle sales | 23754 | 21855 | -1899 | -8,0 |
| Used vehicle sales | 14608 | 14261 | -348 | -2,4 |
| Workshop income | 7210 | 6578 | -633 | -8,8 |
| Income from sales of accessories | 15842 | 14965 | -877 | -5,5 |
| Income from fuel sales | 23861 | 21354 | -2 508 | -10,5 |
| Income from convenience store sales | 4374 | 4691 | 317 | 7,2 |
| Total | 89650 | 83702 | -5 948 | -6,6 |

1/ The percentage difference is the difference between the April to June 2010 sales as recorded in the new sample divided by the April to June 2010 sales as recorded in the previous sample, expressed as a percentage.

## Backcasting

In order 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 2010 as the end point for the backcast series.

## Detailed results

Tables 1 and 2 show total motor trade sales and percentage changes over the period January 2003 - July 2010. Table 3 shows seasonally adjusted total motor trade sales over the same period.

Table 1 - Total motor trade sales ( R million)

| Month | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | $2009{ }^{1 /}$ | 2010 ${ }^{1 /}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January | 14997 | 17212 | 18778 | 21802 | 25890 | 27229 | 23139 | 25460 |
| February | 14938 | 16310 | 18833 | 22678 | 26041 | 28068 | 23861 | 26796 |
| March | 14772 | 16529 | 19702 | 23835 | 27829 | 28215 | 25762 | 29309 |
| April | 14051 | 15444 | 20103 | 21902 | 24001 | 28326 | 22477 | 27029 |
| May | 14959 | 18997 | 21439 | 24468 | 27924 | 28251 | 23669 | 28666 |
| June | 15038 | 18349 | 21197 | 23766 | 25827 | 27416 | 24705 | 28007 |
| July | 16740 | 19482 | 22592 | 26429 | 27728 | 30178 | 26774 | 29824 |
| August | 15393 | 19395 | 23055 | 26499 | 28452 | 28827 | 24419 |  |
| September | 15880 | 19851 | 22863 | 26368 | 26061 | 27717 | 25280 |  |
| October | 16865 | 19551 | 22643 | 26156 | 28736 | 29049 | 26208 |  |
| November | 17319 | 20286 | 23921 | 26671 | 29153 | 27108 | 27055 |  |
| December | 16915 | 20464 | 22296 | 25021 | 25718 | 25932 | 27586 |  |
| Total | 187867 | 221870 | 257422 | 295595 | 323360 | 336316 | 300935 |  |

1/ Preliminary.
Table 2 - Percentage change in total motor trade sales 1/

| Month | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January | 20,3 | 14,8 | 9,1 | 16,1 | 18,8 | 5,2 | -15,0 | 10,0 |
| February | 15,4 | 9,2 | 15,5 | 20,4 | 14,8 | 7,8 | -15,0 | 12,3 |
| March | 15,2 | 11,9 | 19,2 | 21,0 | 16,8 | 1,4 | -8,7 | 13,8 |
| April | 6,4 | 9,9 | 30,2 | 8,9 | 9,6 | 18,0 | -20,6 | 20,3 |
| May | 6,5 | 27,0 | 12,9 | 14,1 | 14,1 | 1,2 | -16,2 | 21,1 |
| June | 12,2 | 22,0 | 15,5 | 12,1 | 8,7 | 6,2 | -9,9 | 13,4 |
| July | 16,9 | 16,4 | 16,0 | 17,0 | 4,9 | 8,8 | -11,3 | 11,4 |
| August | 3,0 | 26,0 | 18,9 | 14,9 | 7,4 | 1,3 | -15,3 |  |
| September | 8,3 | 25,0 | 15,2 | 15,3 | -1,2 | 6,4 | -8,8 |  |
| October | 13,6 | 15,9 | 15,8 | 15,5 | 9,9 | 1,1 | -9,8 |  |
| November | 12,6 | 17,1 | 17,9 | 11,5 | 9,3 | -7,0 | -0,2 |  |
| December | 18,9 | 21,0 | 9,0 | 12,2 | 2,8 | 0,8 | 6,4 |  |
| Total | 12,3 | 18,1 | 16,0 | 14,8 | 9,4 | 4,0 | -10,5 |  |

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

Table 3 - Seasonally adjusted total motor trade sales ( R million)

| Month | $\mathbf{2 0 0 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 0}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| January | 15305 | 17557 | 19248 | 22568 | 27106 | 28745 | $\mathbf{2 4 5 2 6}$ | 27041 |
| February | 15164 | 16760 | 19470 | 23484 | 26936 | 28983 | 24627 | 27670 |
| March | 15070 | 16857 | 20021 | 23939 | 27633 | 27680 | 25164 | 28623 |
| April | 15147 | 16667 | 21777 | 23816 | 26134 | 30842 | 24434 | 29332 |
| May | 14761 | 18725 | 21099 | 24159 | 27722 | 28212 | 23751 | 28878 |
| June | 15210 | 18660 | 21658 | 24302 | 26463 | 28059 | 25269 | 28612 |
| July | 16204 | 18745 | 21612 | 25151 | 26291 | 28520 | 25271 | 28131 |
| August | 14950 | 18762 | 22185 | 25436 | 27264 | 27679 | 23475 |  |
| September | 15581 | 19432 | 22356 | 25877 | 25657 | 27454 | 25116 |  |
| October | 16478 | 19076 | 22041 | 25360 | 27733 | 27939 | 25119 |  |
| November | 16598 | 19392 | 22881 | 25580 | 28064 | 26153 | 26127 |  |
| December | 17200 | 20847 | 22792 | 25540 | 26218 | 26352 | 27966 |  |

Table 4 shows motor trade sales by type of activity. The main income in the motor trade industry is derived from vehicle sales and fuel sales.

Table 4 - Motor trade sales by type of activity (R million) 1/

| Year and month 2/ |  | New vehicle sales | Used vehicle sales | Workshop income | Income from the sales of accessories | Income from fuel sales | Income from convenience store sales 3/ | Total 4/ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2009 | January | 5486 | 4258 | 1826 | 4639 | 5446 | 1484 | 23139 |
|  | February | 5807 | 4716 | 2102 | 4632 | 5313 | 1291 | 23861 |
|  | March | 6351 | 4943 | 2133 | 4823 | 5944 | 1568 | 25762 |
|  | April | 4405 | 4182 | 2077 | 4408 | 5872 | 1532 | 22477 |
|  | May | 4755 | 4803 | 2005 | 4723 | 5963 | 1421 | 23669 |
|  | June | 5640 | 4730 | 2059 | 4856 | 6015 | 1405 | 24705 |
|  | July | 6218 | 5083 | 2258 | 5088 | 6603 | 1525 | 26774 |
|  | August | 5554 | 4343 | 2082 | 4664 | 6318 | 1459 | 24419 |
|  | September | 5713 | 4818 | 2103 | 4730 | 6457 | 1457 | 25280 |
|  | October | 6218 | 5073 | 2083 | 5045 | 6209 | 1580 | 26208 |
|  | November | 6624 | 5044 | 2165 | 5092 | 6480 | 1650 | 27055 |
|  | December | 7101 | 4886 | 1881 | 4604 | 7376 | 1738 | 27586 |
|  | Total | 69872 | 56879 | 24774 | 57304 | 73996 | 18110 | 300935 |
| 2010 | January | 6388 | 4625 | 1995 | 4560 | 6420 | 1473 | 25460 |
|  | February | 7258 | 4978 | 2127 | 4743 | 6183 | 1507 | 26796 |
|  | March | 8343 | 5152 | 2299 | 5322 | 6572 | 1622 | 29309 |
|  | April | 7093 | 4538 | 2046 | 4752 | 7061 | 1538 | 27029 |
|  | May | 7509 | 5011 | 2361 | 5086 | 7163 | 1537 | 28666 |
|  | June | 7253 | 4712 | 2171 | 5127 | 7130 | 1616 | 28007 |
|  | July | 7868 | 5382 | 2324 | 5336 | 7275 | 1639 | 29824 |

1/The types of activities in motor trade refer to the enterprises classified within the motor trade industry and engaged in the activities mentioned above.
2/ 2009 and 2010 figures are preliminary.
3 I Includes other sales and trading income.
4/ The figures have been rounded off. Therefore discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and totals.
Table 5 - Year-on-year percentage change in motor trade sales by type of activity 1/

| Year and month |  | New vehicle sales | Used vehicle sales | Workshop income | Income from the sales of accessories | Income from fuel sales | Income from convenience store sales | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2009 | January | -37,1 | -11,0 | -1,7 | 17,1 | -12,2 | -12,8 | -15,0 |
|  | February | -35,5 | -5,3 | -1,1 | 12,3 | -10,9 | -31,2 | -15,0 |
|  | March | -26,9 | -0,6 | 9,7 | 24,2 | -9,0 | -28,6 | -8,7 |
|  | April | -48,3 | -11,5 | -4,1 | -6,6 | -10,9 | -4,4 | -20,6 |
|  | May | -41,0 | -1,4 | -6,7 | 14,2 | -16,8 | -24,1 | -16,2 |
|  | June | -24,8 | 8,3 | -3,0 | 15,6 | -19,9 | -17,8 | -9,9 |
|  | July | -25,6 | -0,1 | -3,9 | 9,0 | -15,0 | -21,5 | -11,3 |
|  | August | -26,2 | -15,0 | 2,9 | 8,2 | -20,6 | -23,1 | -15,3 |
|  | September | -20,9 | 0,8 | -1,1 | 5,5 | -9,2 | -26,7 | -8,8 |
|  | October | -15,1 | -5,8 | -2,8 | -2,3 | -12,3 | -18,9 | -9,8 |
|  | November | 0,0 | -1,4 | 13,4 | 10,0 | -7,0 | -11,2 | -0,2 |
|  | December | 18,7 | 0,4 | -0,6 | 13,1 | 6,0 | -19,7 | 6,4 |
|  | Total | -25,3 | -3,7 | -0,2 | 9,5 | -11,7 | -20,4 | -10,5 |
| 2010 | January | 16,4 | 8,6 | 9,3 | -1,7 | 17,9 | -0,7 | 10,0 |
|  | February | 25,0 | 5,6 | 1,2 | 2,4 | 16,4 | 16,7 | 12,3 |
|  | March | 31,4 | 4,2 | 7,8 | 10,3 | 10,6 | 3,4 | 13,8 |
|  | April | 61,0 | 8,5 | -1,5 | 7,8 | 20,2 | 0,4 | 20,3 |
|  | May | 57,9 | 4,3 | 17,8 | 7,7 | 20,1 | 8,2 | 21,1 |
|  | June | 28,6 | -0,4 | 5,4 | 5,6 | 18,5 | 15,0 | 13,4 |
|  | July | 26,5 | 5,9 | 2,9 | 4,9 | 10,2 | 7,5 | 11,4 |

[^0]
## Estimates and percentage changes in total motor trade sales

Tables 6.1 and 6.2 show the actual and seasonally adjusted estimates and percentage changes of motor trade sales.

Table 6.1 - Three-monthly and annual cumulative estimates and percentage changes

| Actual estimates | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ \text { to } \\ \text { July } 2009 \\ \text { (R million) } \end{gathered}$ | May to July 2010 (R million) |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { January } \\ & \text { to } \\ & \text { July } 2009 \\ & \text { (R million) } \end{aligned}$ | January to July 2010 (R million) | \% change between January to July 2009 and January to July 2010 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Motor trade sales | 75148 | 86497 | 15,1 | 170387 | 195091 | 14,5 |

Table 6.2 - Seasonally adjusted estimates with monthly and three-monthly percentage changes

| Seasonally adjusted estimates | June 2010 (R million) | July 2010 <br> (R million) | \% change between June and July 2010 | February to April 2010 (R million) | May to July 2010 (R million) | \% change <br> between <br> February to <br> April 2010 <br> and <br> May <br> To <br> July 2010 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Motor trade sales | 28612 | 28131 | -1,7 | 85625 | 85621 | 0,0 |

## Explanatory notes

| Introduction | 1 | Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey covering enterprises in the motor trade industry (see 4 below). This survey is based on a sample drawn from 2010 Business Sampling Frame (BSF), which contains businesses registered for value added tax (VAT). |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2 | Information for the latest month is 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. Motor trade sales estimates exclude value added tax (VAT). |
| Purpose of the survey | 3 | The results of the monthly motor 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 | The survey collects information from a sample of enterprises in South Africa that are predominantly involved in motor trade. These enterprises include: <br> - motor vehicle dealers, filling stations and workshops; <br> - motor cycle dealers; <br> - spares and accessories; <br> - tyre dealers; <br> - automotive electricians; <br> - radiator repairs; <br> - panel beaters and spray painters; <br> - other specialised motor repair services; and <br> - other motor trade. |

## 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 digits) level.Response rate 6 The preliminary response rate for the survey on motor trade sales for July 2010 was 82,7\%.

## 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 and service activities.

| Survey <br> methodology <br> and <br> design | $\mathbf{8} \quad$The survey is conducted monthly. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of about 850 <br> enterprises from a population of about 18000 enterprises. Completed questionnaires are <br> required to be returned to Stats SA within 10 days after the end of the reference month. <br> Fax and telephone reminders are used to follow up non-responses. |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| $\qquad \mathbf{9} \quad$The value of sales is obtained monthly from the sample of about 850 enterprises, which <br> was drawn in April 2010 from a population then of about 18000 motor trade enterprises. |  |
| The motor trade industry is divided into four size groups. The sample is drawn at the SIC <br> four-digit level. All large and medium enterprises (size groups one and two), are <br> completely enumerated. Simple random sampling is applied to small enterprises (size <br> groups three and four). The total value of sales of the large and medium enterprises <br> (size groups one and two) per classification group is added to the weighted totals of size <br> groups three and four to reflect the total value of sales. |  |

## Weighting methodology

 adjustment
## Trend cycle

## Reliability of estimates

Revised figures

Related publications

## Rounding-off of figures

Symbols and abbreviations

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 group estimates. These procedures, which are in line with international best practice, are described in more detail on the Stats SA website at http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/publicationsearch.asp.

11 Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month, using the $X$ - 11 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 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.

12 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.

13 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 motor trade industry in South Africa. Estimates are subject to sampling and nonsampling errors.

14 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.

15 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.

16 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications available from Stats SA

- Bulletin of Statistics issued quarterly
- SA Statistics issued annually

17 Where necessary, the figures in the tables have been rounded off to the nearest digit shown.

| BR | Business Register |
| :--- | :--- |
| 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 |
| * | Revised |
| - | Figures not available |

## Change in this publication

19 The results published today are based on a new sample drawn in April 2010. The periodic introduction of a new sample is part of Stats SA's strategic approach in improving the basis from which surveys are conducted.

The new sample was conducted in parallel with the previous sample for April to June 2010. Comparison of estimates from the new and previous samples reflects a level decrease of 6,6\%.

## Technical note

## Neyman Optimal allocation

A stratified random sample was drawn from the population of enterprises on Stats SA's 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.

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

$N_{h}$ 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 5,6\%.

Class limits

| Enterprise size | Size group | Lower limits | Upper limits |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| Very small | 4 | 0 | 18000000 |
| Small | 3 | 18000001 | 85500000 |
| Medium | 2 | 85500001 | 175500000 |
| Large | 1 | 175500001 |  |

## Glossary

## Enterprise

Industry

Statistical unit

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.

## 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.

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

## Advance release calendar

An advance release calendar is disseminated on www.statssa.gov.za

## Stats SA products

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

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

Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

## Electronic services

A large range of data are available via on-line services, diskette and computer printouts. For more details about our electronic data services, contact (012) 310 8600/8390/8351/4892/8496/8095.

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

## Enquiries

| Telephone number: | (012) 310 (012) $31060077 / 4390 / 8351 / 4892 / 8496 / 8095$ (technical enquiries) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Faser information services) |  |
| (012) 3108358 (orders) |  |
| (012) $3104883 / 4885 / 8018$ (library) |  |


[^0]:    1/The year-on-year percentage change is the difference between the motor trade sales by type of activity of the relevant month of the current year and the corresponding month of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

