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P8042

Dipalopalo tsa Aforika Borwa • Statistieke Suid-Afrika - Tistatistiki ta Afrika-Dzonga - Ukuqokelelwa kwamanani eNingizimu Afrika

## Quarterly financial statistics

Co-operation between Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), the citizens of the country, the private sector and government institutions is essential for a successful statistical system. Without continued co-operation and goodwill, the timely release of relevant and reliable official statistics will not be possible.

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## Key findings for the quarter ended March 2003

Turnover of all industries for the quarter ended March 2003 was estimated at R679 407 million, reflecting a decrease of $4,7 \%$ compared with the fourth quarter of 2002 (ended December 2002), for which the estimated value was R712 570 million.

Six of the seven industries, which exclude agriculture, electricity, gas and water supply, financial intermediation, insurance and government, reflected decreases in turnover for the first quarter of 2003 compared with the fourth quarter of 2002. The largest decrease in turnover was reported by the manufacturing industry (-R13 276 million), followed by the trade (-R11 219 million) and the mining and quarrying (-R6 346 million) industries.

Interest paid by all industries for the first quarter of 2003 was estimated at R17 128 million, reflecting a decrease of $9,0 \%$ compared with the fourth quarter of 2002 . This decrease was mainly reported by the real estate and other business services industry (-R2 291 million).

Tax and company tax brought into account was estimated at R11 782 million for all industries for the first quarter of 2003, reflecting a decrease of $13,8 \%$ compared with the fourth quarter of 2002. The largest decrease in tax and company tax brought into account was reflected in the manufacturing industry (-R1 681 million), followed by the mining and quarrying industry (-R527 million).

Net profit before providing for company tax and dividends was estimated at R46 258 million for all industries for the first quarter of 2003 , reflecting a decrease of $24,7 \%$ compared with the fourth quarter of 2002. The largest decrease in profit was recorded for the manufacturing (-R6 974 million), the transport, storage and communication (-R5 869 million) and the mining and quarrying (-R2 275 million) industries.

Capital expenditure on new assets, which was estimated at R27 654 million for all industries for the first quarter of 2003, decreased by $4,9 \%$ compared with the fourth quarter of 2002 (R29 093 million). With the exception of the construction, the transport, storage and communication, and the social and personal services industries, all industry groups reported decreases in capital expenditure between the fourth quarter of 2002 and the first quarter of 2003 .

Book value of land, buildings, machinery, furniture, vehicles and other equipment as at the end of the first quarter of 2003 was R549 658 million, reflecting an increase of $1,7 \%$ compared with the fourth quarter of 2002. The manufacturing (R168 432 million), the transport, storage and communication (R112 803 million) and the mining and quarrying (R110 302 million) industries are the industries with the largest fixed assets in the economy as measured by this survey.

## Increases and decreases in quarterly financial statistics of the private sector could be due to:

- typical seasonal patterns for the manufacturing, construction and trade industries; and the
- changes in the foreign exchange rate and profits on the revaluation of assets for the manufacturing, mining and transport, storage and communication industries.
- The increase in profits reported for the March 2003 quarter compared with the December 2002 quarter in the construction industry is due to the finalisation of contracts before the end of a year and new contracts starting in the first quarter of a new calendar year.


## P J Lehohla

## Statistician-General

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## Notes

| Forthcoming issues | Issue <br> June 2003 |
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| Purpose of the survey | The Quarterly Financial Statistics Survey is a sample survey covering a sample <br> of private enterprises operating in the formal non-agricultural business sector <br> of the South African economy, excluding electricity, gas and water supply, <br> financial intermediation, insurance and government enterprises. Results of the <br> survey are used to compile estimates of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and |
| its components, which are used to monitor and develop government policy. |  |

Prior to March 2002, Stats SA published -

- selected operating ratios;
- quarterly percentage changes in selected items;
- annual percentage change in selected items;
- selected income and expenditure items;
- capital expenditure;
- value of selected assets;
- annual percentage changes; and
- selected operating ratios and financial quantities expressed as a percentage of turnover by industry.

The information on each industry was published in separate statistical releases

- P2042 - Mining: financial statistics;
- P3042.1 - Manufacturing: financial statistics;
- P6142 - Wholesale trade: financial statistics;
- P6243 - Retail trade: financial statistics;
- P6344 - Motor trade: financial statistics;
- P6443 - Hotels: financial statistics; and
- P7143 - Public road transport (private sector institutions) of passengers and goods: financial statistics


## Changes in this issue

Response rates

After consultation with major stakeholders, and to comply to their needs, the results of the Quarterly Financial Statistics survey are published quarterly as from the September 2002 publication, in one statistical release, entitled P8042: Quarterly Financial Statistics, which combines all industries in the formal non-agricultural business sector of the South African economy, excluding electricity, gas and water supply, financial intermediation, insurance and government enterprises. Furthermore, this release contains information on actual figures collected from enterprises in the different industries. Prior to this release, only ratio information on selected income and expenditure items was published.

The percentage response for December 2002 was $74,6 \%$.
The percentage response for March 2003 was 78,0\%.

Table 1 - Selected income and expenditure items: All industries ${ }^{\text {1/ }}$

| Item | $\begin{gathered} \text { June } \\ 2002 \\ \text { (R millions) } \\ * \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { September } \\ 2002 \\ \text { (R millions) } \\ * \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { December } \\ & 2002 \\ & \text { (R millions) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { March } \\ 2003 \\ \text { (R millions) } \end{gathered}$ | Quarterly percentage change between quarter ended December 2002 and quarter ended March 2003 (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Turnover | 651021 | 686895 | 712570 | 679407 | -4,7 |
| Interest paid | 17630 | 18012 | 18815 | 17128 | -9,0 |
| Tax and company tax brought into account | 12377 | 13669 | 13663 | 11782 | -13,8 |
| Net profit or loss before providing for company tax and dividends | 59814 | 60760 | 61431 | 46258 | -24,7 |
| Capital expenditure on new assets | 16650 | 21199 | 29093 | 27654 | -4,9 |
| Book value of land, buildings, machinery, furniture, vehicles and other equipment as at the end of the quarter | 521720 | 524379 | 540218 | 549658 | 1,7 |

${ }^{1 /}$ All industries in the South African economy, excluding agriculture, electricity, gas and water supply, financial intermediation, insurance and government.

Table 2 - Selected income and expenditure items: Mining and quarrying industry

| Item | $\begin{gathered} \text { June } \\ 2002 \\ \text { (R millions) } \\ * \end{gathered}$ | September 2002 <br> (R millions) <br> * | $\begin{gathered} \text { December } \\ 2002 \\ \text { (R millions) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { March } \\ 2003 \\ \text { (R millions) } \end{gathered}$ | Quarterly percentage change between quarter ended December 2002 and quarter ended March 2003 (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Turnover | 40839 | 40149 | 41467 | 35121 | -15,3 |
| Interest paid | 813 | 998 | 1285 | 1252 | -2,6 |
| Tax and company tax brought into account | 3525 | 3645 | 3013 | 2486 | -17,5 |
| Net profit or loss before providing for company tax and dividends | 10313 | 10148 | 8546 | 6271 | -26,6 |
| Capital expenditure on new assets | 3699 | 4442 | 6505 | 5966 | -8,3 |
| Book value of land, buildings, machinery, furniture, vehicles and other equipment as at the end of the quarter | 103937 | 103901 | 106147 | 110302 | 3,9 |


| Item | $\begin{gathered} \text { June } \\ 2002 \\ \text { (R millions) } \\ * \end{gathered}$ | September 2002 <br> ( R millions) <br> * | $\begin{gathered} \text { December } \\ 2002 \\ \text { (R millions) } \end{gathered}$ | March 2003 (R millions) | Quarterly percentage change between quarter ended December 2002 and quarter ended March 2003 (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Turnover | 211103 | 224271 | 236847 | 223571 | -5,6 |
| Interest paid | 4592 | 4419 | 4966 | 5145 | 3,6 |
| Tax and company tax brought into account | 4238 | 5685 | 5805 | 4124 | -29,0 |
| Net profit or loss before providing for company tax and dividends | 25312 | 23585 | 24972 | 17998 | -27,9 |
| Capital expenditure on new assets | 6220 | 8503 | 8983 | 8632 | -3,9 |
| Book value of land, buildings, machinery, furniture, vehicles and other equipment as at the end of the quarter | 159916 | 159968 | 165820 | 168432 | 1,6 |

Table 4 - Selected income and expenditure items: Construction industry

| Item | $\begin{gathered} \text { June } \\ 2002 \\ \text { (R millions) } \\ * \end{gathered}$ | September 2002 <br> ( R millions) <br> * | $\begin{aligned} & \text { December } \\ & 2002 \\ & \text { (R millions) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { March } \\ 2003 \\ \text { (R millions) } \end{gathered}$ | Quarterly percentage change between quarter ended December 2002 and quarter ended March 2003 (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Turnover | 24894 | 25190 | 23854 | 23829 | -0,1 |
| Interest paid | 476 | 497 | 410 | 445 | 8,5 |
| Tax and company tax brought into account | 171 | 164 | 104 | 145 | 39,4 |
| Net profit or loss before providing for company tax and dividends | 1919 | 2243 | 912 | 1399 | 53,4 |
| Capital expenditure on new assets | 265 | 496 | 895 | 1105 | 23,5 |
| Book value of land, buildings, machinery, furniture, vehicles and other equipment as at the end of the quarter | 14956 | 15019 | 15601 | 16241 | 4,1 |

Table 5 - Selected income and expenditure items: Trade industry

| Item | $\begin{gathered} \text { June } \\ 2002 \\ \text { (R millions) } \\ * \end{gathered}$ | September 2002 <br> ( R millions) <br> * | $\begin{aligned} & \text { December } \\ & 2002 \\ & \text { (R millions) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { March } \\ 2003 \\ \text { (R millions) } \end{gathered}$ | Quarterly percentage change between quarter ended December 2002 and quarter ended March 2003 (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Turnover | 209075 | 226013 | 234675 | 223456 | -4,8 |
| Interest paid | 3886 | 4012 | 3443 | 3970 | 15,3 |
| Tax and company tax brought into account | 1834 | 1673 | 1955 | 1624 | -16,9 |
| Net profit or loss before providing for company tax and dividends | 6134 | 8671 | 9999 | 8770 | -12,3 |
| Capital expenditure on new assets | 1117 | 1927 | 2520 | 2266 | -10,1 |
| Book value of land, buildings, machinery, furniture, vehicles and other equipment as at the end of the quarter | 47302 | 48191 | 49506 | 49303 | -0,4 |

Table 6 - Selected income and expenditure items: Transport, storage and communication

| Item | $\begin{gathered} \text { June } \\ 2002 \\ \text { (R millions) } \\ * \end{gathered}$ | September 2002 <br> ( R millions) <br> * | $\begin{gathered} \text { December } \\ 2002 \\ \text { (R millions) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { March } \\ 2003 \\ \text { (R millions) } \end{gathered}$ | Quarterly percentage <br> change between <br> quarter ended <br> December 2002 <br> and <br> quarter ended March <br> 2003 <br> $(\%)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Turnover | 53991 | 57764 | 61593 | 58838 | -4,5 |
| Interest paid | 1575 | 2024 | 2244 | 2136 | -4,8 |
| Tax and company tax brought into account | 1061 | 855 | 1152 | 1107 | -3,9 |
| Net profit or loss before providing for company tax and dividends | 3461 | 127 | 4307 | -1 562 | -136,3 |
| Capital expenditure on new assets | 4707 | 3834 | 7545 | 7925 | 5,0 |
| Book value of land, buildings, machinery, furniture, vehicles and other equipment as at the end of the quarter | 101613 | 103125 | 107789 | 112803 | 4,7 |

Table 7 - Selected income and expenditure items: Real estate and other business services industry, excluding financial intermediation and insurance

| Item | $\begin{gathered} \text { June } \\ 2002 \\ \text { (R millions) } \\ * \end{gathered}$ | September 2002 <br> ( R millions) <br> * | $\begin{aligned} & \text { December } \\ & 2002 \\ & \text { (R millions) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { March } \\ 2003 \\ \text { (R millions) } \end{gathered}$ | Quarterly percentage change between quarter ended <br> December 2002 and <br> quarter ended March 2003 <br> (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Turnover | 95067 | 97319 | 98274 | 98894 | 0,6 |
| Interest paid | 5880 | 5691 | 6115 | 3824 | -37,5 |
| Tax and company tax brought into account | 1257 | 1371 | 1368 | 2011 | 47,0 |
| Net profit or loss before providing for company tax and dividends | 11144 | 13746 | 10625 | 11585 | 9,0 |
| Capital expenditure on new assets | 516 | 1723 | 2471 | 1181 | -52,2 |
| Book value of land, buildings, machinery, furniture, vehicles and other equipment as at the end of the quarter | 77779 | 78448 | 80597 | 78247 | -2,9 |

Table 8 - Selected income and expenditure items: Community, social and personal services, excluding government

| Item | $\begin{gathered} \text { June } \\ 2002 \\ \text { (R millions) } \\ * \end{gathered}$ | September 2002 <br> ( R millions) <br> * | $\begin{aligned} & \text { December } \\ & 2002 \\ & \text { (R millions) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { March } \\ 2003 \\ \text { (R millions) } \end{gathered}$ | Quarterly percentage change between quarter ended <br> December 2002 and quarter ended March 2003 (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Turnover | 16051 | 16189 | 15860 | 15698 | -1,0 |
| Interest paid | 408 | 371 | 352 | 356 | 1,1 |
| Tax and company tax brought into account | 291 | 276 | 266 | 285 | 7,1 |
| Net profit or loss before providing for company tax and dividends | 1531 | 2240 | 2070 | 1797 | -13,2 |
| Capital expenditure on new assets | 126 | 274 | 174 | 579 | 232,8 |
| Book value of land, buildings, machinery, furniture, vehicles and other equipment as at the end of the quarter | 16217 | 15727 | 14758 | 14330 | -2,9 |

## Additional information

## Technical notes

Confidence intervals The $95 \%$ confidence intervals of a population parameter (turnover) is obtained as follows:

## Lower limit

$=$ lower $95 \%$ confidence limit of a population parameter
= estimate $-1.96 *$ Standard Error(estimate);
and

Upper limit
= upper 95\% confidence limit of a population parameter
= estimate $+1.96 *$ Standard Error(estimate).

Table A - Estimates of turnover by industry within $\mathbf{9 5 \%}$ confidence limits - December 2002

| Industry | Lower limit <br> (R millions) | Estimate <br> (R millions) | Upper limit <br> (R millions) | Relative <br> standard <br> error <br> (RSE) |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Mining and quarrying industry | 40536 | 41467 | 42398 | 1,1 |
| Manufacturing industry | 226946 | 236847 | 246748 | 2,1 |
| Construction industry <br> Trade industry | 20291 | 23854 | 27416 | 7,6 |
| Transport, storage and communication <br> industry | 218558 | 234675 | 250793 | 3,5 |
| Real estate and other business services <br> industry, excluding financial intermediation <br> and insurance <br> Community, social and personal services <br> industry, excluding government | 59080 | 61593 | 64105 | 2,1 |

Table B - Estimates of turnover by industry within $\mathbf{9 5 \%}$ confidence limits - March 2003

| Industry | Lower limit <br> (R millions) | Estimate <br> (R millions) | Upper limit <br> (R millions) | Relative <br> standard <br> error <br> (RSE) |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Mining and quarrying industry | 34241 | 35121 | 36000 | 1,3 |
| Manufacturing industry | 209960 | 223571 | 237182 | 3,1 |
| Construction industry <br> Trade industry | 20074 | 23829 | 27583 | 8,0 |
| Transport, storage and communication <br> industry | 203102 | 223456 | 243810 | 4,6 |
| Real estate and other business services <br> industry, excluding financial intermediation <br> and insurance <br> Community, social and personal services <br> industry, excluding government | 55406 | 58838 | 62270 | 3,0 |

Standard error

$$
\text { Standard error }=\frac{\text { Upper Limit }(R \text { million })-\text { Lower Limit }(R \text { million })}{2 * 1.96}
$$

Table C - Differences in turnover by industry between December 2002 and March 2003

| Industry | Turnover <br> for <br> December <br> 2002 <br> (R millions) | Turnover <br> for <br> March 2003 <br> (R millions) | Difference <br> \% | Statistical <br> significance of <br> December 2002 <br> result compared <br> with March 2003 <br> result |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Mining and quarrying industry | 41467 | 35121 | $-15,3$ | Significant |
| Manufacturing industry <br> Construction industry <br> Trade industry <br> Transport, storage and communication <br> industry | 236847 | 223571 | $-5,6$ | Not significant <br> Not significant |
| Real estate and other business services <br> industry, excluding financial intermediation <br> and insurance <br> Community, social and personal services <br> industry, excluding government | 93854 | 23829 | $-0,1$ | Not significant <br> Not significant |

## Explanatory Notes

Introduction

## Background

Scope of the survey

1. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a quarterly financial statistics sample survey of enterprises in industries in the formal non-agricultural business sector of the South African economy, excluding electricity, gas and water supply, financial intermediation, insurance and government enterprises. The statistical release contains information regarding -

- Turnover, which includes the value of sales, amounts receivable for work done and services rendered, rent and or lease payments received for land and buildings, and rent, leasing and hiring received for machinery, vehicles and other equipment;
- interest paid;
- tax and company tax brought into account;
- capital expenditure on new assets; and
- book value of land, buildings, machinery, furniture, vehicles and other equipment at the end of the quarter.

2. In order to improve timeliness of the publication, some information for the current quarter may have been estimated due to late submission by respondents. These estimates will be revised in the next statistical release(s) as soon as actual information is available.
3. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) developed a new Business Sampling Frame in 2001, based on the value-added tax (VAT) database obtained from the South Africa Revenue Services (SARS), which replaced the previous sampling frame. All enterprises are legally bound to register for VAT when their turnover for a period of twelve month equal or exceed R300 000. Enterprises, which conform to these criteria, were considered for sampling for the Quarterly Financial Statistics (QFS) survey. A sample of 3273 enterprises was drawn from a population enterprises responsible for $95 \%$ of the total turnover in every industry. All enterprises are stratified by type of enterprise according to the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth edition, January 1993 and measure of size, where measure of size is turnover. All large enterprises were completely enumerated and stratified simple random sampling was applied for medium and small enterprises. The results of the sample were weighted in order to represent all enterprises covered in the population.
4. This statistical release presents a selection of key findings and tables from Stats SA's QFS survey, conducted in September 2002, December 2002 and March 2003 which examines book value of land, buildings, machinery, furniture, vehicles and other equipment and selected income and expenditure items in the formal non-agricultural business sector in South Africa, excluding electricity, gas and water supply, financial intermediation, insurance and government. The survey gathered financial information for the June 2002, September 2002, December 2002 and March 2003 quarters.

Future releases may contain additional variables and other information.
5. This survey covers financial statistics of the following industries according to the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth edition, January 1993 -

- mining and quarrying industry;
- manufacturing industry;
- construction industry;
- trade industry;
- transport, storage and communication industry;
- real estate and business services industry, excluding financial intermediation and insurance; and
- community, social and personal services industry, excluding government enterprises.


## Classification

## Statistical unit

## Survey methodology and design

## Reliability of

 estimates
## Standard errors

## Reference period

Related publications
6. The 1993 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth edition, January 1993, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Statistics in this publication are only presented at SIC major division (one digit) level. Each enterprise is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the enterprise.
7. The statistical unit for the collection of information is an enterprise. An enterprise is a legal unit or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.
8. The survey is conducted by mail on a quarterly basis. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of 3273 enterprises. Questionnaires have to be returned to Stats SA within four weeks after the end of the quarter concerned. Fax and telephone reminders are used to follow up non-respondents.
9. A sample of 3273 enterprises was drawn from a population of enterprises responsible for 95\% of the total turnover in every industry. Three size groups per industry were used. All enterprises are stratified by type of enterprise according to the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth edition, January 1993 and measure of size, where measure of size is turnover. All large enterprises (size group one cases), which comprises $49 \%$ of the number of enterprises in the sample, are completely enumerated. Stratified simple random sampling was applied for size group two (medium sized enterprises) and size group three (small enterprises). The results of the sample survey are weighted to the total population.
10. Revisions may be made to estimates if actual information is provided subsequently by enterprises. Aggregates are calculated from all the data using the number raised estimation technique. Data are edited at individual enterprise level.
11. Data presented in this publication are based on information obtained from a sample of enterprises 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 different industries in South Africa.
12. Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by enterprises and errors made with the collection and processing of the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors. Every effort is made to reduce non-sampling errors to a minimum by designing the questionnaire carefully, pilot studies, editing of data and efficient operating procedures. Figures for the latest quarter are preliminary. Fluctuations may occur in consecutive quarters as a result of seasonal and economic factors.
13. The estimates in this publication are based on a sample drawn from units in the surveyed population. As a result of the entire population not being surveyed, the published estimates are subject to sampling error. The most common way of quantifying such sampling error is to calculate the standard error for the published estimate or statistic.
14. The reference period is the four quarters ending March, June, September and December of each year.
15. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA -

- Bulletin of Statistics issued quarterly.
- South African Statistics issued annually.

Rounding-off of figures

Symbols and abbreviations
16. The figures in the tables have, where necessary, been rounded off to the nearest digit shown.
17. CD Compact Disc

GDP Gross Domestic Product
ISIC International Standard Industrial Classification
m Million
SIC
Stats SA
VAT
*
Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities
Statistics South Africa
Value-added tax
Figures not available
Revised

## Glossary

Capital expenditure on new
assets

Capital expenditure on new assets includes assets

## Enterprise

Industry

Interest paid

Net profit or loss

Statistical unit

Tax and company tax brought into account

- the erection of new buildings and works, additions to and alterations of existing buildings and works;
- capital work in progress capitalised;
- new plant and machinery, vehicles and equipment; and
- used plant and machinery, which was imported by or on behalf of the enterprise whether paid to outside contractors/concerns, or which was done by the enterprise itself.

An enterprise is a legal unit or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.

An industry consists of a group of enterprises engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity, and is classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth edition, January 1993.

Interest paid includes -

- interest on bank loans;
- interest on loans made to the enterprise from related as well as unrelated enterprises;
- interest paid in respect of finance leases;
- interest paid on loans from partners;
- expenses associated with discounted bills;
- interest on debentures; and
- interest on derivatives.

Net profit or loss is the difference between total income and total expenditure before drawings by proprietors or partners, company tax paid or provided for and dividends paid or provided for are taken into account. In the tables where net profit or loss is shown, it is the amount arrived at after total losses of individual enterprises were deducted from total profits of individual enterprises.

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.

For the purpose of this publication relating to the quarter ending September 2002 onwards, the statistical unit in the Quarterly Financial Statistics Survey is the enterprise. An enterprise is defined as a legal unit or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.

Tax and company tax brought into account consist of taxes on incomes, profits and capital gains, excluding value-added tax (VAT). They are assessed on the actual or presumed incomes of enterprises and exclude employees' taxes and compulsory loan levies.

- the value of sales;
- amounts received for work done;
- amounts received for services rendered;
- rent and or lease payments received for land and buildings; and
- rent, leasing and hiring received for machinery, vehicles and other equipment.

Turnover excludes -

- value-added tax (VAT);
- net profit or loss on sales or revaluation of fixed assets (including profit or loss on foreign exchange);
- export freight charges;
- interest received; and
- excise duty.


## For more information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

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Library of Parliament, Cape Town
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Johannesburg Public Library
Eastern Cape Library Services, King William's Town
Central Regional Library, Polokwane
Central Reference Library, Nelspruit
Central Reference Collection, Kimberley
Central Reference Library, Mmabatho
Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

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