

Wholesale trade industry, 2015

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Wholesale trade industry, 2015

1. Introduction

This publication presents estimates in respect of the 2015 wholesale large sample survey (LSS). The 2015 wholesale trade industry LSS collected data from a sample of approximately 3 000 enterprises. The reference period was the financial year ended on any date between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2015. The data for the number of employees were provided for the last pay period ended on or before 30 June 2015. The sample was stratified in such a way that all large enterprises (those with turnover greater than R192 million) were included.

Estimates are presented in respect of the 2015 Wholesale Trade Industry Large Sample Survey (LSS). Data were collected at the 4-digit SIC level of classification of enterprises. The previous wholesale trade survey LSS was conducted in 2012 (Wholesale trade industry; Report No. 61-01-01 [2012]).

1.1 Scope and coverage

The 2015 Wholesale Trade Industry Survey covers enterprises registered for value added tax (VAT) that are mainly engaged in the following activities classified according to the January 1993 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-09-02:

- Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis (SIC 6110).
- Agricultural raw materials and livestock (SIC 6121).
- Food, beverages and tobacco (SIC 6122).
- Textiles, clothing and footwear (SIC 6131).
- Other household goods (SIC 6139).
- Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (SIC 6141).
- Metals and metal ores (SIC 6142).
- Construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies (SIC 6143).
- Other intermediate products, waste and scrap (SIC 6149).
- Machinery, equipment and supplies (SIC 6150).
- General and other wholesale trade (SIC 6190).

1.2 Data items

The following categories of data items were collected: industrial classification, details of employment, trading income, expenditure, profit or loss, inventories, capital expenditure on new assets, details of sales of goods, details of purchases, information and communication technology usage, client base and method of payment.

1.3 Reference period

The questionnaires were completed for the financial year of the enterprise which **ended on any date between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2015**, according to the usual reporting schedule of the enterprise.

Examples

- 1 October 2013–30 September 2014
- 1 January 2014–31 December 2014
- 1 February 2014–31 January 2015
- 1 March 2014–28 February 2015
- 1 April 2014–31 March 2015

1.4 Current prices

The rand values are at current prices.

1.5 Reliability of data

All estimates compiled for this industry are subject to both sampling and non-sampling errors.

The estimates presented in this publication are subject to sampling variability since they are based on information obtained from a sample. That is, they might differ from the figures that would have been produced if the data had been obtained from all enterprises in the wholesale trade industry in South Africa.

One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of enterprises was used. The relative standard error (RSE) provides an immediate indication of the percentage error likely to have occurred due to sampling, and thus avoids the need to refer to the size of the estimate. The larger the RSE, the less reliable the estimate. The following are some of the likely sources of non-sampling errors: sampling frame not up to date, wrong definitions and classification, phrasing of questions, non-response, processing and estimation. Every effort is made to minimise non-sampling errors by the careful design of questionnaires, testing them in pilot studies, editing reported data and implementing efficient operating procedures. Non-sampling errors occur in both sample surveys and censuses.

1.6 Confidentiality

According to section 17 of the Statistics Act, 1999 (Act No. 6 of 1999), completed questionnaires remain confidential to Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). Individual business information is never disclosed. Results are presented in aggregated form only.

1.7 Reporting unit

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 activities. Each enterprise is classified to an industry that reflects its predominant activity.

2. Summary of findings

2.1 Income

Table A – Income in the wholesale trade industry, 2005–2015

Type of wholesale trade	2005		2009		2012		2015	
	R million	% contribution	R million	% contribution	R million	% contribution	R million	% contribution
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	16 347	3,3	16 491	1,9	28 994	2,5	40 076	2,4
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	33 071	6,7	77 701	8,7	94 516	8,1	145 164	8,8
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	88 432	17,9	155 764	17,5	229 017	19,7	285 219	17,3
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	15 678	3,2	27 696	3,1	36 405	3,1	47 196	2,9
Wholesale trade in other household goods	80 125	16,2	113 194	12,7	176 344	15,2	235 010	14,2
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	46 173	9,4	105 623	11,9	152 595	13,1	245 089	14,8
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	16 727	3,4	48 047	5,4	41 418	3,6	42 905	2,6
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	36 051	7,3	56 458	6,3	66 846	5,7	90 467	5,5
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	18 563	3,8	50 494	5,7	52 063	4,5	75 200	4,6
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	92 704	18,8	168 286	18,9	203 882	17,5	263 587	16,0
General and other wholesale trade	49 713	10,1	70 471	7,9	81 711	7,0	180 962	11,0
Total	493 584	100,0	890 225	100,0	1 163 791	100,0	1 650 875	100,0

Source: Report No. 61-01-01

The total income for the wholesale trade industry in 2015 was R1 650,9 billion. The total income represents an increase of 12,4% per annum over the income reported in the corresponding survey of 2012 (R1 163,8 billion). Comparing 2012 and 2015, large increases were reported for 'general and other wholesale trade' (+R99,3 billion), 'wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products' (+R92,5 billion) and 'wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies' (+R59,7 billion).

Since 2005, 'wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products' gained the biggest percentage share (+5,4 percentage points) in income when compared with the results of 2015 (from a percentage contribution of 9,4% in 2005 to 14,8% in 2015). 'Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies' lost the biggest percentage share (-2,8 percentage points) in the same period (from 18,8% in 2005 to 16,0% in 2015).

Table B – Concentration ratios for total income in the wholesale trade industry, 2005–2015

Concentration ratio	2005	2009	2012	2015
	%			
CR5	9,4	12,0	10,6	10,5
CR10	14,2	16,2	14,7	14,6
CR20	20,1	21,6	19,1	19,0
CR50	29,5	31,4	26,9	26,7
CR100	37,7	40,0	34,9	34,7

Source: Report No. 61-01-01

In 2015, the top 100 enterprises in the wholesale trade industry contributed 34,7% to the total income. The highest concentration ratio of the top 100 enterprises (CR100) in the four periods was at 40,0% in 2009. The concentration ratios of the top 20, 50 and 100 enterprises were the lowest in 2015 at 19,0%, 26,7% and 34,7%, respectively. There is considerable variation in concentration ratios between the different types of wholesale trade, as shown in Table 9.

Table C – Profit margin in the wholesale trade industry, 2005–2015

Type of wholesale trade	Net profit/loss after tax				Turnover				Profit margin			
	2005	2009	2012	2015	2005	2009	2012	2015	2005	2009	2012	2015
	R million								%			
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	791	1 291	845	2 616	15 981	16 092	28 501	39 295	4,9	8,0	3,0	6,7
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	517	1 281	2 064	1 263	31 963	75 906	91 232	140 398	1,6	1,7	2,3	0,9
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	589	3 358	3 899	5 366	86 458	153 660	222 528	278 496	0,7	2,2	1,8	1,9
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	897	776	1 348	837	15 483	27 035	35 827	46 596	5,8	2,9	3,8	1,8
Wholesale trade in other household goods	2 548	4 647	7 803	4 957	78 406	109 784	169 266	230 646	3,2	4,2	4,6	2,1
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	1 601	1 071	1 753	3 721	45 831	104 110	151 675	242 925	3,5	1,0	1,2	1,5
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	840	2 525	1 039	1 832	16 532	46 896	40 284	41 249	5,1	5,4	2,6	4,4
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1 847	1 656	1 474	2 703	35 318	55 737	65 525	89 358	5,2	3,0	2,2	3,0
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	571	1 429	1 344	1 465	18 097	49 761	51 559	74 187	3,2	2,9	2,6	2,0
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	3 792	9 344	9 627	10 060	90 582	164 119	199 449	258 497	4,2	5,7	4,8	3,9
General and other wholesale trade	920	2 312	1 972	5 146	48 962	68 948	78 610	178 958	1,9	3,4	2,5	2,9
Total	14 913	29 690	33 168	39 966	483 613	872 048	1 134 456	1 620 605	3,1	3,4	2,9	2,5

Source: Report No. 61-01-01

The profit margin for the wholesale trade industry in 2015 was 2,5%. 'Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis' had the highest profit margin at 6,7%, followed by 'wholesale trade in metals and metal ores' at 4,4% and 'wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies' at 3,9%. 'Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock' had the lowest profit margin of 0,9%.

Between 2005 and 2015, the wholesale trade industry recorded a highest profit margin of 3,4% in 2009. The highest profit margin by type of wholesale trade was 'wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis' at 8,0% in 2009. 'Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock' and 'wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco' are the only types of wholesale trade which had profit margins consistently lower than the overall profit margin in all four years surveyed.

2.2 Employment

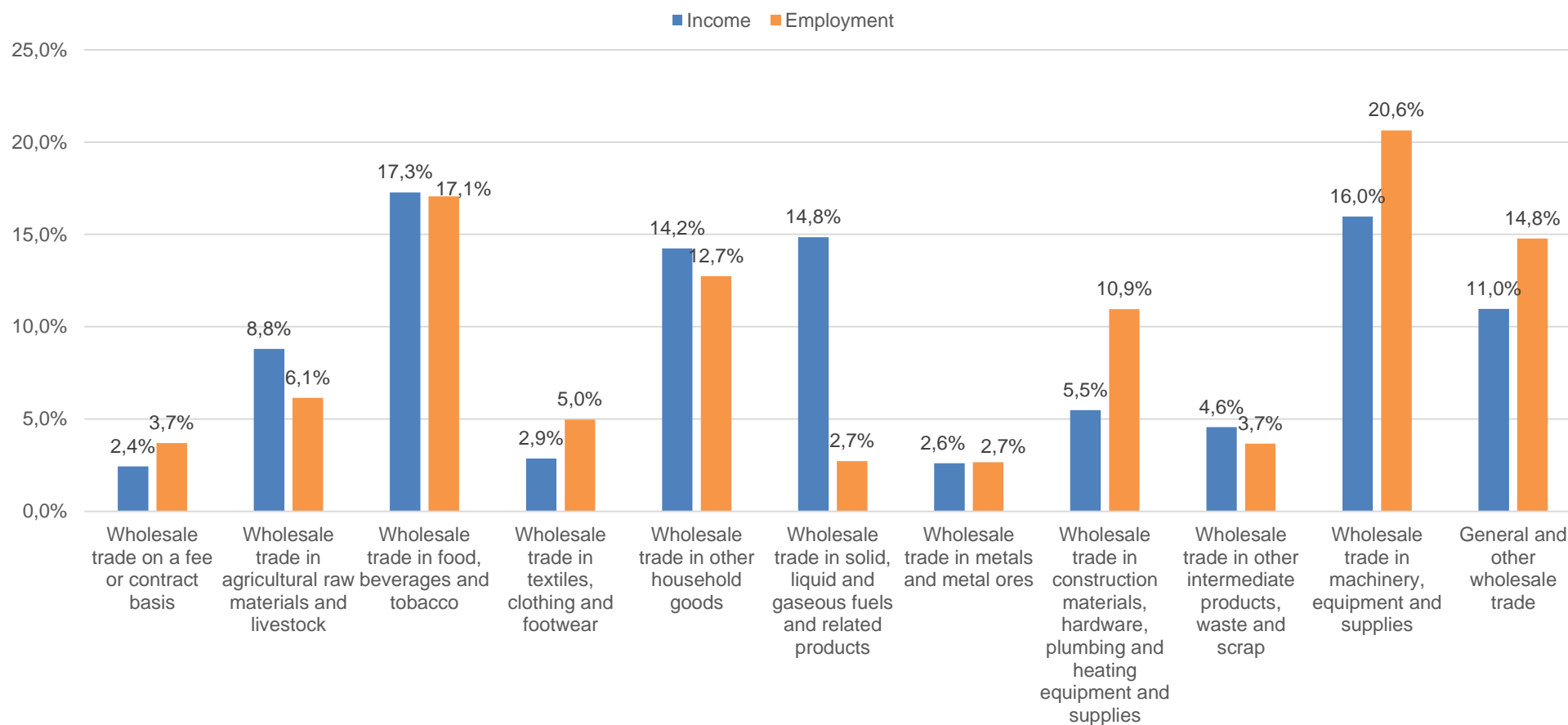
Table D – Employment in the wholesale trade industry for the last pay period ended on or before 30 June, 2005–2015

Type of wholesale trade	2005		2009		2012		2015	
	Number	% contribution	Number	% contribution	Number	% contribution	Number	% contribution
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	36 209	8,4	40 061	9,6	21 866	4,8	18 078	3,7
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	12 396	2,9	17 121	4,1	23 162	5,1	30 106	6,1
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	84 695	19,5	56 202	13,4	73 362	16,0	83 611	17,1
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	16 067	3,7	18 991	4,5	28 098	6,1	24 331	5,0
Wholesale trade in other household goods	47 997	11,1	51 289	12,2	62 779	13,7	62 383	12,7
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	5 680	1,3	8 350	2,0	8 258	1,8	13 324	2,7
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	5 634	1,3	9 101	2,2	12 032	2,6	13 026	2,7
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	44 084	10,2	40 830	9,7	46 708	10,2	53 650	10,9
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	11 011	2,5	13 011	3,1	11 742	2,6	17 980	3,7
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	87 278	20,1	67 639	16,2	90 626	19,8	101 126	20,6
General and other wholesale trade	82 401	19,0	96 196	23,0	79 367	17,3	72 422	14,8
Total	433 452	100,0	418 791	100,0	458 000	100,0	490 037	100,0

Source: Report No. 61-01-01

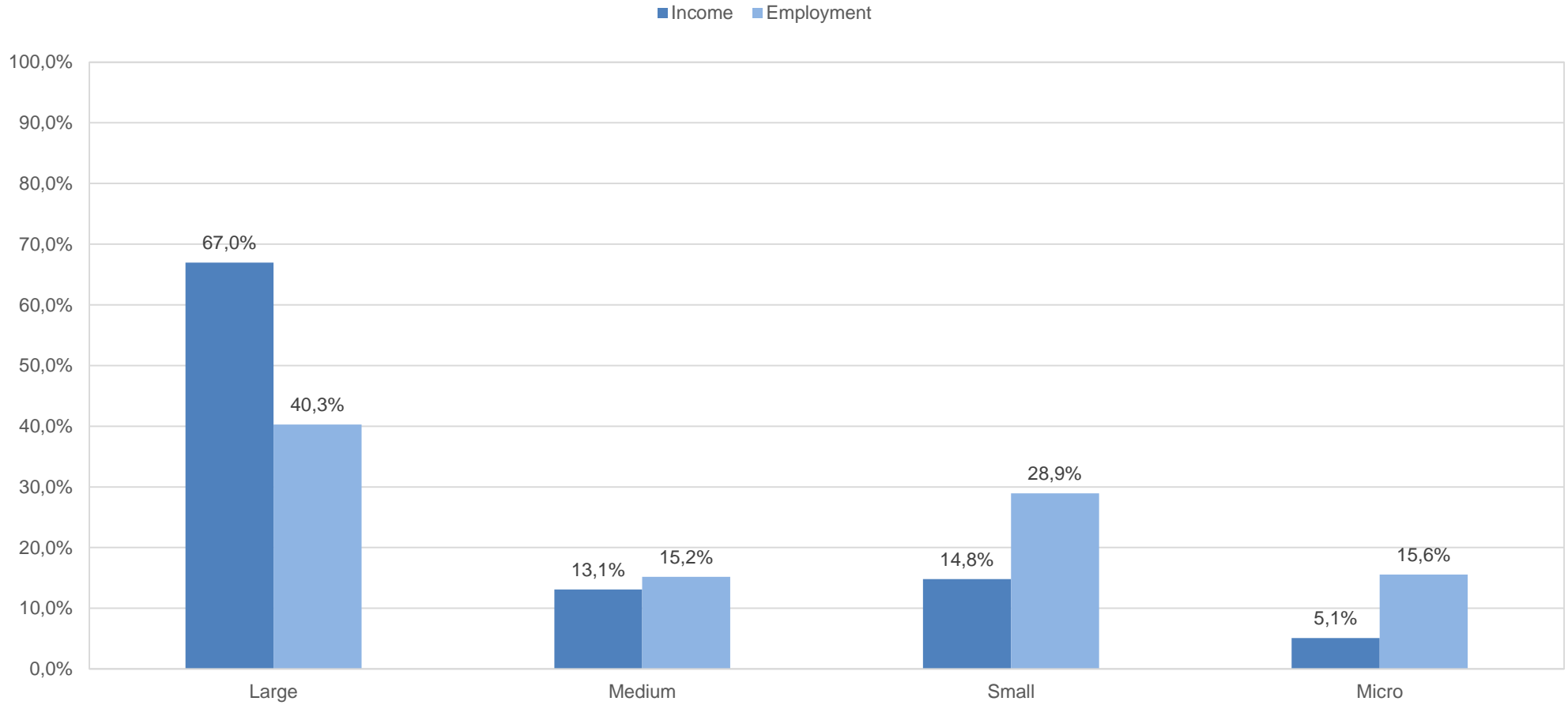
The total number of persons employed in the wholesale trade industry as at the end of June 2015 was 490 037. 'Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies' employed the largest number of persons (101 126 or 20,6%), followed by 'wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco' (83 611 or 17,1%) and 'general and other wholesale trade' (72 422 or 14,8%).

Formal employment increased from 433 452 in 2005 to 490 037 in 2015 (a gain of 56 585 jobs between 2005 and 2015). The highest growth in employment since 2005 was in 'wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock' (+17 710), 'wholesale trade in other household goods' (+14 386) and 'wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies' (+13 848). The biggest loss in employment was in 'wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis' (-18 131 jobs).

Figure 1 – Income and employment by type of trade (% contribution) in the wholesale trade industry, 2015

The type of wholesale trade with the highest proportion of employment compared with its proportion of income was 'wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies' (10,9% of employment and 5,5% of income), followed by 'wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies' (contributing 20,6% of employment and 16,0% of income) and 'general and other wholesale trade' (14,8% of employment and 11,0% of income). Although 'wholesale trade in solid liquid and gaseous fuels and related products' contributed 14,8% of the total income of the wholesale trade industry in 2015, its contribution to employment was only 2,7%.

Figure 2 – Income and employment by enterprise size (% contribution) in the wholesale trade industry, 2015



Whereas large enterprises (those with turnover equal to or greater than R192 million) contributed 67,0% of the total income of the wholesale trade industry in 2015, their contribution to employment was only 40,3%. Most (59,7%) of the employment in the industry was created by small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) while their contribution to income was 33,0%.

Table E – Average salaries and wages in the wholesale trade industry, 2005–2015

Type of service	2005			2009			2012			2015		
	Salaries and wages	Total employees	Average salaries and wages	Salaries and wages	Total employees	Average salaries and wages	Salaries and wages	Total employees	Average salaries and wages	Salaries and wages	Total employees	Average salaries and wages
	R million	Number	Rands	R million	Number	Rands	R million	Number	Rands	R million	Number	Rands
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	2 501	36 209	69 071	3 908	40 061	97 551	3 922	21 866	179 365	4 149	18 078	229 505
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	1 525	12 396	123 024	2 461	17 121	143 742	4 043	23 162	174 553	5 497	30 106	182 588
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	3 695	84 695	43 627	6 024	56 202	107 185	12 882	73 362	175 595	14 919	83 611	178 433
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	1 276	16 067	79 417	2 263	18 991	119 162	3 178	28 098	113 104	3 747	24 331	154 001
Wholesale trade in other household goods	5 577	47 997	116 195	8 739	51 289	170 387	14 495	62 779	230 889	16 132	62 383	258 596
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	590	5 680	103 873	1 417	8 350	169 701	1 830	8 258	221 603	3 717	13 324	278 970
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	669	5 634	118 743	1 588	9 101	174 486	1 805	12 032	150 017	2 995	13 026	229 925
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	2 963	44 084	67 213	5 181	40 830	126 892	6 166	46 708	132 012	8 686	53 650	161 901
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	1 108	11 011	100 627	2 082	13 011	160 018	2 586	11 742	220 235	3 494	17 980	194 327
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	12 257	87 278	140 436	15 505	67 639	229 232	21 938	90 626	242 072	25 493	101 126	252 091
General and other wholesale trade	5 061	82 401	61 419	6 404	96 196	66 572	6 909	79 367	87 051	10 562	72 422	145 840
Total	37 222	433 452	85 873	55 572	418 791	132 696	79 754	458 000	174 135	99 391	490 037	202 823

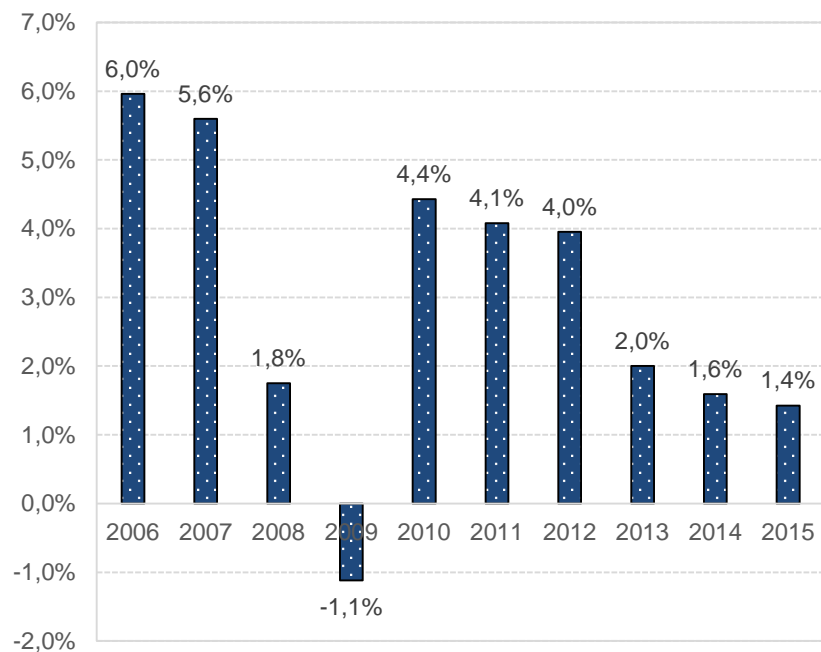
Source: Report No. 61-01-01

The average value of salaries and wages in the wholesale trade industry in 2015 was R202 823. The type of wholesale trade with the highest average salaries and wages in 2015 was 'wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products' (R278 970), followed by 'wholesale trade in other household goods (R258 596) and 'wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies' (R252 091). The type of wholesale trade with the lowest average salaries and wages in 2015 was 'general and other wholesale trade' (R145 840).

Total average salaries and wages increased from R85 873 in 2005 to R202 823 in 2015, an annualised growth rate of 9,0%. The highest annualised growth rate between surveys was from 'wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco' at 25,2% between 2005 and 2009.

2.3 Trade industry value added

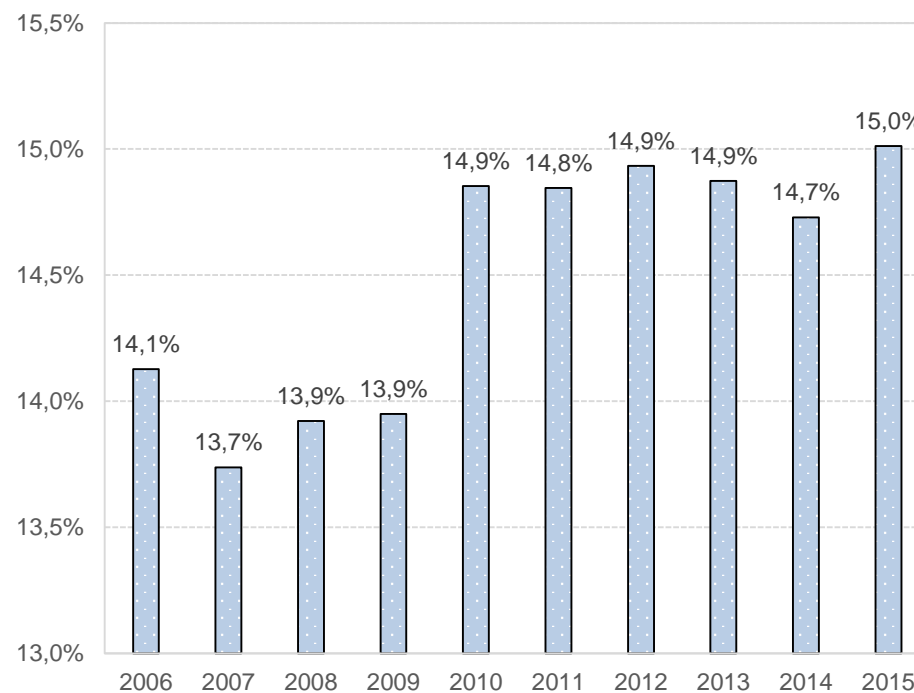
Figure 3 – Trade value added, annual percentage change (constant 2010 prices), 2006–2015



Source: P0441, GDP annual and regional tables, 2016

Trade value added at constant 2010 prices increased from R334 billion in 2006 to R421,4 billion in 2015. The annual growth rate fell from 5,6% in 2007 to 1,8% in 2008, and in 2009 there was a contraction of 1,1%. The average annual growth rate during 2010–2012 was 4,2%, but this fell to 1,7% during 2013–2015.

Figure 4 – Percentage contribution of trade to total value added (current prices), 2006–2015



Source: P0441, GDP annual and regional tables, 2016

In the period 2006–2015, the average contribution of the trade industry to total value added was 14,6%. The contribution ranged from 13,7% in 2007 to 15% in 2015 (P0441, GDP annual and regional tables, 2016).

2.4 Capital expenditure on new assets

Table F – Capital expenditure on new assets in the wholesale trade industry, 2005–2015

Type of wholesale trade	2005		2009		2012		2015	
	R million	% contribution	R million	% contribution	R million	% contribution	R million	% contribution
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	322	5,2	808	8,1	361	2,4	263	1,4
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	152	2,4	393	3,9	1 035	6,8	1 370	7,1
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	1 131	18,1	1 474	14,7	1 929	12,6	2 459	12,7
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	149	2,4	141	1,4	270	1,8	269	1,4
Wholesale trade in other household goods	497	8,0	909	9,1	2 274	14,8	4 006	20,7
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	609	9,8	626	6,2	914	6,0	2 097	10,8
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	132	2,1	520	5,2	268	1,8	258	1,3
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	271	4,3	477	4,8	1 032	6,7	1 113	5,7
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	137	2,2	481	4,8	503	3,3	727	3,8
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	2 095	33,6	3 090	30,8	5 149	33,6	4 604	23,8
General and other wholesale trade	745	11,9	1 116	11,1	1 579	10,3	2 206	11,4
Total	6 240	100,0	10 035	100,0	15 314	100,0	19 372	100,0

Source: Report No. 61-01-01

The capital expenditure on new assets in 2015 (R19,4 billion) represents an increase of 8,2% per annum over the expenditure reported in the corresponding survey of 2012 (R15,3 billion). Comparing 2012 and 2015, the largest increases were reported for 'wholesale trade in other household goods' (+R1,7 billion) and 'wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products' (+R1,2 billion).

Since 2005, 'wholesale trade in other household goods' gained the biggest percentage share (+12,7 percentage points) in capital expenditure on new assets when compared with the results of 2015 (from a percentage contribution of 8,0% in 2005 to 20,7% in 2015). 'Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies' lost the biggest percentage share (-9,8 percentage points) in the same period (from 33,6% in 2005 to 23,8% in 2015).

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

3. Tables

Table 1 – Principal statistics in the trade industry¹, 2012 and 2015

Year	Turnover	Total income	Total expenditure	Total value of opening inventory	Total value of closing inventory	Net profit before tax	Capital expenditure on new assets	Number of employees
	R million							Number
2012*	2 338 013	2 394 956	2 339 558	214 520	253 336	94 214	41 557	1 726 634
2015**	3 109 440	3 172 330	3 086 337	304 104	334 360	116 249	49 975	1 856 378
Annualised % change	10,0	9,8	9,7	12,3	9,7	7,3	6,3	2,4

¹The trade industry comprises wholesale trade, retail trade, motor trade, and hotels and restaurants.

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 2 – Principal statistics in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015

Year	Turnover	Total income	Total expenditure	Total value of opening inventory	Total value of closing inventory	Net profit before tax	Capital expenditure on new assets	Number of employees
	R million							Number
2012*	1 134 456	1 163 791	1 138 063	113 383	136 902	49 247	15 314	458 000
2015**	1 620 605	1 650 875	1 609 557	161 705	180 117	59 730	19 372	490 037
Annualised % change	12,6	12,4	12,2	12,6	9,6	6,6	8,2	2,3

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 3 – Principal statistics by type of wholesaler in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Total income			Total expenditure			Total opening inventory		
	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million			R million			R million		
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	28 994	40 076	11,4	27 982	36 971	9,7	1 258	1 763	11,9
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	94 516	145 164	15,4	93 103	145 778	16,1	9 285	14 961	17,2
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	229 017	285 219	7,6	230 753	284 060	7,2	17 069	21 007	7,2
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	36 405	47 196	9,0	35 349	46 458	9,5	5 846	7 247	7,4
Wholesale trade in other household goods	176 344	235 010	10,0	167 179	227 397	10,8	21 531	26 425	7,1
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	152 595	245 089	17,1	149 836	237 913	16,7	5 243	7 862	14,5
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	41 418	42 905	1,2	40 233	41 443	1,0	4 403	7 152	17,6
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	66 846	90 467	10,6	66 404	87 926	9,8	8 975	13 123	13,5
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	52 063	75 200	13,0	51 331	74 239	13,1	4 817	7 504	15,9
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	203 882	263 587	8,9	197 102	252 484	8,6	28 963	40 290	11,6
General and other wholesale trade	81 711	180 962	30,3	78 791	174 888	30,4	5 993	14 371	33,8
Total	1 163 791	1 650 875	12,4	1 138 063	1 609 557	12,2	113 383	161 705	12,6

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 3 – Principal statistics by type of wholesaler in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015 (concluded)

Type of wholesale trade	Total closing inventory			Net profit or loss before tax			Capital expenditure on new assets		
	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million			R million			R million		
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	1 425	1 876	9,6	1 179	3 218	39,8	361	263	-10,0
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	10 658	17 444	17,8	2 786	1 869	-12,5	1 035	1 370	9,8
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	25 810	29 304	4,3	7 005	9 456	10,5	1 929	2 459	8,4
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	6 816	7 969	5,3	2 026	1 460	-10,3	270	269	-0,1
Wholesale trade in other household goods	23 560	27 887	5,8	11 194	9 075	-6,8	2 274	4 006	20,8
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	5 052	5 561	3,3	2 568	4 875	23,8	914	2 097	31,9
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	4 759	7 866	18,2	1 541	2 176	12,2	268	258	-1,3
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	11 073	14 345	9,0	2 540	3 763	14,0	1 032	1 113	2,6
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	6 127	8 673	12,3	2 042	2 130	1,4	503	727	13,1
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	35 755	43 257	6,6	13 572	14 070	1,2	5 149	4 604	-3,7
General and other wholesale trade	5 867	15 935	39,5	2 794	7 638	39,8	1 579	2 206	11,8
Total	136 902	180 117	9,6	49 247	59 730	6,6	15 314	19 372	8,2

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures

Table 4 – Principal statistics in the wholesale trade industry, 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Total income	Total expenditure	Total value of opening inventory	Total value of closing inventory	Net profit before tax	Capital expenditure on new assets
	R million					
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	40 076	36 971	1 763	1 876	3 218	263
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	145 164	145 778	14 961	17 444	1 869	1 370
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	285 219	284 060	21 007	29 304	9 456	2 459
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	47 196	46 458	7 247	7 969	1 460	269
Wholesale trade in other household goods	235 010	227 397	26 425	27 887	9 075	4 006
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	245 089	237 913	7 862	5 561	4 875	2 097
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	42 905	41 443	7 152	7 866	2 176	258
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	90 467	87 926	13 123	14 345	3 763	1 113
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	75 200	74 239	7 504	8 673	2 130	727
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	263 587	252 484	40 290	43 257	14 070	4 604
General and other wholesale trade	180 962	174 888	14 371	15 935	7 638	2 206
Total	1 650 875	1 609 557	161 705	180 117	59 730	19 372

Table 5 – Profit margin in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Net profit or loss after tax		Turnover		Profit margin ²	
	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**
	R million		R million		R million	
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	845	2 616	28 501	39 295	3,0	6,7
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	2 064	1 263	91 232	140 398	2,3	0,9
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	3 899	5 366	222 528	278 496	1,8	1,9
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	1 348	837	35 827	46 596	3,8	1,8
Wholesale trade in other household goods	7 803	4 957	169 266	230 646	4,6	2,1
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	1 753	3 721	151 675	242 925	1,2	1,5
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	1 039	1 832	40 284	41 249	2,6	4,4
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1 474	2 703	65 525	89 358	2,2	3,0
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	1 344	1 465	51 559	74 187	2,6	2,0
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	9 627	10 060	199 449	258 497	4,8	3,9
Other wholesale trade	1 972	5 146	78 610	178 958	2,5	2,9
Total	33 168	39 966	1 134 456	1 620 605	2,9	2,5

² Net profit after tax divided by turnover multiplied by 100.

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 6 – Income in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015

Income item	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Sales of goods	1 093 089	1 575 772	93,9	95,5	13,0
Services	38 907	42 362	3,3	2,6	2,9
Interest	5 870	7 012	0,5	0,4	6,1
Rental, leasing income	2 460	2 471	0,2	0,1	0,1
Other income	23 465	23 258	2,0	1,4	-0,3
Total	1 163 791	1 650 875	100,0	100,0	12,4

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 7 – Income in the wholesale trade industry, 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Sales of goods	Services	Interest	Rental, leasing income	Other income	Total
	R million					
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	21 822	17 306	261	167	520	40 076
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	137 981	2 382	1 113	35	3 653	145 164
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	274 463	3 915	1 763	118	4 960	285 219
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	46 369	198	247	29	353	47 196
Wholesale trade in other household goods	226 462	4 069	556	115	3 808	235 010
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	242 243	433	296	249	1 868	245 089
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	41 107	141	295	1	1 361	42 905
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	88 862	491	330	5	779	90 467
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	73 548	446	257	193	756	75 200
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	244 444	12 505	1 350	1 548	3 740	263 587
General and other wholesale trade	178 471	476	544	11	1 460	180 962
Total	1 575 772	42 362	7 012	2 471	23 258	1 650 875

Table 8 – Income by enterprise size in the wholesale trade industry, 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Large enterprises	Medium enterprises	Small enterprises	Micro enterprises	Total
	R million				
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	19 636	4 518	10 267	5 655	40 076
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	132 585	3 922	6 267	2 390	145 164
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	223 565	25 061	35 064	1 529	285 219
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	23 238	6 151	12 652	5 155	47 196
Wholesale trade in other household goods	170 155	21 274	33 694	9 887	235 010
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	229 128	4 429	10 729	803	245 089
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	33 691	4 187	4 797	230	42 905
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	37 004	17 140	29 037	7 286	90 467
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	52 991	7 653	11 620	2 936	75 200
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	167 722	25 061	50 520	20 284	263 587
General and other wholesale trade	15 759	96 965	40 120	28 118	180 962
Total	1 105 474	216 361	244 767	84 273	1 650 875

Table 9 – Concentration ratios (relative contribution of large enterprises) in the wholesale trade industry, 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Total income	Income of 5 largest enterprises	Relative contribution of 5 largest enterprises	Income of 10 largest enterprises	Relative contribution of 10 largest enterprises	Income of 20 largest enterprises	Relative contribution of 20 largest enterprises
	R million		%	R million	%	R million	%
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	40 076	11 624	29,0	14 818	37,0	17 675	44,1
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	145 164	35 540	24,5	59 644	41,1	90 673	62,5
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	285 219	93 637	32,8	114 720	40,2	135 568	47,5
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	47 196	8 760	18,6	12 116	25,7	16 653	35,3
Wholesale trade in other household goods	235 010	60 057	25,6	72 568	30,9	91 827	39,1
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	245 089	114 550	46,7	132 445	54,0	158 255	64,6
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	42 905	20 331	47,4	24 757	57,7	30 148	70,3
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	90 467	11 091	12,3	15 658	17,3	20 070	22,2
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	75 200	8 871	11,8	14 106	18,8	22 904	30,5
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	263 587	24 447	9,3	44 369	16,8	72 910	27,7
General and other wholesale trade	180 962	7 190	4,0	10 245	5,7	12 842	7,1
Total	1 650 875	173 982³	10,5⁴	241 218³	14,6⁴	313 790³	19,0⁴

³ These figures reflect the income of the 5, 10 and 20 largest enterprises respectively, and not the column totals.

⁴ Relative contribution = income of the largest enterprises divided by total income multiplied by 100.

Table 10 – Expenditure in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015

Expenditure item	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Purchases	917 194	1 335 302	80,6	83,0	13,3
Employment costs	79 754	99 391	7,0	6,2	7,6
Rental and leasing of land, buildings and other structures under operating leases	9 113	11 345	0,8	0,7	7,6
Leasing and hiring of plant, machinery, equipment and vehicles under operating leases	2 228	3 618	0,2	0,2	17,5
Interest paid	7 877	11 182	0,7	0,7	12,4
Utilities (water and electricity)	3 317	4 442	0,3	0,3	10,2
Other expenditure	118 580	144 277	10,4	9,0	6,8
Total	1 138 063	1 609 557	100,0	100,0	12,2

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 11 – Expenditure in the wholesale trade industry, 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Purchases	Employment costs	Interest	Leasing and hiring of plant, machinery, equipment and vehicles under operating leases	Rental and leasing of land, buildings and other structures under operating leases	Utilities (water and electricity)	Other expenditure	Total
	R million							
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	26 575	4 149	234	194	488	265	5 066	36 971
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	127 686	5 497	1 517	68	432	199	10 379	145 778
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	239 415	14 919	1 010	737	2 063	1 051	24 865	284 060
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	33 852	3 747	511	103	847	384	7 014	46 458
Wholesale trade in other household goods	181 170	16 132	1 559	546	1 344	347	26 299	227 397
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	222 561	3 717	534	181	358	83	10 479	237 913
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	33 476	2 995	521	76	484	149	3 742	41 443
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	67 628	8 686	602	313	1 410	267	9 020	87 926
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	63 721	3 494	366	383	397	96	5 782	74 239
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	198 221	25 493	3 291	654	2 320	600	21 905	252 484
General and other wholesale trade	140 997	10 562	1 037	363	1 202	1 001	19 726	174 888
Total	1 335 302	99 391	11 182	3 618	11 345	4 442	144 277	1 609 557

Table 12 – Capital expenditure on new assets in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015

Type of asset	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Land, building and construction	2 561	3 263	16,7	16,8	8,4
Plant, machinery and equipment	5 795	7 055	37,8	36,4	6,8
Motor vehicles	3 573	4 761	23,3	24,6	10,0
Computers	1 836	2 476	12,0	12,8	10,5
Other	1 549	1 817	10,1	9,4	5,5
Total	15 314	19 372	100,0	100,0	8,2

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 13 – Capital expenditure on new assets in the wholesale trade industry, 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Land, buildings and construction	Plant, machinery and equipment	Motor vehicles	Computers	Other	Total
	R million					
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	51	65	122	22	3	263
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	385	451	169	57	308	1 370
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	502	1 024	727	165	41	2 459
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	54	89	45	48	33	269
Wholesale trade in other household goods	625	1 822	406	305	848	4 006
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	552	987	222	70	266	2 097
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	22	101	52	75	8	258
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	72	412	402	169	58	1 113
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	310	129	197	19	72	727
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	399	1 644	1 878	503	180	4 604
General and other wholesale trade	291	331	541	1 043	0	2 206
Total	3 263	7 055	4 761	2 476	1 817	19 372

Table 14 – Employment in the wholesale trade industry for the last pay period ended on or before 30 June, 2012 and 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Female employees			Male employees			Total employees		
	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	7 121	5 411	-8,7	14 745	12 667	-4,9	21 866	18 078	-6,1
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	6 668	10 622	16,8	16 494	19 484	5,7	23 162	30 106	9,1
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	27 723	27 725	0,0	45 639	55 886	7,0	73 362	83 611	4,5
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	16 065	11 710	-10,0	12 033	12 621	1,6	28 098	24 331	-4,7
Wholesale trade in other household goods	25 991	25 533	-0,6	36 788	36 850	0,1	62 779	62 383	-0,2
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	2 643	4 061	15,4	5 615	9 263	18,2	8 258	13 324	17,3
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	3 465	3 478	0,1	8 567	9 548	3,7	12 032	13 026	2,7
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	13 484	15 452	4,6	33 224	38 198	4,8	46 708	53 650	4,7
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	3 357	5 822	20,1	8 385	12 158	13,2	11 742	17 980	15,3
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	27 237	32 422	6,0	63 389	68 704	2,7	90 626	101 126	3,7
General and other wholesale trade	33 359	25 324	-8,8	46 008	47 098	0,8	79 367	72 422	-3,0
Total	167 113	167 559	0,1	290 887	322 478	3,5	458 000	490 037	2,3

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 15 – Details of employment in the wholesale trade industry for the last pay period ended on or before 30 June, 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Working proprietors			Permanent			Temporary and casual			Total
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	
	Number of employees									
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	270	573	843	3 998	11 595	15 593	1 143	499	1 642	18 078
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	57	155	212	10 185	18 503	28 688	380	826	1 206	30 106
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	74	856	930	21 313	42 641	63 953	6 338	12 389	18 728	83 611
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	201	773	974	10 715	11 127	21 842	794	721	1 515	24 331
Wholesale trade in other household goods	694	2 384	3 078	24 458	34 053	58 511	381	413	794	62 383
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	99	161	260	3 830	8 946	12 777	131	156	287	13 324
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	13	75	88	3 442	9 310	12 752	23	163	186	13 026
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	275	1 156	1 431	14 762	35 517	50 279	415	1 525	1 940	53 650
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	100	589	689	5 603	11 115	16 718	119	454	573	17 980
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	1 027	2 738	3 765	29 682	63 244	92 925	1 713	2 722	4 436	101 126
Other wholesale trade	637	2 276	2 913	23 813	42 228	66 042	874	2 594	3 467	72 422
Total	3 447	11 736	15 183	151 801	288 279	440 080	12 311	22 463	34 774	490 037

Table 16 – Employment by enterprise size in the wholesale trade industry for the last pay period ended on or before 30 June, 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Large enterprises	Medium enterprises	Small enterprises	Micro enterprises	Total
	Number of employees				
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	7 987	1 813	4 176	4 102	18 078
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	25 246	716	1 540	2 604	30 106
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	40 103	6 169	33 223	4 117	83 612
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	8 550	2 961	7 556	5 263	24 330
Wholesale trade in other household goods	26 030	9 695	15 002	11 655	62 382
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	8 492	737	3 250	845	13 324
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	10 577	807	1 539	103	13 026
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	18 277	7 897	20 345	7 132	53 651
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	7 837	715	7 110	2 318	17 980
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	45 944	14 542	27 143	13 497	101 126
General and other wholesale trade	6 551	26 373	16 948	22 550	72 422
Total	205 594	72 425	137 832	74 186	490 037

Table 17 – Details of income from sales of goods by commodity group in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015

Commodity type	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Agricultural raw material and livestock	95 572	139 349	8,7	8,8	13,4
Food, beverages and tobacco	219 372	296 658	20,1	18,8	10,6
Textiles, clothing, accessories and footwear	41 150	54 039	3,8	3,4	9,5
Household furniture, appliances, supplies, articles and equipment	47 903	67 752	4,4	4,3	12,3
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	14 710	21 957	1,3	1,4	14,3
Pharmaceuticals, medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	94 438	117 909	8,6	7,5	7,7
Miscellaneous consumer and sports and recreational goods	20 474	30 868	1,9	2,0	14,7
Intermediate products, building material, hardware, waste and scrap	333 594	500 523	30,5	31,8	14,5
Machinery, equipment and supplies	225 382	346 219	20,6	22,0	15,4
Other sales of goods	494	498	0,0	0,0	0,3
Total sales of goods	1 093 089	1 575 772	100,0	100,0	13,0

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 18 – Details of income from sales by commodity type in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015

Commodity type	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Maize	31 811	42 571	2,9	2,7	10,2
Other cereal grains and seeds, agricultural material, waste, residue and by-products used for animal feeding (e.g. bran, molasses, lucerne, forage)	35 943	53 958	3,3	3,4	14,5
Oleaginous fruit (olives, sunflower seeds and other plant products for the production of vegetable oil)	10 927	16 443	1,0	1,0	14,6
Flowers and plants	1 729	2 601	0,2	0,2	14,6
Hides, skins and leather	1 272	1 976	0,1	0,1	15,8
Unprocessed tobacco and other agricultural and livestock products	10 161	17 635	0,9	1,1	20,2
Livestock, pet animals, and live other animals	3 729	4 165	0,3	0,3	3,8
Total sales from agricultural raw materials (not processed) and live animals	95 572	139 349	8,7	8,8	13,4
Fruits (fresh, frozen, preserved, processed and dried)	16 917	26 117	1,5	1,7	15,6
Vegetables (fresh, frozen, preserved, processed and dried)	10 250	11 921	0,9	0,8	5,2
Dairy products (e.g. milk, butter, cheese, cream, yogurt, ice cream), eggs and egg products	11 843	12 426	1,1	0,8	1,6
Edible oils and fats of animal or vegetable origin	7 021	11 263	0,6	0,7	17,1
Meat and meat products	32 630	39 615	3,0	2,5	6,7
Fish and other seafood products	9 470	11 053	0,9	0,7	5,3
Sugar, chocolates, cocoa, sweets and sugar confectionary	22 100	28 376	2,0	1,8	8,7
Bread	1 117	1 777	0,1	0,1	16,7
Other bakery products (excluding bread)	956	1 178	0,1	0,1	7,2
Coffee, tea and cocoa	5 366	8 145	0,5	0,5	14,9
Maize products	8 360	12 864	0,8	0,8	15,4
Rice	6 724	8 542	0,6	0,5	8,3
Prepared meals (fresh and frozen), including oven-ready meals and other edible food products (e.g. salty snacks)	10 945	17 614	1,0	1,1	17,2
Non-alcoholic beverages	9 729	16 243	0,9	1,0	18,6
Distilled beverages (brandy, liqueur, vodka, gin, whisky, etc.)	15 490	21 581	1,4	1,4	11,7
Fermented beverages (beer, cider, mead, etc.)	26 653	31 795	2,4	2,0	6,1
Wines and fortified wines (madeira wine, marsala wine, port wine, sherry, etc.)	5 993	9 282	0,5	0,6	15,7
Tobacco and tobacco products	17 808	26 866	1,6	1,7	14,7
Total sales from food, beverages and tobacco products	219 372	296 658	20,1	18,8	10,6

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 18 – Details of income from sales by commodity type in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015 (continued)

Commodity type	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Yarn and thread (for weaving, sewing or knitting)	693	881	0,1	0,1	8,3
Fabrics	6 102	6 536	0,6	0,4	2,3
Haberdashery	2 855	3 992	0,3	0,3	11,8
Other textile products	3 872	4 410	0,4	0,3	4,4
Men's and boys' clothing	6 694	9 444	0,6	0,6	12,2
Women's and girls' clothing	5 745	7 927	0,5	0,5	11,3
Infants' and children's clothing	650	703	0,1	0,0	2,6
Accessories	4 415	6 211	0,4	0,4	12,0
Men's and boys' footwear (excluding sports footwear)	4 155	6 479	0,4	0,4	16,0
Women's and girls' footwear (excluding sports footwear)	3 106	4 183	0,3	0,3	10,4
Infants' and children's footwear (excluding sports footwear)	801	815	0,1	0,1	0,6
Sports footwear	2 062	2 458	0,2	0,2	6,0
Total sales from textiles, clothing, clothing accessories and footwear	41 150	54 039	3,8	3,4	9,5
Household furniture and wickerwork, cork goods and wooden household articles	2 651	3 875	0,2	0,2	13,5
Sound and visual apparatus (including iPods and MP3 players) and musical instruments	17 600	27 891	1,6	1,8	16,6
Household appliances	11 715	15 172	1,1	1,0	9,0
Household articles and supplies (including pots, pans, dishes, cutlery, brooms and brushes)	4 395	4 716	0,4	0,3	2,4
Books (hardcover and paperback)	3 399	4 818	0,3	0,3	12,3
Paper stationery (e.g. postcards, greeting cards, writing pads, diaries, exercise books, files) and other print	8 143	11 280	0,7	0,7	11,5
Total sales from household furniture, appliances, articles, components, equipment, reading materials and stationery	47 903	67 752	4,4	4,3	12,3
Diamonds and other precious stones	8 124	14 017	0,7	0,9	19,9
Watches and clocks, jewellery, gold, silverware and medals	6 586	7 940	0,6	0,5	6,4
Total sales from precious stones, jewellery and silverware	14 710	21 957	1,3	1,4	14,3
Pharmaceutical goods	51 996	59 541	4,8	3,8	4,6
Prescription and non-prescription eyewear	1 017	1 373	0,1	0,1	10,5
Surgical and orthopaedic instruments and supplies, including orthopaedic footwear and other medical goods	20 485	31 542	1,9	2,0	15,5
Cosmetics and toiletries	15 235	17 593	1,4	1,1	4,9
Household cleaning supplies, chemicals and paper products	5 705	7 860	0,5	0,5	11,3
Total sales from pharmaceuticals, medical and orthopaedic goods, cosmetics and toiletries, and cleaning preparations	94 438	117 909	8,6	7,5	7,7

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 18 – Details of income from sales by commodity type in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015 (continued)

Commodity type	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Lighting equipment, components and accessories (e.g. lamps, light bulbs, tubes, lamp shades)	***	2 677	***	0,2	***
Photographic and optical goods (excluding eyewear)	1 670	2 418	0,2	0,2	13,1
Toys, games and hobby supplies (excluding video and computer games)	4 137	4 338	0,4	0,3	1,6
Leather goods, luggage and travel accessories	2 971	3 325	0,3	0,2	3,8
Rubber and rubber products	1 294	1 930	0,1	0,1	14,3
Weapons (firearms) and ammunition, including sporting shotguns and rifles	***	209	***	0,0	***
Electric accumulators, primary cells, batteries and parts thereof	***	1 086	***	0,1	***
Pet food, supplies and accessories	4 740	7 351	0,4	0,5	15,8
Lawn and garden products and equipment	597	726	0,1	0,0	6,7
Other miscellaneous consumer goods	***	1 068	***	0,1	***
Bicycles, parts and accessories	1 811	1 964	0,2	0,1	2,7
Hunting, fishing and camping equipment and supplies	663	840	0,1	0,1	8,2
Golf equipment and accessories	1 958	2 035	0,2	0,1	1,3
Exercise and fitness equipment	435	584	0,0	0,0	10,3
Hockey, baseball, football, soccer, volleyball and basketball equipment and supplies	109	171	0,0	0,0	16,2
All other sporting and recreational goods	89	146	0,0	0,0	17,9
Total sales from miscellaneous consumer and sports and recreational goods	20 474	30 868	1,9	2,0	14,7
Solid fuels	7 665	9 207	0,7	0,6	6,3
Liquid petroleum products	140 605	231 843	12,9	14,7	18,1
Gaseous fuels	6 225	9 263	0,6	0,6	14,2
Ferrous and non-ferrous metal ore and concentration	36 035	42 573	3,3	2,7	5,7
Precious metals	3 071	3 280	0,3	0,2	2,2
Building materials (e.g. cement, bricks) and sand, aggregates, gravel, asphalt	12 056	20 480	1,1	1,3	19,3
Builders joinery and carpentry of wood (e.g. roof trusses, window and door frames, doors), timber, wood-based boards and panels, veneer sheets and sheets for plywood	6 677	9 511	0,6	0,6	12,5
Wall and floor coverings (including wallpaper, carpets and tiles)	3 272	4 205	0,3	0,3	8,7
Hand tools and equipment for domestic use	13 220	14 109	1,2	0,9	2,2
Installation fittings and fixtures (e.g. gutters, conduits, brackets) and sanitary ware (e.g. baths, wash basins)	6 982	7 711	0,6	0,5	3,4

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

***Not asked separately in 2012.

Table 18 – Details of income from sales by commodity type in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015 (concluded)

Commodity type	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Paint, varnishes and lacquers	6 972	8 019	0,6	0,5	4,8
Glassware and other articles of glass	592	604	0,1	0,0	0,7
Electrical wiring, plumbing, heating, cooling and electrical equipment and supplies	8 684	12 437	0,8	0,8	12,7
Other building material	16 434	25 308	1,5	1,6	15,5
Plastic materials in primary form	3 485	5 783	0,3	0,4	18,4
Waste, scrap and materials for recycling	22 624	34 900	2,1	2,2	15,5
Packing material	***	12 054	***	0,8	***
Fertilisers and agrochemical products	20 953	27 206	1,9	1,7	9,1
Industrial chemicals	18 042	22 030	1,7	1,4	6,9
Total sales from intermediate products, building materials, hardware, waste and scrap	333 594	500 523	30,5	31,8	14,5
Computer equipment (including USB and GPS)	38 903	65 655	3,6	4,2	19,1
Packaged computer software (including video and computer games)	8 390	12 401	0,8	0,8	13,9
Other office machinery, furniture and equipment	6 027	8 594	0,6	0,5	12,6
Transport equipment and replacement parts thereof, excluding motor vehicles, motorcycles, cycles, sport and pleasure boats	***	19 355	***	1,2	***
Other electronic equipment and components (excluding computers)	11 561	17 478	1,1	1,1	14,8
Telephones, cellular phones and SIM cards	25 157	34 231	2,3	2,2	10,8
Agricultural machinery, equipment and supplies	16 547	25 187	1,5	1,6	15,0
Forestry machinery, equipment and supplies	1 892	2 955	0,2	0,2	16,0
Construction machinery, equipment and supplies	21 733	28 963	2,0	1,8	10,0
Mining, oil and gas machinery, equipment and supplies	30 519	37 578	2,8	2,4	7,2
Industrial machinery, equipment and supplies	44 309	65 689	4,1	4,2	14,0
Electrical generators, motors and transformers, turbine and control panels	10 644	16 847	1,0	1,1	16,5
Industrial switchgear, circuit breakers and related materials	9 700	11 286	0,9	0,7	5,2
Total sales from machinery, equipment and supplies	225 382	346 219	20,6	22,0	15,4
Other sales of goods	494	498	0,0	0,0	0,3
Total income from sales of goods	1 093 089	1 575 772	100,0	100,0	13,0

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

***Not asked separately in 2012.

Table 19 – Details of purchases by commodity group in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015

Commodity type	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	86 742	137 272	9,5	10,3	16,5
Food, beverages and tobacco	181 028	250 710	19,7	18,8	11,5
Textile, clothing, accessories and footwear	29 703	40 790	3,2	3,1	11,2
Household furniture, appliances, supplies, articles, equipment, reading material and stationary	32 396	49 608	3,5	3,7	15,3
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	12 752	19 227	1,4	1,4	14,7
Pharmaceuticals, medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	67 894	81 780	7,4	6,1	6,4
Miscellaneous consumer goods	39 728	47 959	4,3	3,6	6,5
Intermediate products, building material, hardware, waste and scrap	291 128	440 691	31,7	33,0	14,8
Machinery, equipment and supplies	174 627	265 190	19,0	19,9	14,9
Other purchases and transfers-in	1 196	2 075	0,1	0,2	20,2
Total	917 194	1 335 302	100,0	100,0	13,3

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 20 – Details of purchases by commodity in the wholesale trade industry, 2015

Commodity type	R million	% contribution
Agricultural raw materials	131 579	9,9
Live animals and animal products, excluding meat	5 693	0,4
Crude oil and natural gas	10 784	0,8
Metal ores and minerals	36 005	2,7
Food	162 718	12,2
Beverages	62 904	4,7
Tobacco and tobacco products	25 088	1,9
Textiles and textile products, including leather	16 939	1,3
Clothing and made-up accessories	15 271	1,1
Footwear	8 580	0,6
Construction materials and builders' hardware	80 321	6,0
Reading materials and stationery	9 651	0,7
Fuels (solid, liquid, gaseous) and refined petroleum products	215 501	16,1
Chemicals, fertilisers, pesticides and other chemical preparations	34 668	2,6
Pharmaceuticals, medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	81 780	6,1
Paints	4 230	0,3
Varnishes, lacquers and other construction chemicals	1 526	0,1
Sports and leisure goods, toys, games and parts thereof	5 161	0,4
Household furniture	8 416	0,6
Precious and semi-precious stones, jewellery and silverware	19 227	1,4
Waste and scrap	32 611	2,4
Non-electrical machinery, equipment, apparatus and parts thereof	66 568	5,0
Domestic (household) appliances, equipment and articles	31 541	2,4
Office furniture, computers, related equipment and devices	93 053	7,0
Electrical machinery, equipment, apparatus and parts thereof	105 569	7,9
Containers and packaging materials, including pallets	25 044	1,9
Consumables (e.g. protective clothing, cleaning materials)	1 244	0,1
Miscellaneous consumer goods of any material	41 554	3,1
Other purchases and transfers-in of goods	2 076	0,2
Total	1 335 302	100,0

Table 21 – Income from sales of goods and services by client base in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015

Client	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Individuals and households	49 658	77 547	4,4	4,8	16,0
Businesses (including parastatals)	1 056 879	1 511 454	93,4	93,4	12,7
Government	25 459	29 133	2,2	1,8	4,6
Total	1 131 996	1 618 134	100,0	100,0	12,6

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 22 – Income from sales of goods and services by client base in the wholesale trade industry, 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Individuals and households	Businesses (including parastatals)	Government	Total
	R million			
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	843	38 241	44	39 128
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	15 903	116 962	7 498	140 363
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	5 922	270 441	2 015	278 378
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	2 968	42 964	635	46 567
Wholesale trade in other household goods	25 546	197 192	7 793	230 531
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	1 248	241 428	0	242 676
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	719	40 497	32	41 248
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	7 639	80 780	934	89 353
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	1 837	71 101	1 056	73 994
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	5 718	245 997	5 234	256 949
General and other wholesale trade	9 204	165 851	3 892	178 947
Total	77 547	1 511 454	29 133	1 618 134

Table 23 – Income from sales of goods and service by method of payment in the wholesale trade industry, 2012 and 2015

Payment method	2012*	2015**	2012*	2015**	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Cash and debit card	111 832	177 160	9,9	10,9	16,6
Credit card	20 981	23 771	1,9	1,5	4,2
Retail card	9 123	14 140	0,8	0,9	15,7
Transfers (including internet transfers)	990 060	1 403 063	87,5	86,7	12,3
Total	1 131 996	1 618 134	100,0	100,0	12,6

*Revised figures.

**Preliminary figures.

Table 24 – Income from sales of goods and services by method of payment in the wholesale trade industry, 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Cash and debit card	Credit card	Retail card	Transfers (including internet transfers)	Total
	R million				
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	1 183	110	0	37 835	39 128
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	3 457	555	0	136 351	140 363
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	23 104	6 908	814	247 552	278 378
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	2 892	882	1 348	41 445	46 567
Wholesale trade in other household goods	19 223	5 093	1 867	204 348	230 531
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	60 379	375	24	181 898	242 676
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	974	223	0	40 051	41 248
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	9 975	2 860	0	76 518	89 353
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	2 284	118	2 185	69 407	73 994
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	15 097	3 570	264	238 018	256 949
Other wholesale trade	38 592	3 077	7 638	129 640	178 947
Total	177 160	23 771	14 140	1 403 063	1 618 134

Table 25 – Information and communication technology (ICT) usage by type of wholesale trade in the wholesale trade industry as at the end of June, 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Use computer	Use internet	Use internet banking	Have website	Receive orders through the internet	Place orders through the internet	IT outsourced
	% of enterprises						
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	100,0	100,0	92,4	49,2	35,3	35,1	31,9
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	100,0	98,0	88,8	27,5	33,8	22,4	37,6
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	100,0	99,1	88,1	44,8	40,6	29,7	42,1
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	99,1	99,1	93,5	41,1	46,6	33,0	43,7
Wholesale trade in other household goods	100,0	100,0	87,9	55,8	42,3	34,2	32,4
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	99,3	98,6	84,4	35,4	43,2	39,6	34,0
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	100,0	100,0	90,4	42,1	40,2	30,8	38,5
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	100,0	100,0	95,1	66,1	45,3	43,8	52,1
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	99,0	99,0	83,9	49,3	31,8	33,5	44,0
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	100,0	99,5	94,1	65,8	50,3	41,6	42,4
General and other wholesale trade	100,0	98,4	95,2	51,1	40,7	41,7	35,2
Total	99,8	99,3	90,2	50,4	42,2	35,7	40,5

Table 26 – Information and communication technology (ICT) usage by enterprise size in the wholesale trade industry as at the end of June, 2015

Enterprise size	Use computer	Use internet	Use internet banking	Have website	Receive orders through the internet	Place orders through the internet	IT outsourced
	% of enterprises						
Large	99,9	99,5	88,2	50,0	41,3	34,1	39,4
Medium	100,0	99,2	95,5	63,2	42,9	42,9	45,9
Small	99,7	99,0	95,3	51,0	43,7	37,7	47,0
Micro	98,8	98,8	86,6	34,1	45,1	35,4	23,2
Total	99,8	99,3	90,2	50,4	42,2	35,7	40,5

Explanatory notes

Background	<p>The results presented in this publication have been derived from the 2015 wholesale trade large sample survey. This is a periodic survey which measures economic activity in the wholesale trade industry of the South African economy. The survey is based on a sample of private and public enterprises operating in the wholesale trade industry.</p> <p>The sample was drawn from Stats SA's business register. The business register is based mainly on the value-added tax (VAT) database of the South African Revenue Service (SARS). Enterprises are legally bound to register for VAT. Enterprises registered in the taxation system are included on the business register, and hence were given a chance of selection in the sample for the survey.</p>
Value added tax (VAT)	All figures exclude value added tax (VAT).
Reference period	The information was collected from enterprises for their financial year, which ended on any date between 01 July 2014 and 30 June 2015.
Purpose of the survey	Results of the survey are used within Stats SA for benchmarking the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components. These statistics are also used by government policy advisors in monitoring the performance and contribution of individual industries to the South African economy and the effectiveness of industry policies. The private sector uses the data to analyse comparative business and industry performance.
Classification by industry	The 1993 edition of the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</i> (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-09-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 <i>International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</i> (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC group (four-digit) level. Each enterprise is classified to an industry, which reflects its predominant activity.
Statistical unit	The statistical unit for the collection of the 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.
Size groups	The enterprises are divided into four size groups according to the value of their business register turnover. Large enterprises are enterprises with an annual turnover of R192 million. Table 27 presents the size groups defined using the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) cut-off points.

Table 27 – Size groups for the wholesale trade industry, 2015

Size group	Turnover
Large enterprises	≥ R192 000 000
Medium enterprises	R96 000 000 ≤ VAT turnover < R192 000 000
Small enterprises	R18 000 000 ≤ VAT turnover < R96 000 000
Micro enterprises	< R18 000 000

Survey methodology and design	The survey was conducted by post, email, fax, telephone and personal visits.	
	A sample of approximately 3 000 enterprises was drawn using stratified simple random sampling. The enterprises were first stratified at the four-digit level according to the SIC and then by size of enterprise. All large and medium enterprises were completely enumerated. Turnover as recorded on the business register was used as the measure of size for stratification. The collection rate was 80,0%.	
Collection rate	Collection rate = ((collected + finalised investigations) / sample size) x 100	
Turnover collection rate	Turnover collection rate = ((weighted collected enterprises BR turnover + weighted finalised investigations BR turnover) / population turnover) x 100. The turnover collection rate was 87,0%.	
Weighting methodology	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 were calculated and then aggregated with the completely enumerated stratum to form division estimates.	
Revisions to previous results	Revisions were made to previous results due to new information obtained after the publications.	
Abbreviations	BR	Business Register
	DTI	Department of Trade and Industry
	GDP	Gross domestic product
	ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
	IT	Income tax
	RSE	Relative standard error
	SARS	South African Revenue Service
	SE	Standard error
	SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities
	SNA	System of National Accounts
	Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
	VAT	Value added tax

Relative standard error 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 wholesale industry in South Africa.

One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of enterprises was used. The relative standard error (RSE) provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred as a result of sampling, and thus avoids the need to refer to the size of the estimate.

Table 28 – Income in the wholesale trade industry within 95% confidence limits, 2015

Type of wholesale trade	Lower limit	Total income	Upper limit	Relative standard error (%)
	R million			
Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis	34 735	40 076	45 417	6,8
Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock	142 319	145 164	148 009	1,0
Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco	273 479	285 219	296 959	2,1
Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear	43 958	47 196	50 434	3,5
Wholesale trade in other household goods	226 719	235 010	243 301	1,8
Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	240 766	245 089	249 412	0,9
Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores	41 307	42 905	44 503	1,9
Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	86 743	90 467	94 191	2,1
Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap	72 105	75 200	78 295	2,1
Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies	250 671	263 587	276 503	2,5
General and other wholesale trade	153 297	180 962	208 627	7,8
Total	1 615 282	1 650 875	1 686 468	1,1

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. Non-sampling errors occur in both sample surveys and censuses.

Rounding of figures The figures in the tables have, where necessary, been rounded to the nearest final digit shown. There may therefore be slight discrepancies between the sums of the constituent items of the totals shown.

Glossary

Casual employees	Employees who fall neither within the 'permanent employees' category nor the 'temporary employees' category. Such employees are typically working daily or hourly.
Concentration ratio	The ratio of the income of the <i>n</i> largest enterprises to the total income.
Employees	Persons employed by a business or organisation and who received payment (in salaries, wages, commission, piece rates or payments in kind) for the last pay period ended on or before 30 June 2015.
Employment costs	The total cost of employment, including salaries, wages, service and other bonuses, allowances (including car allowances), overtime payments, retirement benefits, contributions to medical, pension and provident funds, unemployment insurance and accident funds, and housing subsidies.
Enterprise	A legal entity or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its activities.
Formal employment	Employment by the formal sector. The formal sector includes all businesses that are registered for VAT.
Informal employment	Employment by the informal sector. The informal sector includes all businesses that are not registered for VAT.
Labour brokers	Agents who recruit and administer workers on behalf of the enterprise. They do not provide any other service.
Motor vehicles	Motor vehicles include cars, trucks, aircraft, boats, trailers, locomotives and other transport equipment.
Net profit or loss after tax	Net profit or loss after tax is derived as: Total income plus closing value of inventories minus total expenditure minus opening value of inventories minus company tax

Net profit or loss before tax	<p>Net profit or loss before tax is derived as:</p> <p>Total income plus closing value of inventories minus total expenditure minus opening value of inventories</p>
Other expenditure	<p>Includes:</p> <p>Accommodation; advertising; amortisation, <i>excluding depreciation</i>; bank charges; bursaries for own employees (staff bursaries); containers and packaging materials; computer expenditure (when not part of non-current assets); donations, sponsorships and social investment for <i>non-employees</i>; entertainment; excise and customs duty; losses on foreign exchange as a result of variations in foreign exchange rates; losses on financial and other liabilities: redemption, liquidation or revaluation; mineral rights leases; paper, printing and stationery; postal and courier services; property taxes paid; provisions; railage and transport-out; research and development; royalties, franchise fees, copyright, trade names, trademarks and patent rights paid; security services; severance, termination and redundancy payments; skills development levy; staff training; subscriptions; travelling; water and electricity; payments to labour brokers and other expenditure.</p>
Other income	<p>Includes:</p> <p>Capital transfers received (only from the South African government); customs duty received; dividends received; excise duty received; mineral rights leases; net profit on foreign loans as a result of variations in foreign exchange rates; royalties, franchise fees, copyright, trade names and patent rights received; profit on financial and other liabilities: redemption, liquidation and revaluation of liabilities; provisions; government subsidies and incentives received (only from the South African government); and other income.</p>
Permanent employees	Employees appointed on an open-ended contract with no stipulated termination date or fixed-term contract for periods of more than one year.
Profit margin	<p>Profit margin is derived as:</p> <p>Net profit or loss after tax divided by turnover multiplied by 100</p>
Statistical unit	A statistical unit is a unit of observation or measurement for which statistical data are collected or derived.
Stratum	A stratum is constructed by concatenating the SIC classification and size group variables.
Temporary employees	Temporary employees are employees appointed on a short-term contract basis with a stipulated termination date for periods not exceeding one year.

Turnover	Turnover includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• value of sales of goods;• amount received for services rendered;• rent and lease payments received for land and buildings; and• rent, leasing and hiring received for machinery, vehicles and other equipment.
Working proprietors	Owners, members or partners actively engaged in the work of the enterprise, excluding silent or inactive partners whose principal activity is outside of the enterprise.
Wholesale trade	Includes the resale (sale without transformation) of new and used goods to other wholesalers, retailers and agricultural, industrial, commercial, institutional and professional users either directly or through agents on a fee or contract basis.
Wholesaler	An enterprise deriving more than 50% of its turnover from sale of goods to other businesses and institutions.
Zero values	All rand values less than R500 000.

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