

Media Releases 2009

South African Trade Statistics for October 2009

Pretoria, 30 November 2009 -- The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for October 2009 that record a trade deficit of R6.7 billion.

Summary

The 6.7 billion deficit for October 2009 was mainly due to an increase in imports of 21.92% and a decrease in exports of 3.18%.

Exports for October 2009 of 44.09 billion and imports of R50.80 billion resulted in a deficit of 6.7 billion.

Imports increased by R9.13 billion (21.92%) to R50.80 billion and exports decreased by R1.45 billion (3.18%) to R44.09 billion.

Trade Highlights by Category

- The September to October change (up by 21.92%) in imports of goods reflected increases mainly in:
 - Mineral products [up by R3.8 billion (46%)];
 - Machinery and mechanical appliances and electrical machinery and equipment [up by R1.9 billion (18%)];
 - Original equipment components [up by R0.9 billion (42%)]; and
 - Vehicles, aircraft and vessels [up by R0.7 billion (20%)].
 -
- The September to October change (down by 3.18%) in exports of goods reflected decreases mainly in:
 - Precious and semi-precious stones and metals [down by R2.7 billion (21%)];
 - Products of the chemicals or allied industry [down by R0.4 billion (13%)]; and
 - Vegetable products [down by R0.4 billion (27%)].

Trade Highlights by World Zone

The world zone results for October 2009 as given below are unaudited, and those for September 2009 are audited.

- **Asia:** The deficit increased from R4.7bn in September 2009 to R8.5bn in October 2009. Exports decreased by R1.6bn to R12.7bn and imports increased by R2.1bn to R21.1bn.
-
- **Europe:** The deficit increased from R1.2bn in September 2009 to R4.7bn in October 2009. Exports increased by R0.4bn to R13.1bn and imports increased by R3.9bn to R17.8bn.
-
- **America:** The deficit increased from R0.4bn in September 2009 to R0.06bn in October 2009. Exports increased by R0.7bn to R5.3bn and imports increased by R0.02bn to R5.2bn.
-
- **Africa:** The surplus decreased from R4.5bn in September 2009 to R2.4bn in October 2009. Exports increased by R0.7bn to R8.0bn and imports increased by R2.8bn to R5.6bn.

For more detail, visit [our Trade Statistics page](#)

		TRADE											
Harmonised Sections		Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Imports				Exports			
Code	Description	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2008 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2008 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	23	1.05	583	1.16	432	0.85	3,991	3,762	455	1.03	4,573	4,345
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	91	1.09	10,153	2.12	1,033	2.03	10,100	9,051	1,124	2.55	21,206	19,204
III, Ch 15-24	Fats and Oils	(289)	0.23	(2,979)	0.21	373	0.73	5,850	3,752	84	0.19	899	774
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	232	1.14	3,585	1.27	1,651	3.25	12,157	13,405	1,884	4.27	14,300	16,990
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	(3,502)	0.71	(9,808)	0.90	12,044	23.71	152,085	97,081	8,543	19.38	99,324	87,273
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(2,525)	0.49	(17,844)	0.58	4,915	9.68	54,331	42,526	2,390	5.42	34,724	24,682
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(1,136)	0.41	(9,115)	0.45	1,909	3.76	20,326	16,651	774	1.76	9,052	7,536
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(105)	0.48	(483)	0.70	204	0.40	1,985	1,585	99	0.22	1,449	1,101
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	28	1.16	250	1.13	180	0.35	2,618	1,975	208	0.47	3,081	2,224
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(66)	0.93	484	1.06	905	1.78	8,833	7,930	839	1.90	9,915	8,414
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(1,009)	0.32	(10,505)	0.27	1,478	2.91	14,116	14,373	469	1.06	4,496	3,868
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(493)	0.05	(4,456)	0.05	518	1.02	4,460	4,711	25	0.06	296	255
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(450)	0.32	(3,813)	0.30	657	1.29	7,265	5,481	207	0.47	1,862	1,668
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	9,833	23.36	99,970	24.78	440	0.87	8,811	4,205	10,273	23.30	131,622	104,175
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	4,921	3.03	42,296	3.14	2,422	4.77	30,452	19,793	7,343	16.66	100,290	62,089
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(7,934)	0.35	(83,510)	0.30	12,138	23.90	153,282	119,559	4,204	9.53	54,808	36,049
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	244	1.06	(2,130)	0.94	4,142	8.15	58,505	38,489	4,386	9.95	54,317	36,358
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(1,123)	0.17	(10,759)	0.22	1,350	2.66	15,271	13,762	227	0.51	3,071	3,003
XX, Ch 93-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(491)	0.48	(3,481)	0.51	950	1.87	8,331	7,038	459	1.04	4,455	3,557
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	22	4.61	20	1.12	6	0.01	330	165	28	0.06	642	185
XXXII	Other Unclassified 1)	47	3.02	1,124	2.88	23	0.05	656	598	70	0.16	1,159	1,722
XXXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions 2)	(3,026)	0.00	(24,778)	0.00	3,026	5.96	43,015	24,783	0	0.00	45	5
Total SA Rand		(6,709)	0.87	(25,198)	0.94	50,798	100.00	616,768	450,676	44,089	100.00	555,585	425,478

		TRADE											
World Zones		Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Imports				Exports			
		Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2008 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2008 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)
Africa		2,416	1.43	41,680	2.26	5,613	11.05	52,996	33,030	8,028	18.21	84,455	74,710
Europe		(4,671)	0.74	(32,900)	0.79	17,782	35.00	202,380	155,585	13,111	29.74	180,820	122,685
America		68	1.01	(17,290)	0.71	5,215	10.27	80,491	59,032	5,283	11.98	69,335	41,742
Asia		(8,463)	0.60	(57,991)	0.70	21,143	41.62	266,459	193,064	12,680	28.76	165,156	135,072
Oceania		(302)	0.68	(2,724)	0.68	955	1.88	12,755	8,550	652	1.48	11,799	5,826
Other Unclassified Goods		4,145	46.88	43,320	31.59	90	0.18	1,687	1,416	4,236	9.61	43,468	44,736
Ships/ Aircraft Stores		99		706		-	-	-	-	99	0.22	552	706
Total SA Rand		(6,709)	0.87	(25,198)	0.94	50,798	100.00	616,768	450,676	44,089	100.00	555,585	425,478

Temporary Imports	Jan-09	Feb-09	Mar-09	Apr-09	May-09	Jun-09	Jul-09	Aug-09	Sep-09	Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09
Gold imports 4) (R'm)	4,136	6,047	5,090	2,696	3,630	2,406	6,413	2,397	6,661	3,095		

Notes:

1) Other Unclassified: Military equipment, unknown countries, ships & aircraft stores & films

2) Special Provisions: Motor car parts for Motor Industry Development Programme (MIDP)

3) 2008 Data is audited and 2009 data unaudited

4) Temporary gold imports are not included in imports or export numbers for the trade balance calculation

5) The ratio is the value of total exports divided by the value of total imports

ENDS