

## Media Releases 2009

### South African Trade Statistics for November 2009

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**Pretoria, 30 December 2009** -- The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for November 2009 that record a trade deficit of R2.5 billion.

#### Summary

- The R2.47 billion deficit for November 2009 was due to a decrease in imports of 4.86% and an increase in exports of 4.01%.
- Exports for November 2009 of R45.86 billion and imports of R48.33 billion resulted in a deficit of R2.47 billion.
- Imports decreased by R2.47 billion (4.86%) to R48.33 billion and exports increased by R1.77 billion (4.01%) to R45.86 billion.

#### Trade Highlights by Category

- The October to November change (down by 4.86%) in imports of goods reflected decreases mainly in:
  - Mineral products [down by R2.6 billion (-21%)];
  - Products of the chemicals or allied industry [down by R0.6 billion (-11%)] and
  - An increase of R1.0 billion in Vehicles, Aircraft and Vessels (23%)
- The October to November change (up by 4.01%) in exports of goods reflected increases mainly in:
  - Precious and semi-precious stones and metals [up by R2.1 billion (21%)];
  - Vehicles, aircraft and vessels [up by R1.6 billion (37%)];
  - A decrease of R1.3 billion in mineral products (-15%).

#### Trade Highlights by World Zone

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

- Asia: The deficit decreased from R8.5bn in October 2009 to R6.1bn in November 2009. Exports increased by R0.01bn to R12.6bn and imports decreased by R2.4bn to R18.7bn.
- Europe: The deficit decreased from R4.7bn in October 2009 to R4.2bn in November 2009. Exports increased by R0.5bn to R13.6bn and imports decreased by R0.01bn to R17.77bn.
- America: The deficit decreased from R0.06bn in October 2009 to R0.05bn in November 2009. Exports increased by R0.4bn to R5.6bn and imports increased by R0.9bn to R6.1bn.
- Africa: The surplus increased from R2.4bn in October 2009 to R3.4bn in November 2009. Exports decreased by R0.1bn to R7.9bn and imports decreased by R1.1bn to R4.5bn.

		TRADE											
Harmonised Sections		Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Imports				Exports			
Code	Description	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2008 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2008 <sup>4)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(51)	0.88	530	1.12	480	0.98	4,537	4,242	428	0.94	5,111	4,772
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	(373)	0.66	9,802	1.87	1,097	2.27	11,276	10,149	725	1.58	21,966	19,950
III, Ch 15-24	Fats and Oils	(487)	0.14	(3,470)	0.20	567	1.17	6,246	4,314	80	0.17	960	844
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	401	1.27	3,963	1.27	1,489	3.08	14,041	14,874	1,889	4.12	16,035	18,837
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	(2,264)	0.76	(12,627)	0.88	9,488	19.63	162,732	107,086	7,222	15.75	110,039	94,459
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(1,890)	0.57	(10,679)	0.58	4,368	9.04	59,855	46,827	2,478	5.40	43,918	27,148
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(1,228)	0.36	(10,346)	0.44	1,932	4.00	22,620	18,579	705	1.51	9,673	8,233
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(87)	0.55	(571)	0.68	195	0.40	2,233	1,778	107	0.23	1,579	1,208
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	28	1.15	285	1.13	185	0.38	2,886	2,160	213	0.46	3,402	2,445
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(196)	0.79	283	1.03	871	1.80	9,869	8,802	675	1.47	10,909	9,085
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(887)	0.37	(11,425)	0.28	1,402	2.90	15,672	15,772	514	1.12	4,035	4,348
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(420)	0.06	(4,877)	0.05	448	0.92	4,994	5,157	26	0.06	325	280
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(537)	0.26	(4,351)	0.30	726	1.50	7,983	6,207	188	0.41	2,082	1,856
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	12,052	35.52	112,323	25.66	349	0.72	9,091	4,554	12,401	27.01	141,829	116,877
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	4,819	3.27	45,943	3.09	2,123	4.39	33,789	21,988	5,942	13.14	100,320	57,931
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(7,947)	0.35	(91,485)	0.31	12,220	25.31	170,571	131,778	4,284	9.31	60,279	40,293
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	896	1.19	(1,238)	0.97	5,098	10.55	65,228	43,598	5,994	13.07	62,610	42,351
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(1,118)	0.21	(11,877)	0.22	1,412	2.92	17,155	15,175	294	0.61	3,359	3,298
XX, Ch 93-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(412)	0.54	(3,883)	0.51	891	1.84	9,378	7,927	479	1.04	4,941	4,034
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	5	1.30	24	1.13	18	0.04	460	184	24	0.05	678	208
XXXII	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	154	6.19	1,278	3.03	30	0.06	714	628	194	0.40	1,536	1,907
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(2,935)	0.00	(27,772)	0.00	2,936	6.07	46,126	27,777	0	0.00	54	5
Total SA Rand		(2,475)	0.95	(28,179)	0.94	48,330	100.00	677,455	499,546	45,856	100.00	614,559	470,367

		TRADE											
World Zones		Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Imports				Exports			
		Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2008 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2008 <sup>4)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)
Africa		3,353	1.74	44,830	2.19	4,532	9.38	57,111	37,561	7,865	17.20	94,881	82,390
Europe		(4,172)	0.77	(38,113)	0.78	17,774	36.78	222,232	173,401	13,803	29.66	201,760	135,287
America		(463)	0.92	(17,779)	0.73	6,108	12.64	89,287	65,140	5,647	12.31	76,574	47,362
Asia		(6,094)	0.67	(64,597)	0.70	18,742	38.78	292,888	212,291	12,849	27.58	180,406	147,695
Oceania		(470)	0.55	(3,208)	0.67	1,041	2.15	14,166	9,605	571	1.24	12,636	6,397
Other Unclassified Goods		5,324	41.33	48,936	32.61	132	0.27	1,791	1,548	5,456	11.90	47,664	50,484
Ships/Aircraft Stores		46		751		-	-	-	-	46	0.10	638	751
Total SA Rand		(2,475)	0.95	(28,179)	0.94	48,330	100.00	677,455	499,546	45,856	100.00	614,559	470,367

  

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 <sup>4)</sup> (R'm)	4,136	6,047	5,090	2,686	3,630	2,406	6,413	2,397	6,661	3,095	3,482	

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

For more detail, see our Trade Data statistics.

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