

Media Releases 2010

South African Trade Statistics for September 2010

Pretoria, 29 October 2010 – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for September 2010 that record a trade surplus of R3.6 billion, compared to a deficit of R4.7 billion in August 2010.

Summary

The R3.6 billion surplus for September 2010 (Surplus of R2.7 billion in September 2009) was due to an increase in exports of 9.6% and a decrease in imports of 6.9%.

Exports for September 2010 of R53.16 billion and imports of R49.54 billion resulted in a surplus of R3.62 billion.

Exports increased by R4.6 billion (9.6%) and imports decreased by R3.6 billion (6.9%).

The loss in mineral products exports in August 2010 due to a derailment late July on an export line was subsequently recovered during September 2010, and is the major contributor towards the 27% month-on-month increase.

The cumulative deficit for the year to date is R9.5 billion compared to R18.5 billion in 2009, an improvement of R9 billion or 48.9%.

Trade Highlights by Category

- The August to September change (up by 9.6%) in exports of goods reflected increases mainly in:
 - Precious and semi-precious stones and metals increased by R2 577 million (21%);
 - Mineral products increased by R2 552 million (27%);
 - Base metals and articles thereof increased by R1 707 million (25%) and
 - A decrease in Vehicles, aircraft and vessels by R1 485 million (-34%).
- The August to September change (down by -6.9%) in imports of goods reflected decreases mainly in:
 - Vehicles, aircraft and vessels decreased by R2 102 million (-35%);
 - Machinery and electrical appliances decreased by R1 548 million (-11%);
 - Original equipment components decreased by R 700 million (-18%) and
 - An increase in Mineral products by R1 555 million (18%).

Trade Highlights by World Zone

The world zone results for August and September 2010 as given below are unaudited.

- Asia: The deficit decreased from R 8.1bn in August to R 4.3bn in September 2010. Exports increased by R 2.3bn to R 17.9bn and imports decreased by R 1.5bn to R 22.2bn.
- Europe: The deficit decreased from R 4.8bn in August to R 1.2bn in September 2010. Exports increased by R 1.3bn to R 14.1bn and imports decreased by R 2.2bn to R 15.3bn.
- America: The surplus moved from R 0.2bn in August to a deficit of R 0.3bn in September 2010. Exports decreased by R 0.7bn to R 5.9bn and imports decreased by R 0.2bn to R6.2bn.
- Africa: The surplus decreased from R 3.3bn in August to R 2.8bn in September 2010. Exports decreased by R 0.1bn to R 7.9bn and imports increased by R 0.4bn to R 5.1bn.
- Oceania: The deficit increased from R0.1bn in August to R0.3bn in September 2010. Exports decreased by R0.3bn to R0.5bn and imports decreased by R0.1bn to R0.8bn.

For more detail, [visit our Trade Data webpage](#).

Trade Release table:

		TRADE															
Harmonized Sections		Monthly Trade				Cumulative Trade				Exports				Imports			
Code	Description	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)	Cumulative 2010 (R'm)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)	Cumulative 2010 (R'm)				
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	1	1.00	185	1.05	426	0.80	3,891	3,911	424	0.86	3,331	3,726				
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	1,422	2.96	10,718	2.59	2,147	4.04	18,080	17,477	725	1.46	8,018	6,759				
III, Ch 15 -24	Fats and Oils	(358)	0.20	(3,328)	0.21	89	0.17	690	880	447	0.90	3,380	4,208				
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	502	1.38	4,050	1.38	1,830	3.44	15,107	14,808	1,328	2.68	11,754	10,758				
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	1,539	1.15	2,348	1.03	11,834	22.26	78,730	89,782	10,296	20.78	85,036	87,434				
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(2,209)	0.55	(18,604)	0.56	2,707	5.09	22,292	23,472	4,916	9.92	37,611	42,076				
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(1,368)	0.37	(11,321)	0.38	805	1.51	6,762	6,867	2,173	4.39	14,741	18,188				
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(99)	0.56	(587)	0.65	129	0.24	1,003	1,072	228	0.46	1,380	1,659				
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	(22)	0.88	403	1.23	156	0.29	2,017	2,127	177	0.36	1,795	1,724				
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(2)	1.00	885	1.12	875	1.65	7,575	8,033	876	1.77	7,025	7,149				
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(1,407)	0.19	(10,321)	0.24	393	0.63	3,400	3,297	1,740	3.51	12,896	13,558				
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(581)	0.05	(4,112)	0.06	34	0.06	230	251	614	1.24	4,193	4,363				
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(545)	0.25	(4,046)	0.28	180	0.34	1,461	1,546	725	1.46	4,824	5,592				
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	14,245	32.14	104,429	23.87	14,703	27.66	93,902	108,996	457	0.92	3,765	4,567				
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	6,043	3.50	46,873	3.23	8,458	15.91	54,746	67,932	2,415	4.88	17,371	21,059				
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(8,095)	0.34	(75,810)	0.31	4,240	7.98	31,845	34,452	12,335	24.90	107,420	110,262				
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	(1,137)	0.71	(9,683)	0.78	2,827	5.32	31,972	34,527	3,965	8.00	34,347	44,211				
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(1,118)	0.17	(9,857)	0.17	231	0.44	2,776	2,004	1,349	2.72	12,413	11,861				
XX, Ch 93-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(528)	0.47	(3,342)	0.52	469	0.88	3,097	3,630	997	2.01	6,088	6,972				
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	9	2.38	117	2.23	15	0.03	157	213	7	0.01	159	96				
XXIII	Other Unclassified 1)	612	11.58	964	1.79	670	1.26	1,652	2,179	58	0.12	575	1,215				
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions 2)	(3,288)	0.00	(29,415)	0.00	2	0.00	5	15	3,290	6.64	21,575	29,430				
Total SA Rand		3,617	1.07	(9,453)	0.98	53,160	100.00	381,389	427,412	49,543	100.00	399,878	436,865				

		TRADE															
World Zones		Monthly Trade				Cumulative Trade				Exports				Imports			
		Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)	Cumulative 2010 (R'm)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)	Cumulative 2010 (R'm)				
Africa		2,771	1.54	30,359	1.87	7,876	14.82	66,681	65,428	5,105	10.30	27,417	35,063				
Europe		(1,207)	0.92	(30,421)	0.80	14,073	26.47	109,574	118,634	15,281	30.84	137,803	149,055				
America		(281)	0.95	(1,848)	0.96	5,896	11.09	36,459	49,890	6,177	12.47	53,817	51,738				
Asia		(4,300)	0.81	(48,298)	0.75	17,854	33.59	122,393	142,739	22,154	44.72	171,921	191,038				
Oceania		(251)	0.67	(2,625)	0.68	512	0.96	5,174	5,488	763	1.54	7,595	8,113				
Other Unclassified Goods		6,865	108.56	43,012	24.22	6,928	13.03	40,501	44,865	64	0.13	1,326	1,852				
Ships/ Aircraft Stores		20	-	368	-	20	0.04	608	368	-	-	-	-				
Total SA Rand		3,617	1.07	(9,453)	0.98	53,160	100.00	381,389	427,412	49,543	100.00	399,878	436,865				

Temporary Imports	Jan-10	Feb-10	Mar-10	Apr-10	May-10	Jun-10	Jul-10	Aug-10	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10
Gold imports 4) (R'm)	3,532	4,442	4,159	3,286	5,406	4,270	3,945	6,935	5,071	-	-	-

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) 2009 data is revised and the 2010 data is preliminary

- 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.

For further media enquiries, please contact Adrian Lackay, SARS Spokesperson – 012 422 4206 or 083 388 2580