

## Media Releases 2010

### South African Trade Statistics for October 2010

---

**Pretoria, 30 November 2010** – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for October 2010 that record a trade deficit of R3.2 billion, compared to a surplus of R3.6 billion in September 2010.

#### Summary

The R3.2 billion deficit for October 2010 was due to a decrease in exports of 6.3% and an increase in imports of 7.0%.

Exports for October 2010 of R49.8 billion and imports of R53.0 billion resulted in a deficit of R3.2 billion.

Exports decreased by R3.3 billion (6.3%) and imports increased by R3.5 billion (7.0%).

The cumulative deficit for the year to date is R13.2 billion compared to R26.7 billion in 2009, an improvement of R13.5 billion or 50.7%.

#### Trade Highlights by Category

- The September to October change (down by -6.3%) in exports of goods reflected increases mainly in:
  - Vehicles, aircraft and vessels increased by R2 521 million (89%);
  - A decrease in Products of the chemical or allied industries by R 491 million (-18%);
  - A decrease Base metals and articles thereof by R 534 million (-6%);
  - A decrease Precious and semi-precious stones and metals by R1 098 million (-7%) and
  - A decrease Mineral products by R2 961 million (-25%).
  
- The September to October change (up by 7.0%) in imports of goods reflected increases mainly in:
  - Machinery and electrical appliances increased by R1 677 million (14%);
  - Vehicles, aircraft and vessels increased by R1 256 million (32%);
  - Products of the chemical or allied industries increased by R 409 million (8%);
  - Original equipment components increased by R 168 million (5%) and
  - A decrease in Mineral products by R 478 million (-5%).

### Trade Highlights by World Zone

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

- Asia: The deficit increased from R 4.3bn in September to R 10.6bn in October 2010. Exports decreased by R 3.0bn to R 14.9bn and imports increased by R 3.3bn to R 25.5bn.
- Europe: The deficit increased from R 1.2bn in September to R 3.3bn in October 2010. Exports decreased by R 0.1bn to R 14.0bn and imports increased by R 2.0bn to R 17.3bn.
- America: The deficit increased from R 0.3bn in September to R 0.8bn in October 2010. Exports decreased by R 0.1bn to R 5.8bn and imports increased by R 0.4bn to R 6.6bn.
- Africa: The surplus increased from R 2.8bn in September to R 5.9bn in October 2010. Exports increased by R 0.4bn to R 8.3bn and imports decreased by R 2.7bn to R 2.4bn.
- Oceania: The deficit increased proportionately by R 0.3bn in September and October 2010. Exports increased by R 0.3bn to R 0.8bn and imports increased by R 0.3bn to R 1.1bn.

Harmonised Sections		TRADE				Exports				Imports			
		Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Month Total	Month % of total	Cumulative 2009 <sup>1)</sup>	Cumulative 2010 <sup>2)</sup>	Month Total	Month % of total	Cumulative 2009 <sup>1)</sup>	Cumulative 2010 <sup>2)</sup>
Code	Description	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio <sup>3)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	(R'm)		(R'm)	(R'm)	(R'm)		(R'm)	(R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	60	1.15	243	1.06	460	0.92	4,343	4,269	400	0.75	3,762	4,127
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	320	1.34	11,006	2.43	1,253	2.52	19,226	18,712	933	1.76	9,051	7,706
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(485)	0.22	(3,810)	0.21	133	0.27	764	1,013	618	1.17	3,748	4,824
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	222	1.15	4,268	1.35	1,717	3.45	16,947	16,516	1,495	2.82	13,385	12,248
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	(945)	0.90	1,361	1.01	8,873	17.81	87,237	98,613	9,818	18.51	97,599	97,252
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(3,109)	0.42	(21,880)	0.54	2,216	4.45	24,669	25,524	5,325	10.04	42,459	47,403
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(1,137)	0.45	(12,453)	0.38	928	1.86	7,528	7,795	2,065	3.89	16,646	20,248
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(95)	0.61	(683)	0.64	151	0.30	1,100	1,223	246	0.46	1,584	1,906
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	33	1.17	433	1.23	223	0.45	2,232	2,347	190	0.36	1,975	1,914
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	58	1.07	935	1.12	913	1.83	8,410	8,938	855	1.61	7,932	8,003
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(1,444)	0.22	(11,768)	0.24	403	0.81	3,833	3,640	1,847	3.48	14,371	15,408
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(597)	0.05	(4,709)	0.06	29	0.06	254	280	626	1.18	4,711	4,989
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(427)	0.32	(4,478)	0.28	200	0.40	1,667	1,740	627	1.18	5,481	6,218
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	13,215	34.97	117,579	24.73	13,604	27.30	104,476	122,535	389	0.73	4,205	4,956
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	5,552	3.34	52,373	3.24	7,924	15.90	60,988	75,799	2,373	4.47	19,865	23,426
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(9,389)	0.33	(85,275)	0.31	4,824	9.28	36,009	39,005	14,013	26.42	119,547	124,280
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	128	1.02	(9,592)	0.81	5,349	10.74	36,357	39,835	5,221	9.84	38,491	49,427
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(1,182)	0.22	(11,044)	0.17	324	0.65	3,004	2,325	1,506	2.84	13,763	13,369
XX, Ch 93-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(533)	0.46	(3,887)	0.51	455	0.91	3,555	4,074	988	1.86	7,036	7,961
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	13	2.98	130	2.28	19	0.04	184	233	6	0.01	166	102
XXXII	Other Unclassified 1)	(10)	0.70	953	1.76	23	0.05	1,723	2,202	34	0.06	599	1,249
XXXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions 2)	(3,456)	0.00	(32,871)	0.00	2	0.00	5	17	3,458	6.52	24,841	32,888
<b>Total SA Rand</b>		<b>(3,210)</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>(13,169)</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>49,825</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>424,511</b>	<b>476,736</b>	<b>53,034</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>451,216</b>	<b>489,905</b>

World Zones		TRADE				Exports				Imports			
		Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Month Total	Month % of total	Cumulative 2009 <sup>1)</sup>	Cumulative 2010 <sup>2)</sup>	Month Total	Month % of total	Cumulative 2009 <sup>1)</sup>	Cumulative 2010 <sup>2)</sup>
		Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio <sup>3)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	(R'm)		(R'm)	(R'm)	(R'm)		(R'm)	(R'm)
Africa		5,852	3.39	36,099	1.96	8,300	16.66	74,505	73,613	2,447	4.61	33,029	37,514
Europe		(3,340)	0.81	(33,934)	0.80	13,957	28.01	121,685	132,404	17,297	32.61	155,626	166,338
America		(810)	0.88	(2,800)	0.95	5,778	11.60	41,715	55,539	6,587	12.42	59,031	58,339
Asia		(10,602)	0.58	(58,982)	0.73	14,880	29.86	135,046	157,563	25,482	48.05	193,549	216,544
Oceania		(290)	0.72	(2,910)	0.68	763	1.53	5,827	6,239	1,053	1.99	8,564	9,149
Other Unclassified Goods		5,910	36.19	48,922	25.21	6,078	12.20	45,028	50,942	168	0.32	1,416	2,021
Ships/ Aircraft Stores		69	-	437	-	69	0.14	705	437	-	-	-	-
<b>Total SA Rand</b>		<b>(3,210)</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>(13,169)</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>49,825</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>424,511</b>	<b>476,736</b>	<b>53,034</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>451,216</b>	<b>489,905</b>

  

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	4,308	-	-

**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

Please see our Trade Statistics webpage for more detail.

ENDS