

Media Releases 2011

SARS Media Release - South African Trade Statistics for July 2011

Pretoria, 31 August 2011 – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for July 2011 that record a trade deficit of R3.9 billion.

Summary

The trade deficit for July 2011 is R3.9 billion (Surplus of R2.0 billion in July 2010) compared to a surplus of R4.9 billion in June 2011, a month to month decrease of R8.8 billion. The deficit was due to a decrease in exports of R4.0b (-6.7%) to R56.5b and an increase in imports of R4.7b (8.5%) to R60.4b.

The reduction in the trade surplus from R4.9b in June 2011 to a deficit of R3.9 billion in July 2011 was mainly due to lower precious metal exports and increased imports of crude oil, vehicles, aircraft, machinery and electrical appliances.

The cumulative trade deficit for the year to date is R6.4 billion compared to R7.5 billion in July 2010, an improvement of R1.1 billion (14.5%).

Trade Highlights by Category

The June to July change (down by -6.7%) in exports of goods reflected decreases mainly in:

- Precious and semi-precious stones and metals decreased by R2 268 million (-14%);
- Products of the chemical or allied industries decreased by R 809 million (-23%);
- Base metals and articles thereof decreased by R 424 million (-6%);
- Machinery and electrical appliances decreased by R 112 million (-2%) and
- An increase in mineral products by R 119 million (1%).

The June to July change (up by 8.5%) in imports of goods reflected increases mainly in:

- Vehicles, aircraft and vessels increased by R1 879 million (36%);
- Machinery and electrical appliances increased by R1 289 million (10%);
- Mineral products increased by R1 043 million (9%);
- Products of the chemical or allied industries increased by R 612 million (12%);
- Original equipment components increased by R 136 million (4%).

Trade Highlights by World Zone

The world zone results for June and July 2011 as given below are unaudited:

- **Asia:** The deficit increased from R 5.1bn in June to R 7.9bn in July 2011. Exports decreased by R 1.6bn to R 19.0bn and imports increased by R 1.2bn to R 27.0bn.
- **Europe:** The deficit increased from R 1.0bn in June to R 2.6bn in July 2011. Exports decreased by R 0.8bn to R 15.6bn and imports increased by R 0.8bn to R 18.2bn.
- **America:** The deficit increased from R 0.1bn in June to R 4.2bn in July 2011. Exports decreased by R 2.1bn to R 5.3bn and imports increased by R 2.0bn to R 9.5bn.
- **Africa:** The surplus increased from R 4.9bn in June to R 5.5bn in July 2011. Exports increased by R 0.8bn to R 9.6bn and imports increased by R 0.2bn to R 4.1bn.
- **Oceania:** The deficit increased from R 0.3bn in June to R 0.9bn in July 2011. Exports decreased by R R0.02bn to R 0.6bn and imports increased by R 0.5bn to R 1.5bn.

For more detail, visit the [Trade Statistics web page](#).

SA Trade Release Table-

		TRADE											
Harmonised Sections		Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Exports				Imports			
Code	Description	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ¹⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2010 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2011 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2010 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2011 ¹⁾ (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(220)	0.64	(622)	0.82	387	0.69	2,636	2,930	607	1.00	2,487	3,552
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	2,028	3.00	8,685	2.25	3,041	5.38	10,145	15,609	1,012	1.68	4,316	6,924
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(263)	0.44	(3,352)	0.22	203	0.36	568	924	466	0.77	2,781	4,276
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	412	1.32	1,205	1.14	1,694	3.00	9,620	10,024	1,282	2.12	6,658	8,818
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	860	1.07	6,080	1.07	13,897	24.59	55,964	92,919	13,037	21.58	56,430	86,839
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(3,155)	0.46	(15,406)	0.57	2,635	4.66	14,576	20,092	5,791	9.59	27,224	35,497
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(1,222)	0.47	(8,995)	0.42	1,094	1.94	4,221	6,542	2,317	3.84	11,380	15,537
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(19)	0.91	(65)	0.95	184	0.33	709	1,228	203	0.34	976	1,293
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	39	1.20	95	1.07	235	0.42	1,489	1,524	196	0.32	1,167	1,429
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	126	1.16	676	1.12	905	1.60	5,120	6,178	779	1.29	4,635	5,502
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(1,502)	0.16	(8,708)	0.24	290	0.51	2,312	2,804	1,791	2.97	8,353	11,512
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(608)	0.04	(3,638)	0.05	26	0.05	156	192	634	1.05	2,558	3,831
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(452)	0.30	(2,926)	0.30	197	0.35	964	1,278	649	1.07	3,455	4,203
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	13,531	16.71	93,740	24.47	14,392	25.47	68,483	97,733	861	1.43	3,004	3,994
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	4,396	2.63	37,987	3.11	7,088	12.54	45,572	55,992	2,692	4.46	13,089	18,005
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(10,111)	0.31	(63,592)	0.32	4,522	8.00	21,701	30,543	14,633	24.22	71,465	94,135
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	(2,257)	0.69	(12,355)	0.71	4,916	8.70	22,566	30,572	7,173	11.87	28,973	42,927
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(1,230)	0.18	(8,628)	0.17	276	0.49	1,345	1,778	1,507	2.49	7,837	10,406
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(446)	0.44	(2,629)	0.49	352	0.62	2,314	2,489	798	1.32	4,095	5,118
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	(27)	0.52	25	1.18	29	0.05	153	166	55	0.09	71	141
XXII	Other Unclassified 1)	111	4.53	690	3.39	142	0.25	836	979	31	0.05	987	289
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions 2)	(3,891)	0.00	(24,696)	0.00	1	0.00	12	12	3,892	6.44	18,171	24,709
Total SA Rand		(3,902)	0.94	(6,429)	0.98	56,504	100.00	271,461	382,507	60,406	100.00	280,115	388,936

		TRADE											
World Zones		Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Exports				Imports			
		Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ¹⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2010 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2011 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2010 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2011 ¹⁾ (R'm)
Africa		5,499	2.35	27,861	1.94	9,566	16.93	41,803	57,606	4,067	6.73	20,924	29,745
Europe		(2,610)	0.86	(25,817)	0.80	15,582	27.58	76,784	103,774	18,191	30.12	99,088	129,591
America		(4,239)	0.56	(9,288)	0.82	5,296	9.37	30,458	42,512	9,535	15.79	32,481	51,800
Asia		(7,939)	0.71	(34,748)	0.80	19,013	33.65	90,417	135,076	26,952	44.62	120,382	169,824
Oceania		(866)	0.41	(3,145)	0.55	602	1.07	3,554	3,900	1,468	2.43	5,751	7,045
Other Unclassified Goods		6,240	33.29	38,614	42.48	6,433	11.39	28,171	39,545	193	0.32	1,488	931
Ships/ Aircraft Stores		12	-	94	-	12	0.02	274	94	-	-	-	-
Total SA Rand		(3,902)	0.94	(6,429)	0.98	56,504	100.00	271,461	382,507	60,406	100.00	280,115	388,936

Temporary Imports	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11
Gold imports 4) (R'm)	6,432	13,005	10,133	6,583	6,063	6,489	5,959	-	-	-	-	-

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) 2010 data is revised and the 2011 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