

STATEMENT

SARS MEDIA RELEASE

UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Thursday, 31 October 2019

SARS releases trade statistics for September 2019

Pretoria, 31 October 2019 – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for September 2019 recording a trade surplus of R5.16 billion. These statistics include trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN). The year-to-date (01 January to 30 September 2019) trade surplus R2.51 billion is an improvement from the R1.76 billion surplus for the comparable period in 2018. Exports decreased by 2.2% year-on-year whilst imports for the same period showed a decrease of 9.8%.

Including trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN)

The R5.16 billion trade surplus for September 2019 is attributable to exports of R110.43 billion and imports of R105.27 billion. Exports decreased from August 2019 to September 2019 by R9.31 billion (7.8%) and imports decreased from August 2019 to September 2019 by R9.93 billion (8.6%).

Exports for the year-to-date (01 January to 30 September) increased by 5.4% from R907.21 billion in 2018 to R956.27 billion in 2019. Imports for the year-to-date of R953.76 billion are 5.3% more than the R905.46 billion imports recorded in January to September 2018, leaving a cumulative trade surplus of R2.51 billion.

On a year-on-year basis, the R5.16 billion trade surplus for September 2019 is an improvement from the R3.77 billion deficit recorded in September 2018. Exports of R110.43 billion are 2.2% less than the R112.87 billion exports recorded in September 2018. Imports of R105.27 billion are 9.8% less than the R116.65 billion imports recorded in September 2018.

August 2019's trade surplus was revised downwards by R2.30 billion from the previous month's preliminary surplus of R6.84 billion to a revised surplus of R4.54 billion as a result of ongoing Vouchers of Correction (VOC's).

[**Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics September 2019**](#)

Trade highlights by category

The main month-on-month export movements:

| R' million | Including BELN: | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Section: | | |
| Mineral Products | -R2 952 | -10% |
| Vehicles & Transport Equipment | -R2 033 | -11% |
| Vegetable Products | -R1 551 | -17% |
| Machinery & Electronics | -R1 521 | -15% |
| Base Metals | -R 615 | -5% |
| Total | -R8 672 | 93% |
| Total Movement | -R9 307 | 100% |

The main month-on-month import movements:

| R' million | Including BELN: | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Section: | | |
| Mineral Products | -R3 759 | -23% |
| Machinery & Electronics | -R2 705 | -10% |
| Original Equipment Components | -R1 814 | -17% |
| Vehicles & Transport Equipment | - R1 200 | -11% |
| Vegetable Products | +R1 169 | +46% |
| Total | -R8 309 | 84% |
| Total Movement | -R9 929 | 100% |

Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from August 2019 (revised) to September 2019 are given below.

Africa:

Exports: R29 604 million – this is a decrease of R1 437 million from August 2019.

Imports: R10 091 million – this is an increase of R122 million from August 2019.

Trade surplus: R19 513 million – this is a deterioration of R1 559 million in comparison to the R21 072 million surplus recorded in August 2019.

America:

Exports: R9 224 million – this is a decrease of R1 068 million from August 2019.

Imports: R9 633 million – this is a decrease of R3 034 million from August 2019.

Trade deficit: R409 million – this is an improvement of R1 967 million in comparison to the R2 376 million deficit recorded in August 2019.

Asia:

Exports: R33 381 million – this is a decrease of R2 487 million from August 2019.

Imports: R48 532 million – this is a decrease of R2 328 million from August 2019.

Trade deficit: R15 151 million – this is a deterioration of R159 million in comparison to the R14 992 million deficit recorded in August 2019.

Europe:

Exports: R30 266 million – this is a decrease of R4 104 million from August 2019.

Imports: R35 873 million – this is a decrease of R3 685 million from August 2019.

Trade deficit: R5 607 million – this is a deterioration of R420 million in comparison to the R5 188 million deficit recorded in August 2019.

Oceania:

Exports: R1 262 million – this is an increase of R175 million from August 2019.

Imports: R 1 023 million – this is a decrease of R822 million from August 2019.

Trade surplus: R239 million – this is an improvement of R997 million in comparison to the R759 million deficit recorded in August 2019.

Excluding trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN)

The trade data excluding BELN for September 2019 recorded a trade deficit of R2.94 billion.

Summary

The R2.94 billion deficit for September 2019 is as a result of exports of R97.94 billion and imports of R100.88 billion. Exports decreased from August 2019 to September 2019 by R9.15 billion (8.5%) and imports decreased from August 2019 to September 2019 by R10.49 billion (9.4%).

The cumulative deficit for 2019 is R70.46 billion compared to R66.03 billion deficit in 2018.

Trade highlights by category

The main month-on-month export movements:

| R' million | Excluding BELN: | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Section: | | |
| Mineral products | -R2 909 | -11% |
| Vehicles & Transport Equipment | -R1 805 | -11% |
| Vegetable Products | - R1 522 | -18% |
| Machinery & Electronics | -R1 401 | -15% |
| Base Metals | -R 579 | -5% |
| Total | - R8 216 | 90% |
| Total Movement | - R9 146 | 100% |

The main month-on-month import movements:

| R' million | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Section: | Excluding BELN: | |
| Mineral Products | -R3 769 | -23% |
| Machinery & Electronics | -R2 720 | -10% |
| Original Equipment Components | -R1 814 | -17% |
| Vehicles & Transport Equipment | -R1 173 | -11% |
| Chemical Products | -R 866 | -7% |
| Vegetable Products | +R1 156 | +46% |
| Total | -R9 186 | 88% |
| Total Movement | -R10 494 | 100% |

Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results for Africa excluding BELN from August 2019 (Revised) to September 2019 are given below.

Africa:

Exports: R17 104 million – this is a decrease of R1 276 million from August 2019.

Imports: R5 697 million – this is a decrease of R442 million from August 2019.

Trade surplus: R11 407 million – this is a deterioration of R834 million in comparison to the R12 241 million surplus recorded in August 2019.

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics September 2019](#)

SA Trade Release Table (including BELN)

| Harmonised Sections | | Monthly Trade | | Cumulative Trade | | Exports | | | | Imports | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Roman Section | Description | Trade Balance (R'm) | Ratio Exports/Imports | Trade Balance (R'm) | Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports) | Month % of total | Month Total 2019 (R'm) | Cumulative 2018 ³⁾ (R'm) | Cumulative 2019 ³⁾ (R'm) | Month % of total | Month Total 2019 (R'm) | Cumulative 2018 ³⁾ (R'm) | Cumulative 2019 ³⁾ (R'm) | |
| I, Ch 1-5 | Animals/Animal Products | (150 496 970) | 0.90 | (4 016 972 111) | 0.73 | 1.26 | 1 386 326 607 | 11 149 302 574 | 11 062 880 254 | 1.46 | 1 536 823 577 | 15 756 028 496 | 15 079 852 365 | |
| II, Ch 6-14 | Vegetable Products | 3 657 490 076 | 1.98 | 36 142 929 323 | 2.86 | 6.69 | 7 388 758 670 | 55 186 059 679 | 55 604 084 285 | 3.54 | 3 731 268 594 | 17 452 083 341 | 19 461 154 962 | |
| III, Ch 15 | Fats and Oils | (587 867 794) | 0.30 | (4 353 455 930) | 0.35 | 0.22 | 247 488 781 | 2 432 731 745 | 2 360 710 087 | 0.79 | 835 356 575 | 6 315 503 078 | 6 714 166 017 | |
| IV, Ch 16-24 | Prepared Foods | 1 843 541 457 | 1.52 | 11 874 883 511 | 1.41 | 4.87 | 5 375 889 039 | 37 825 445 604 | 41 132 789 311 | 3.36 | 3 532 347 582 | 26 836 581 819 | 29 257 905 800 | |
| V, Ch 25-27 | Mineral Products | 13 885 877 353 | 2.12 | 85 424 222 871 | 1.54 | 23.79 | 26 272 412 015 | 212 570 073 686 | 244 098 017 766 | 11.77 | 12 386 534 662 | 170 069 642 320 | 158 673 794 895 | |
| VI, Ch 28-38 | Chemical Products | (5 738 566 893) | 0.53 | (40 691 495 178) | 0.59 | 5.83 | 6 434 399 957 | 56 658 492 777 | 59 518 632 848 | 11.56 | 12 172 966 850 | 97 118 397 529 | 100 210 128 026 | |
| VII, Ch 39-40 | Plastics and Rubber | (2 963 043 400) | 0.39 | (20 026 763 475) | 0.50 | 1.69 | 1 870 422 877 | 18 513 597 535 | 20 378 267 705 | 4.59 | 4 833 466 277 | 40 428 328 806 | 40 405 031 180 | |
| VIII, Ch 41-43 | Hides, Skins and Leather | (141 046 253) | 0.66 | (262 036 909) | 0.91 | 0.25 | 273 480 746 | 3 076 198 373 | 2 579 398 218 | 0.39 | 414 526 999 | 2 889 756 506 | 2 841 435 127 | |
| IX, Ch 44-46 | Wood and articles thereof | 255 483 166 | 1.59 | 1 689 876 565 | 1.41 | 0.62 | 688 990 971 | 5 553 236 737 | 5 848 527 455 | 0.41 | 433 507 805 | 3 916 154 395 | 4 158 650 890 | |
| X, Ch 47-49 | Pulp and Paper Products | (1 253 659 137) | 0.61 | (12 761 728 003) | 0.49 | 1.75 | 1 934 482 164 | 16 382 916 661 | 12 393 280 369 | 3.03 | 3 188 141 301 | 21 835 026 580 | 25 155 008 372 | |
| XI, Ch 50-63 | Textiles and Clothing | (2 471 020 407) | 0.40 | (23 083 126 427) | 0.35 | 1.50 | 1 655 293 268 | 12 968 902 117 | 12 512 740 421 | 3.92 | 4 126 313 675 | 32 606 197 748 | 35 595 866 848 | |
| XII, Ch 64-67 | Footwear and Accessories | (1 153 409 025) | 0.19 | (8 888 803 375) | 0.19 | 0.24 | 269 120 805 | 2 078 799 328 | 2 142 025 712 | 1.35 | 1 422 529 830 | 10 324 415 485 | 11 030 829 087 | |
| XIII, Ch 68-70 | Stone, Plaster, etc | (824 174 675) | 0.38 | (6 644 383 394) | 0.42 | 0.45 | 502 248 953 | 4 628 026 826 | 4 755 612 545 | 1.26 | 1 326 423 628 | 10 786 910 702 | 11 399 995 939 | |
| XIV, Ch 71 | Precious Stones | 16 942 227 076 | 12.49 | 135 630 477 552 | 11.75 | 16.68 | 18 416 639 806 | 159 008 400 405 | 148 251 431 152 | 1.40 | 1 474 412 730 | 15 379 796 178 | 12 620 953 600 | |
| XV, Ch 72-83 | Base Metals | 5 775 945 911 | 2.13 | 58 644 269 095 | 2.21 | 9.87 | 10 903 700 948 | 111 660 495 323 | 107 016 019 202 | 4.87 | 5 127 755 037 | 44 729 315 121 | 48 371 750 107 | |
| XVI, Ch 84-85 | Machinery and Appliances | (15 738 187 848) | 0.36 | (138 450 722 929) | 0.36 | 8.04 | 8 880 049 549 | 73 212 171 204 | 77 116 853 480 | 23.38 | 24 618 237 397 | 195 261 161 244 | 215 567 576 409 | |
| XVII, Ch 86-89 | Transport Equipment | 6 614 847 269 | 1.68 | 46 468 031 458 | 1.53 | 14.77 | 16 316 471 150 | 107 159 681 067 | 134 358 961 159 | 9.22 | 9 701 623 881 | 78 598 827 669 | 87 890 929 701 | |
| XVIII, Ch 90-92 | Precision Products, etc | (2 407 204 801) | 0.21 | (19 126 504 391) | 0.24 | 0.57 | 633 383 969 | 5 742 243 575 | 6 130 661 044 | 2.89 | 3 040 588 770 | 23 088 910 398 | 25 257 165 435 | |
| XX, Ch 94-96 | Misc Manufactured Articles | (1 549 662 769) | 0.30 | (9 684 858 408) | 0.38 | 0.61 | 671 096 078 | 6 043 198 978 | 5 990 486 815 | 2.11 | 2 220 758 847 | 14 773 888 228 | 15 675 345 223 | |
| XXI, Ch 97 | Works of Art/Antiques | 95 713 095 | 3.47 | 468 576 734 | 2.14 | 0.12 | 134 462 975 | 669 544 920 | 879 882 084 | 0.04 | 38 749 880 | 702 915 628 | 411 305 350 | |
| XXII, Ch 99 | Other Unclassified ¹⁾ | 53 029 225 | 1.42 | 1 329 220 723 | 2.66 | 0.16 | 180 550 307 | 4 686 073 768 | 2 128 160 674 | 0.12 | 127 521 082 | 906 204 196 | 798 939 951 | |
| XXIII, Ch 98 | Special Provisions ²⁾ | (8 981 436 498) | 0.00 | (87 168 957 680) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3 504 317 | 6 694 422 | 9 973 708 | 8.53 | 8 984 940 815 | 75 680 782 651 | 87 178 931 388 | |
| Total | Total SA Rand | 5 164 378 158 | 1.05 | 2 512 679 622 | 1.00 | 100.00 | 110 439 173 952 | 907 212 287 304 | 956 269 396 294 | 100.00 | 105 274 795 794 | 905 456 828 118 | 953 756 716 672 | |
| | | Monthly Trade | | Cumulative Trade | | Exports | | | | Imports | | | | |
| World Zones | | Trade Balance (R'm) | Ratio Exports/Imports | Trade Balance (R'm) | Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports) | Month % of total | Month Total 2019 (R'm) | Cumulative 2018 ³⁾ (R'm) | Cumulative 2019 ³⁾ (R'm) | Month % of total | Month Total 2019 (R'm) | Cumulative 2018 ³⁾ (R'm) | Cumulative 2019 ³⁾ (R'm) | |
| AFRICA | | 19 512 646 201 | 2.93 | 146 725 127 933 | 2.37 | 26.81 | 29 604 062 062 | 239 534 721 140 | 254 123 054 317 | 9.59 | 10 091 415 861 | 110 311 432 418 | 107 397 926 384 | |
| AMERICA | | (409 046 009) | 0.96 | (13 701 762 074) | 0.86 | 8.35 | 9 224 320 881 | 77 729 612 298 | 80 942 207 280 | 9.15 | 9 633 366 890 | 86 897 059 272 | 94 643 969 354 | |
| ASIA | | (15 151 070 296) | 0.69 | (127 820 674 854) | 0.70 | 30.23 | 33 381 183 926 | 287 060 491 215 | 301 743 410 243 | 46.10 | 48 532 254 222 | 411 019 939 277 | 429 564 085 097 | |
| EUROPE | | (5 607 496 421) | 0.84 | (49 973 856 482) | 0.84 | 27.40 | 30 265 556 700 | 229 248 215 099 | 255 998 902 539 | 34.08 | 35 873 053 121 | 279 931 226 684 | 305 972 759 021 | |
| OCEANIA | | 238 543 006 | 1.23 | (3 067 510 007) | 0.77 | 1.14 | 1 261 967 157 | 9 735 409 217 | 10 022 378 845 | 0.97 | 1 023 424 151 | 14 549 486 543 | 13 089 888 852 | |
| OTHER UNCLASSIFIED | | 5 412 591 197 | 45.63 | 45 480 952 562 | 15.73 | 5.01 | 5 533 872 746 | 59 988 296 300 | 48 569 040 526 | 0.12 | 121 281 549 | 2 747 683 924 | 3 088 087 964 | |
| SHIP/AIRCRAFT | | 1 168 210 480 | - | 4 870 402 544 | - | 1.06 | 1 168 210 480 | 3 915 542 035 | 4 870 402 544 | | | | | |
| Total | 5 164 378 158 | 1.05 | 2 512 679 622 | 1.00 | | 100.00 | 110 439 173 952 | 907 212 287 304 | 956 269 396 294 | 100.00 | 105 274 795 794 | 905 456 828 118 | 953 756 716 672 | |
| Temporary Imports | | January 2019 | February 2019 | March 2019 | April 2019 | May 2019 | June 2019 | July 2019 | August 2019 | September 2019 | | | | |
| Gold Imports ⁴⁾ | | 7 098 078 709 | 5 896 974 784 | 5 783 934 499 | 6 210 884 770 | 5 886 081 823 | 7 153 213 923 | 7 136 460 022 | 8 069 519 842 | 8 018 686 950 | | | | |

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) Current month data is preliminary and all other data is revised

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

SA Trade Release Table (excluding BELN)

| Harmonised Sections | | Monthly Trade | | Cumulative Trade | | Exports | | | | Imports | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Roman Section | Description | Trade Balance (R'm) | Ratio Exports/Imports | Trade Balance (R'm) | Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports) | Month % of total | Month Total 2019 (R'm) | Cumulative 2018 ³⁾ (R'm) | Cumulative 2019 ³⁾ (R'm) | Month % of total | Month Total 2019 (R'm) | Cumulative 2018 ³⁾ (R'm) | Cumulative 2019 ³⁾ (R'm) |
| I, Ch 1-5 | Animals/Animal Products | (154 992 458) | 0.87 | (3 410 054 924) | 0.71 | 1.11 | 1 084 077 928 | 8 502 932 883 | 8 504 755 383 | 1.23 | 1 239 070 386 | 12 141 210 955 | 11 914 810 307 |
| II, Ch 6-14 | Vegetable Products | 3 061 167 443 | 1.84 | 30 767 957 369 | 2.62 | 6.87 | 6 723 841 806 | 50 443 522 540 | 49 730 108 747 | 3.63 | 3 662 674 363 | 17 076 191 664 | 18 962 151 378 |
| III, Ch 15 | Fats and Oils | (724 132 210) | 0.13 | (5 389 900 409) | 0.19 | 0.11 | 107 817 655 | 1 434 059 473 | 1 297 206 339 | 0.82 | 831 949 865 | 6 301 245 692 | 6 687 106 748 |
| IV, Ch 16-24 | Prepared Foods | 833 611 678 | 1.28 | 4 438 892 438 | 1.18 | 3.88 | 3 801 845 788 | 27 243 624 402 | 28 724 530 975 | 2.94 | 2 968 234 110 | 22 734 823 933 | 24 285 638 537 |
| V, Ch 25-27 | Mineral Products | 11 658 805 625 | 1.95 | 65 738 288 246 | 1.42 | 24.48 | 23 975 131 334 | 196 958 814 249 | 223 862 285 854 | 12.21 | 12 316 325 709 | 169 513 880 125 | 158 123 997 608 |
| VI, Ch 28-38 | Chemical Products | (5 999 999 814) | 0.47 | (44 183 842 996) | 0.53 | 5.43 | 5 321 870 163 | 47 893 975 554 | 50 087 011 456 | 11.22 | 11 321 869 977 | 92 344 242 032 | 94 270 854 452 |
| VII, Ch 39-40 | Plastics and Rubber | (3 423 307 836) | 0.28 | (24 150 195 738) | 0.39 | 1.38 | 1 351 412 828 | 14 399 271 208 | 15 748 212 387 | 4.73 | 4 774 720 664 | 40 065 886 834 | 39 898 408 125 |
| VIII, Ch 41-43 | Hides, Skins and Leather | (180 925 734) | 0.55 | (569 811 056) | 0.79 | 0.23 | 223 818 956 | 2 710 358 240 | 2 193 421 661 | 0.40 | 404 744 690 | 2 767 999 328 | 2 763 232 717 |
| IX, Ch 44-46 | Wood and articles thereof | 232 435 551 | 1.81 | 1 510 406 826 | 1.52 | 0.53 | 519 026 923 | 4 193 081 512 | 4 395 915 465 | 0.28 | 286 591 372 | 2 813 862 479 | 2 885 508 639 |
| X, Ch 47-49 | Pulp and Paper Products | (1 523 873 606) | 0.52 | (14 885 179 903) | 0.41 | 1.69 | 1 650 805 442 | 13 925 496 500 | 10 132 991 040 | 3.15 | 3 174 679 048 | 21 637 889 365 | 25 018 170 943 |
| XI, Ch 50-63 | Textiles and Clothing | (2 452 401 629) | 0.30 | (23 346 219 051) | 0.24 | 1.08 | 1 055 869 983 | 8 236 157 559 | 7 478 517 972 | 3.48 | 3 508 271 612 | 28 343 521 117 | 30 824 737 023 |
| XII, Ch 64-67 | Footwear and Accessories | (1 323 540 641) | 0.06 | (10 139 522 796) | 0.07 | 0.09 | 85 416 350 | 717 609 346 | 783 373 795 | 1.40 | 1 408 956 991 | 10 214 522 185 | 10 922 896 591 |
| XIII, Ch 68-70 | Stone, Plaster, etc | (986 697 260) | 0.25 | (7 955 734 953) | 0.30 | 0.34 | 328 496 366 | 3 298 305 324 | 3 352 982 852 | 1.30 | 1 315 193 626 | 10 702 194 447 | 11 308 717 805 |
| XIV, Ch 71 | Precious Stones | 17 545 122 466 | 43.76 | 138 446 398 124 | 20.30 | 18.33 | 17 955 434 325 | 154 926 068 790 | 145 619 259 808 | 0.41 | 410 311 859 | 10 298 760 330 | 7 172 861 684 |
| XV, Ch 72-83 | Base Metals | 5 105 250 432 | 2.02 | 53 225 411 573 | 2.13 | 10.33 | 10 112 482 183 | 104 867 047 053 | 100 266 979 791 | 4.96 | 5 007 231 751 | 43 599 717 422 | 47 041 568 218 |
| XVI, Ch 84-85 | Machinery and Appliances | (17 024 775 200) | 0.30 | (149 833 507 594) | 0.29 | 7.32 | 7 172 402 992 | 58 863 831 738 | 62 272 661 429 | 23.99 | 24 197 178 192 | 192 214 152 135 | 212 106 169 023 |
| XVII, Ch 86-89 | Transport Equipment | 5 643 560 833 | 1.58 | 37 354 401 046 | 1.43 | 15.63 | 15 306 311 234 | 97 717 405 554 | 124 255 470 438 | 9.58 | 9 662 750 401 | 77 899 328 626 | 86 901 069 392 |
| XVIII, Ch 90-92 | Precision Products, etc | (2 539 927 280) | 0.16 | (20 371 524 254) | 0.19 | 0.50 | 494 309 153 | 4 445 922 762 | 4 810 634 568 | 3.01 | 3 034 236 433 | 23 039 808 757 | 25 182 158 822 |
| XX, Ch 94-96 | Misc Manufactured Articles | (1 853 891 489) | 0.16 | (12 257 406 117) | 0.21 | 0.36 | 354 280 371 | 3 508 386 779 | 3 312 777 572 | 2.19 | 2 208 171 860 | 14 658 807 429 | 15 570 183 689 |
| XXI, Ch 97 | Works of Art/Antiques | 96 487 641 | 3.58 | 468 385 714 | 2.15 | 0.14 | 133 953 319 | 666 280 851 | 875 565 516 | 0.04 | 37 465 678 | 699 368 176 | 407 179 802 |
| XXII, Ch 99 | Other Unclassified ¹⁾ | 52 430 248 | 1.42 | 1 256 661 569 | 2.62 | 0.18 | 176 815 238 | 4 633 641 235 | 2 032 328 457 | 0.12 | 124 384 990 | 877 428 630 | 775 666 888 |
| XXIII, Ch 98 | Special Provisions ²⁾ | (8 981 436 498) | 0.00 | (87 169 627 921) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3 504 317 | 6 491 137 | 9 303 467 | 8.91 | 8 984 940 815 | 75 680 782 651 | 87 178 931 388 |
| Total | Total SA Rand | (2 941 029 738) | 0.97 | (70 455 724 807) | 0.92 | 100.00 | 97 938 924 654 | 809 592 284 689 | 849 746 294 972 | 100.00 | 100 879 954 392 | 875 625 624 312 | 920 202 019 779 |

| World Zones | | Monthly Trade | | Cumulative Trade | | Exports | | | | Imports | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| World Zones | Trade Balance (R'm) | Ratio Exports/Imports | Trade Balance (R'm) | Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports) | Month % of total | Month Total 2019 (R'm) | Cumulative 2018 ³⁾ (R'm) | Cumulative 2019 ³⁾ (R'm) | Month % of total | Month Total 2019 (R'm) | Cumulative 2018 ³⁾ (R'm) | Cumulative 2019 ³⁾ (R'm) | |
| AFRICA | 11 407 238 305 | 3.00 | 73 756 723 504 | 2.00 | 17.46 | 17 103 812 764 | 141 914 718 525 | 147 599 952 995 | 5.65 | 5 696 574 459 | 80 480 228 612 | 73 843 229 491 | |
| AMERICA | (409 046 009) | 0.96 | (13 701 762 074) | 0.86 | 9.42 | 9 224 320 881 | 77 729 612 298 | 80 942 207 280 | 9.55 | 9 633 366 890 | 86 897 059 272 | 94 643 969 354 | |
| ASIA | (15 151 070 296) | 0.69 | (127 820 674 854) | 0.70 | 34.08 | 33 381 183 926 | 287 060 491 215 | 301 743 410 243 | 48.11 | 48 532 254 222 | 411 019 939 277 | 429 564 085 097 | |
| EUROPE | (5 607 496 421) | 0.84 | (49 973 856 482) | 0.84 | 30.90 | 30 265 556 700 | 229 248 215 099 | 255 998 902 539 | 35.56 | 35 873 053 121 | 279 931 226 684 | 305 972 759 021 | |
| OCEANIA | 238 543 006 | 1.23 | (3 067 510 007) | 0.77 | 1.29 | 1 261 967 157 | 9 735 409 217 | 10 022 378 845 | 1.01 | 1 023 424 151 | 14 549 486 543 | 13 089 888 852 | |
| OTHER UNCLASSIFIED | 5 412 591 197 | 45.63 | 45 480 952 562 | 15.73 | 5.65 | 5 533 872 746 | 59 988 296 300 | 48 569 040 526 | 0.12 | 121 281 549 | 2 747 683 924 | 3 088 087 964 | |
| SHIP/AIRCRAFT | 1 168 210 480 | - | 4 870 402 544 | - | 1.19 | 1 168 210 480 | 3 915 542 035 | 4 870 402 544 | | | | | |
| Total | (2 941 029 738) | 0.97 | (70 455 724 807) | 0.92 | 100.00 | 97 938 924 654 | 809 592 284 689 | 849 746 294 972 | 100.00 | 100 879 954 392 | 875 625 624 312 | 920 202 019 779 | |
| Temporary Imports | January 2019 | February 2019 | March 2019 | April 2019 | May 2019 | June 2019 | July 2019 | August 2019 | September 2019 | | | | |
| Gold Imports ⁴⁾ | 7 098 078 709 | 5 896 974 784 | 5 783 934 499 | 6 210 884 770 | 5 886 081 823 | 7 153 213 923 | 7 136 460 022 | 8 069 519 842 | 8 018 686 950 | | | | |

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) Current month data is preliminary and all other data is revised

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

Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (Only)

Trade Statistics with BELN countries

Trade statistics with the BELN for September 2019 recorded a trade surplus of R8.11 billion.

Summary

The R8.11 billion surplus for September 2019 is as a result of exports of R12.50 billion and imports of R4.39 billion.

Exports decreased from August 2019 to September 2019 by R0.16 billion (1.3%) and imports increased from August 2019 to September 2019 by R0.56 billion (14.7%).

The cumulative surplus for 2019 is R72.97 billion compared to R67.79 billion in 2018.

Trade Highlights by Category

The main month-on-month export movements:

| R' million | BELN: | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Section: | | |
| Vehicles & Transport Equipment | -R228 | -18% |
| Machinery & Electronics | -R120 | -7% |
| Plastics & Rubber | -R58 | -10% |
| Mineral Products | -R43 | -2% |
| Misc. manufactured Articles | -R42 | -12% |
| Base Metals | -R36 | -4% |
| Optical Photographic Products | -R32 | -19% |
| Chemical Products | -R32 | -3% |
| Precious Metals & Stones | +R450 | +3898% |
| Total | -R141 | 87% |
| Total Movement | -R162 | 100% |

The main month-on-month import movements:

| R' million | BELN: | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Section: | | |
| Precious Metals & Stones | +R538 | +102% |
| Chemical Products | +R139 | +20% |
| Live Animals | -R47 | -14% |
| Prepared Foodstuff | -R44 | -7% |
| Vehicles & Transport Equipment | -R27 | -41% |
| Total | +R559 | 99% |
| Total Movement | +R564 | 100% |

[**Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics September2019**](#)

ENDS.

For any enquiries, please contact Mr Sandile Memela on SMemela2@sars.gov.za