

## SA Trade Statistics for October 2016

### SARS MEDIA RELEASE

*UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Wednesday, 30 November 2016*

### SARS releases trade statistics for October 2016

**Pretoria, 30 November 2016** – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for October 2016 recording a trade balance deficit of R4.41 billion. The year-to-date deficit (01 January to 31 October 2016) of R14.35 billion is an improvement on the deficit for the comparable period in 2015 of R59.50 billion. These statistics include trade data with Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (BLNS).

### Including trade data with Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (BLNS)

The R4.41 billion trade balance deficit for October 2016 is attributable to exports of R88.19 billion and imports of R92.60 billion. Exports for the year-to-date (01 January to 31 October) grew by 5.6% from R855.25 billion in 2015 to R903.42 billion in 2016. Imports for the year-to-date of R917.76 billion are 0.3% more than the imports recorded in January to October 2015 of R914.75 billion.

On a year-on-year basis, October 2016's R4.41 billion trade balance deficit is an improvement from the deficit recorded in October 2015 of R22.35 billion. Exports of R88.19 billion are 3.7% more than the exports recorded in October 2015 of R85.04 billion. Imports of R92.60 billion are 13.8% less than the imports recorded in October 2015 of R107.39 billion.

September 2016's trade balance surplus was revised upwards by R0.25 billion from the previous month's preliminary surplus of R6.70 billion to a revised surplus of R6.95 billion as a result of ongoing Vouchers of Correction (VOC's). Exports decreased from September 2016 to October 2016 by R10.97 billion (11.1%) and imports increased from September 2016 to October 2016 by R0.39 billion (0.4%).

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics October 2016](#)

### Trade highlights by category

The main month-on-month export movements:

R' million		
Section:	Including BLNS:	
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 4 511	- 25%
Vegetable Products	- R 2 789	- 48%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R 1 416	- 10%
Chemical Products	- R 420	- 7%
Mineral Products	- R 419	- 2%

The main month-on-month import movements:

<b>R' million</b>		
<b>Section:</b>	<b>Including BLNS:</b>	
Machinery & Electronics	+ R 1 188	+ 5%
Mineral Products	+ R 534	+ 5%
Chemical Products	+ R 398	+ 4%
Plastics & Rubber	+ R 248	+ 6%
Vegetable Products	- R 776	- 26%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R 394	- 5%
Equipment Components	- R 375	- 5%
Base Metals	- R 280	- 5%
Footwear & Accessories	- R 152	- 11%

### **Trade highlights by world zone**

The world zone results from September 2016 (Revised) to October 2016 are given below.

#### **Africa:**

Exports: R28 182 million – this is a decrease of R54 million from September 2016.

Imports: R8 096 million – this is a decrease of R819 million from September 2016.

Trade Balance surplus: R20 086 million – this is a 4.0% increase in comparison to the R19 322 million surplus recorded in September 2016.

#### **America:**

Exports: R8 276 million – this is a decrease of R1 901 million from September 2016.

Imports: R10 441 million – this is a decrease of R372 million from September 2016.

Trade Balance deficit: R2 165 million – this is a deterioration in comparison to the R636 million deficit recorded in September 2016.

#### **Asia:**

Exports: R26 390 million – this is a decrease of R3 005 million from September 2016.

Imports: R43 102 million – this is an increase of R1 948 million from September 2016.

Trade Balance deficit: R16 712 million – this is a 42.1% increase in comparison to the R11 759 million deficit recorded in September 2016.

#### **Europe:**

Exports: R20 024 million – this is a decrease of R5 996 million from September 2016.

Imports: R29 812 million – this is a decrease of R104 million from September 2016.

Trade Balance deficit: R9 788 million – this is a 151.2% increase in comparison to the R3 896 million deficit recorded in September 2016.

#### **Oceania:**

Exports: R889 million – this is a decrease of R271 million from September 2016.

Imports: R1 038 million – this is a decrease of R112 million from September 2016.

Trade Balance deficit: R149 million – this is a deterioration in comparison to the R10 million surplus recorded in September 2016.

### **Excluding trade data with Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (BLNS)**

The trade data excluding BLNS for October 2016 recorded a trade balance deficit of R13.92 billion.

#### **Summary**

The R13.92 billion deficit for October 2016 is as a result of exports of R75.70 billion and imports of R89.62 billion. Exports decreased from September 2016 to October 2016 by R10.87 billion (12.6%) and imports increased from September 2016 to October 2016 by R0.26 billion (0.3%).

The cumulative deficit for 2016 is R103.12 billion compared to R147.81 billion in 2015.

#### **Trade highlights by category**

The main month-on-month export movements:

<b>R' million</b>		
<b>Section:</b>	<b>Excluding BLNS:</b>	
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 4 647	- 27%
Vegetable Products	- R 2 864	- 55%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R 1 185	- 9%
Chemical Products	- R 565	- 11%
Wood Pulp & Paper	- R 391	- 23%

The main month-on-month import movements:

<b>R' million</b>		
<b>Section:</b>	<b>Excluding BLNS:</b>	
Machinery & Electronics	+ R 1 170	+ 5%
Mineral Products	+ R 507	+ 4%
Plastics & Rubber	+ R 244	+ 6%
Prepared Foodstuff	+ R 207	+ 8%
Vegetable Products	- R 762	- 26%
Equipment Components	- R 375	- 5%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R 356	- 4%
Base Metals	- R 293	- 6%

**Trade highlights by world zone**

The world zone results for Africa excluding BLNS from September 2016 (Revised) to October 2016 are given below.

**Africa:**

Exports: R15 693 million – this is an increase of R 46 million from September 2016.

Imports: R5 119 million – this is a decrease of R 952 million from September 2016.

Trade Balance surplus: R10 574 million – this is a 10.4% increase in comparison to the R9 576 million surplus recorded in September 2016.

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics October 2016](#)

## SA Trade Release Table (including BLNS)

Harmonised Sections		Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Exports				Imports			
Roman Section	Description	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	5 366 595	1.00	(1 151 534 119)	0.91	1.41	1 241 547 525	10 731 898 570	12 312 299 874	1.33	1 236 180 930	12 531 755 398	13 463 833 993
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	846 099 572	1.38	24 201 324 535	1.84	3.46	3 047 008 273	44 040 571 424	52 984 543 201	2.38	2 200 908 701	19 320 720 512	28 783 218 666
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(706 886 749)	0.33	(4 623 640 226)	0.41	0.39	344 797 690	2 700 915 837	3 275 112 995	1.14	1 051 684 439	5 729 787 721	7 898 753 221
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	1 034 246 245	1.31	12 198 218 084	1.43	4.90	4 320 109 730	36 025 748 817	40 596 048 245	3.55	3 285 863 485	26 062 389 068	28 397 830 161
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	7 447 111 470	1.62	50 211 987 529	1.41	22.04	19 435 621 729	177 522 728 446	172 753 754 212	12.95	11 988 510 259	148 367 887 339	122 541 766 683
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(4 791 317 715)	0.54	(40 310 497 814)	0.58	6.37	5 615 576 424	54 904 665 279	55 408 371 285	11.24	10 406 894 139	94 382 730 340	95 718 869 099
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 330 259 795)	0.48	(20 817 829 929)	0.49	2.42	2 129 932 338	18 059 250 809	19 866 604 760	4.82	4 460 192 133	37 704 524 737	40 684 434 689
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	21 547 029	1.05	491 651 363	1.14	0.52	458 855 979	4 086 190 843	4 119 810 628	0.47	437 308 950	3 825 589 701	3 628 159 265
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	176 615 589	1.36	1 200 948 923	1.26	0.75	665 341 598	5 238 496 074	5 788 880 191	0.53	488 726 009	4 234 300 770	4 587 931 268
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(12 727 050)	0.99	3 619 049 262	1.24	1.82	1 601 277 734	15 863 858 200	18 465 107 924	1.74	1 614 004 784	13 559 440 942	14 846 058 662
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 367 221 632)	0.38	(23 964 279 565)	0.35	1.67	1 475 740 477	11 927 105 184	13 032 775 652	4.15	3 842 962 109	33 768 410 946	36 997 055 217
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(919 677 784)	0.24	(10 180 853 554)	0.19	0.33	294 863 854	2 305 205 805	2 336 316 158	1.31	1 214 541 638	11 512 455 986	12 517 169 712
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(609 131 893)	0.46	(6 543 219 932)	0.44	0.60	528 290 881	4 808 073 143	5 175 003 374	1.23	1 137 422 774	10 793 211 411	11 718 223 306
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	12 759 769 276	20.73	141 296 773 625	15.11	15.20	13 406 609 024	152 389 287 010	151 308 644 550	0.70	646 839 748	6 875 553 761	10 011 870 925
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	5 750 181 744	2.18	60 943 257 585	2.21	12.03	10 611 052 686	104 326 961 339	111 292 364 864	5.25	4 860 870 942	50 691 602 638	50 349 107 279
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(15 009 839 560)	0.35	(139 262 690 630)	0.38	9.32	8 216 664 336	83 127 472 031	86 504 152 377	25.08	23 226 503 896	227 097 990 252	225 766 843 007
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	4 876 478 332	1.63	40 149 275 616	1.47	14.36	12 666 376 786	108 034 810 887	125 532 888 144	8.41	7 789 898 454	94 798 513 723	85 383 612 528
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(1 897 068 922)	0.29	(18 709 036 832)	0.29	0.90	789 634 534	6 960 507 769	7 781 207 081	2.90	2 686 703 456	24 165 037 502	26 490 243 913
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 194 636 632)	0.41	(9 821 075 239)	0.42	0.93	820 569 371	6 930 062 042	7 101 639 861	2.18	2 015 206 003	16 220 426 186	16 922 715 100
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	31 347 064	2.02	620 761 645	2.42	0.07	62 185 610	739 438 596	1 058 480 004	0.03	30 838 546	296 041 522	437 718 359
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	357 130 607	4.61	5 436 275 448	5.25	0.52	456 163 300	4 514 557 367	6 716 472 724	0.11	99 032 693	1 205 723 252	1 280 197 276
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(7 878 092 464)	0.00	(79 332 149 246)	0.00	0.00	133 990	11 699 213	4 657 101	8.51	7 878 226 454	71 610 275 702	79 336 806 347
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>(4 410 966 673)</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>(14 347 283 471)</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>88 188 353 869</b>	<b>855 249 504 486</b>	<b>903 415 135 205</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>92 599 320 542</b>	<b>914 754 369 409</b>	<b>917 762 418 676</b>

  

World Zones	Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Exports				Imports			
	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)
AFRICA	20 086 302 375	3.48	160 736 227 279	2.61	31.96	28 182 383 708	251 797 748 646	260 286 117 625	8.74	8 096 081 333	98 808 272 070	99 549 890 346
AMERICA	(2 165 287 682)	0.79	(19 835 332 626)	0.81	9.38	8 275 725 596	82 181 279 135	87 117 792 709	11.28	10 441 013 278	100 120 383 543	106 953 125 335
ASIA	(16 711 742 732)	0.61	(130 051 223 895)	0.67	29.93	26 390 449 076	248 622 171 248	267 861 887 453	46.55	43 102 191 808	414 768 647 953	397 913 111 348
EUROPE	(9 787 810 662)	0.67	(73 196 848 462)	0.76	22.71	20 023 993 105	199 377 640 887	227 852 814 757	32.19	29 811 803 767	286 483 488 614	301 049 663 219
OCEANIA	(148 893 663)	0.86	(90 993 864)	0.99	1.01	888 866 578	10 622 774 685	10 856 161 753	1.12	1 037 760 241	12 854 224 091	10 947 155 617
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	3 866 117 276	36.00	43 372 192 826	33.14	4.51	3 976 587 391	54 306 565 627	44 721 665 637	0.12	110 470 115	1 719 353 138	1 349 472 811
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	450 348 415	-	4 718 695 271	-	0.51	450 348 415	8 341 324 258	4 718 695 271	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>(4 410 966 673)</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>(14 347 283 471)</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>88 188 353 869</b>	<b>855 249 504 486</b>	<b>903 415 135 205</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>92 599 320 542</b>	<b>914 754 369 409</b>	<b>917 762 418 676</b>

  

Temporary Imports	January 2016	February 2016	March 2016	April 2016	May 2016	June 2016	July 2016	August 2016	September 2016	October 2016
Gold Imports <sup>4)</sup>	5 957 954 299	7 360 070 985	8 176 403 170	6 310 188 601	8 661 828 630	8 427 391 120	8 570 191 743	9 753 513 957	8 880 701 785	7 290 628 461

**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 BLNS)

Harmonised Sections		Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Exports				Imports			
Roman Section	Description	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(137 246 337)	0.87	(1 607 995 299)	0.85	1.22	923 566 119	7 933 526 067	9 332 845 492	1.18	1 060 812 456	9 542 389 353	10 940 840 791
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	172 909 665	1.08	18 475 413 043	1.66	3.04	2 301 206 615	38 830 117 760	46 605 915 310	2.37	2 128 296 950	18 967 146 353	28 130 502 267
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(823 987 008)	0.22	(5 689 888 919)	0.28	0.30	226 749 393	1 819 324 232	2 173 848 556	1.17	1 050 736 401	5 715 152 888	7 863 737 475
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	187 361 997	1.07	5 446 584 013	1.23	3.91	2 962 115 343	25 881 323 278	29 388 986 842	3.10	2 774 753 346	22 026 747 797	23 942 402 829
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	5 958 997 253	1.50	33 051 471 071	1.27	23.62	17 879 154 750	158 743 598 990	155 078 748 714	13.30	11 920 157 497	147 910 569 269	122 027 277 643
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(5 112 810 245)	0.47	(44 475 905 379)	0.51	5.94	4 498 384 647	45 122 603 411	45 712 268 664	10.72	9 611 194 892	89 099 071 480	90 188 174 043
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 838 854 633)	0.36	(25 305 201 221)	0.37	2.08	1 573 314 271	12 988 663 760	14 994 677 994	4.92	4 412 168 904	37 343 207 137	40 299 879 215
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	10 998 959	1.03	257 989 621	1.08	0.52	394 361 112	3 598 435 430	3 601 142 216	0.43	383 362 153	3 473 466 511	3 343 152 595
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	137 120 020	1.40	795 746 175	1.23	0.64	483 022 247	3 811 709 054	4 213 274 969	0.39	345 902 227	3 379 808 960	3 417 528 794
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(243 162 240)	0.85	1 425 175 523	1.10	1.77	1 336 195 215	13 484 383 907	16 023 066 691	1.76	1 579 357 455	13 209 189 160	14 597 891 168
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 381 057 444)	0.27	(24 897 275 528)	0.24	1.17	886 538 851	6 940 297 829	7 696 344 303	3.65	3 267 596 295	30 254 630 703	32 593 619 831
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(1 123 848 110)	0.06	(11 657 822 149)	0.06	0.10	75 024 875	676 545 286	701 823 091	1.34	1 198 872 985	11 314 769 727	12 359 645 240
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(787 418 344)	0.30	(8 037 570 934)	0.31	0.44	335 638 959	3 184 581 286	3 563 904 751	1.25	1 123 057 303	10 678 986 867	11 601 475 685
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	12 013 544 300	20.51	137 395 302 695	19.74	16.68	12 629 374 428	146 063 839 155	144 727 878 664	0.69	615 830 128	4 409 962 893	7 332 575 969
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	4 992 016 447	2.04	54 021 228 732	2.09	12.91	9 772 214 824	96 464 007 589	103 613 729 143	5.33	4 780 198 377	49 845 974 655	49 592 500 411
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(16 535 063 703)	0.28	(153 367 113 438)	0.31	8.46	6 402 363 094	66 579 478 766	69 534 546 513	25.59	22 937 426 797	224 601 445 383	222 901 659 951
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	3 644 033 450	1.47	26 976 651 172	1.32	15.08	11 414 025 681	94 786 594 979	111 850 563 567	8.67	7 769 992 231	94 511 104 531	84 873 912 395
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(2 059 999 636)	0.23	(20 244 909 108)	0.23	0.82	619 301 781	5 517 835 228	6 184 194 214	2.99	2 679 301 417	24 114 666 550	26 429 103 322
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 503 171 351)	0.24	(12 381 346 879)	0.25	0.63	474 127 264	4 030 664 428	4 192 573 742	2.21	1 977 298 615	15 989 398 812	16 573 920 621
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	31 015 493	2.01	614 385 909	2.41	0.08	61 813 869	734 128 237	1 051 406 463	0.03	30 798 376	295 420 875	437 020 554
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	353 482 840	4.64	5 417 096 045	5.34	0.60	450 577 842	4 456 803 380	6 665 118 641	0.11	97 095 002	1 174 247 716	1 248 022 596
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(7 878 092 464)	0.00	(79 332 159 193)	0.00	0.00	133 990	10 861 333	4 647 154	8.79	7 878 226 454	71 610 101 116	79 336 806 347
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>(13 923 231 091)</b>	<b>0.84</b>	<b>(103 120 144 048)</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>75 699 205 170</b>	<b>741 659 323 385</b>	<b>786 911 505 694</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>89 622 436 261</b>	<b>889 467 458 736</b>	<b>890 031 649 742</b>

  

World Zones	Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Exports				Imports				
	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	
AFRICA	10 574 037 957	3.07	71 963 366 702	2.00	20.73	15 693 235 009	138 207 567 545	143 782 488 114	5.71	5 119 197 052	73 521 361 397	71 819 121 412	
AMERICA	(2 165 287 682)	0.79	(19 835 332 626)	0.81	10.93	8 275 725 596	82 181 279 135	87 117 792 709	11.65	10 441 013 278	100 120 383 543	106 953 125 335	
ASIA	(16 711 742 732)	0.61	(130 051 223 895)	0.67	34.86	26 390 449 076	248 622 171 248	267 861 887 453	48.09	43 102 191 808	414 768 647 953	397 913 111 348	
EUROPE	(9 787 810 662)	0.67	(73 196 848 462)	0.76	26.45	20 023 993 105	199 377 640 887	227 852 814 757	33.26	29 811 803 767	286 483 488 614	301 049 663 219	
OCEANIA	(148 893 663)	0.86	(90 993 864)	0.99	1.17	888 866 578	10 622 774 685	10 856 161 753	1.16	1 037 760 241	12 854 224 091	10 947 155 617	
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	3 866 117 276	36.00	43 372 192 826	33.14	5.25	3 976 587 391	54 306 565 627	44 721 665 637	0.12	110 470 115	1 719 353 138	1 349 472 811	
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	450 348 415	-	4 718 695 271	-	0.59	450 348 415	8 341 324 258	4 718 695 271	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>(13 923 231 091)</b>	<b>0.84</b>	<b>(103 120 144 048)</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>75 699 205 170</b>	<b>741 659 323 385</b>	<b>786 911 505 694</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>89 622 436 261</b>	<b>889 467 458 736</b>	<b>890 031 649 742</b>	

  

Temporary Imports	January 2016	February 2016	March 2016	April 2016	May 2016	June 2016	July 2016	August 2016	September 2016	October 2016
Gold Imports <sup>4)</sup>	5 957 954 299	7 360 070 985	8 176 403 170	6 310 188 601	8 661 828 630	8 427 391 120	8 570 191 743	9 753 513 957	8 880 701 785	7 290 628 461

**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, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (Only)

### Trade Statistics with BLNS countries

Trade statistics with the BLNS for October 2016 recorded a trade balance surplus of R9.51 billion.

#### Summary

The R9.51 billion surplus for October 2016 is as a result of exports of R12.49 billion and imports of R2.98 billion.

Exports decreased from September 2016 to October 2016 by R0.10 billion (0.8%) and imports increased from September 2016 to October 2016 by R0.13 billion (4.7%).

The cumulative surplus for 2016 is R88.77 billion compared to R88.30 billion in 2015.

#### Trade Highlights by Category

The main month-on-month export movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R 230	- 16%
Mineral Products	- R 218	- 12%
Chemical Products	+ R 145	+ 15%
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R 137	+ 21%
Vegetable Products	+ R 75	+ 11%

The main month-on-month import movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Chemical Products	+ R 214	+ 37%
Mineral Products	+ R 27	+ 65%
Prepared Foodstuff	+ R 25	+ 5%
Wood & Articles thereof	+ R 23	+ 19%
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 145	- 82%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R 38	- 65%

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics October 2016](#)

**ENDS.**

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