

## **SA Trade Statistics for September 2018**

### **SARS MEDIA RELEASE**

*UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Wednesday, 31 October 2018*

### **SARS releases trade statistics for September 2018**

**Pretoria, 31 October 2018** – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for September 2018 recording a trade deficit of R2.95 billion. These statistics include trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN). The year-to-date (01 January to 30 September 2018) trade deficit of R0.33 billion is a deterioration on the surplus for the comparable period in 2017 of R44.89 billion. Exports year-to-date increased by 5.6% whilst imports for the same period showed an increase of 11.5%.

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

The R2.95 billion trade deficit for September 2018 is attributable to exports of R113.69 billion and imports of R116.64 billion. Exports decreased from August 2018 to September 2018 by R3.06 billion (2.6%) and imports increased from August 2018 to September 2018 by R8.66 billion (8.0%).

Exports for the year-to-date (01 January to 30 September) increased by 5.6% from R860.29 billion in 2017 to R908.68 billion in 2018. Imports for the year-to-date of R909.00 billion are 11.5% more than the imports recorded in January to September 2017 of R815.40 billion, leaving a cumulative trade deficit of R0.33 billion for 2018.

On a year-on-year basis, the R2.95 billion trade deficit for September 2018 is a deterioration from the surplus recorded in September 2017 of R 5.27 billion. Exports of R113.69 billion are 10.3% more than the exports recorded in September 2017 of R103.03 billion. Imports of R116.64 billion are 19.3% more than the imports recorded in September 2017 of R97.77 billion.

August 2018's trade surplus was revised downwards by R0.03 billion from the previous month's preliminary surplus of R8.79 billion to a revised surplus of R8.77 billion as a result of ongoing Vouchers of Correction (VOC's).

**[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics September 2018](#)**

## Trade highlights by category

The main month-on-month export movements:

R' million		
Section:	Including BELN:	
Vegetable Products	-R1 399	- 16%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R 947	- 6%
Base Metals	- R 747	- 5%
Machinery & Electronics	- R 631	- 7%
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R 837	+ 4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>- R2 887</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>Total Movement</b>	<b>- R3 064</b>	<b>100%</b>

The main month-on-month import movements:

R' million		
Section:	Including BELN:	
Mineral Products	+R10 971	+ 75%
Machinery & Electronics	+R1 106	+ 5%
Prepared Foodstuff	-R 206	- 6%
Footwear & Accessories	-R 270	- 17%
Precious Metals & Stones	-R 483	- 18%
Chemical Products	-R 635	- 5%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	-R 832	- 8%
Original Equipment Components	-R1 223	- 12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>+R8 428</b>	<b>97%</b>
<b>Total Movement</b>	<b>+R8 657</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from August 2018 (revised) to September 2018 are given below.

### Africa:

Exports: R29 383 million – this is a decrease of R 919 million from August 2018.

Imports: R15 185 million – this is an increase of R3 706 million from August 2018.

Trade surplus: R14 198 million – this is a deterioration of R4 624 million in comparison to the R18 823 million surplus recorded in August 2018.

### America:

Exports: R9 796 million – this is an increase of R 788 million from August 2018.

Imports: R11 785 million – this is an increase of R 567 million from August 2018.

Trade deficit: R1 989 million – this is an improvement of R 221 million in comparison to the R2 211 million deficit recorded in August 2018.

**Asia:**

Exports: R34 990 million – this is a decrease of R 889 million from August 2018.

Imports: R54 698 million – this is an increase of R7 253 million from August 2018.

Trade deficit: R19 708 million – this is a deterioration of R8 142 million in comparison to the R11 566 million deficit recorded in August 2018.

**Europe:**

Exports: R32 868 million – this is an increase of R1 392 million from August 2018.

Imports: R33 013 million – this is a decrease of R2 643 million from August 2018.

Trade deficit: R 145 million – this is an improvement of R4 035 million in comparison to the R4 180 million deficit recorded in August 2018.

**Oceania:**

Exports: R1 078 million – this is a decrease of R 707 million from August 2018.

Imports: R1 589 million – this is a decrease of R 193 million from August 2018.

Trade deficit: R511 million – this is a deterioration of R 514 million in comparison to the R 3 million surplus recorded in August 2018.

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

The trade data excluding BELN for September 2018 recorded a trade deficit of R11.78 billion.

**Summary**

The R11.78 billion deficit for September 2018 is as a result of exports of R101.45 billion and imports of R113.23 billion. Exports decreased from August 2018 to September 2018 by R2.81 billion (2.7%) and imports increased from August 2018 to September 2018 by R9.01 billion (8.6%).

The cumulative deficit for 2018 is R68.21 billion compared to R23.83 billion deficit in 2017.

## Trade highlights by category

The main month-on-month export movements:

R' million	Excluding BELN:	
Section:		
Vegetable Products	-R1 385	- 17%
Vehicle & Transport Equipment	-R 806	- 5%
Base Metals	-R 693	- 5%
Machinery & Electronics	-R 580	- 8%
Precious Metals & Stones	+R 654	+ 3%
Prepared Foodstuff	+R 166	+ 5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>-R2 644</b>	<b>94 %</b>
<b>Total Movement</b>	<b>-R2 808</b>	<b>100%</b>

The main month-on-month import movements:

R' million	Excluding BELN:	
Section:		
Mineral Products	+R10 977	+ 76%
Machinery & Electronics	+R1 044	+ 5%
Prepared Foodstuff	-R 182	- 6%
Footwear & Accessories	-R 272	- 17%
Chemical Products	-R 655	- 5%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	-R 836	- 8%
Original Equipment Components	-R1 223	- 12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>+R8 853</b>	<b>98%</b>
<b>Total Movement</b>	<b>+R9 014</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results for Africa excluding BELN from August 2018 (Revised) to September 2018 are given below.

#### Africa:

Exports: R17 143 million – this is a decrease of R 663 million from August 2018.

Imports: R11 773 million – this is an increase of R4 062 million from August 2018.

Trade surplus: R5 370 million – this is a deterioration of R4 724 million in comparison to the R10 093 million surplus recorded in August 2018.

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics September 2018](#)

## 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 <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2018 (R'm)	Cumulative 2017 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2018 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2018 (R'm)	Cumulative 2017 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2018 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(560 520 162)	0.68	(4 610 311 788)	0.71	1.07	1 214 903 475	10 667 730 332	11 149 800 479	1.52	1 775 423 637	14 881 975 305	15 760 112 267
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	5 482 266 459	4.36	37 736 962 122	3.16	6.26	7 114 857 680	53 054 444 897	55 205 379 158	1.40	1 632 591 221	18 604 348 587	17 468 417 036
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(710 410 209)	0.24	(3 883 300 631)	0.39	0.20	229 420 729	2 689 855 785	2 433 229 058	0.81	939 830 938	7 557 592 812	6 316 529 689
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	1 401 648 156	1.42	10 979 739 441	1.41	4.14	4 710 424 083	34 724 046 017	37 811 092 529	2.84	3 308 775 927	26 638 405 982	26 831 353 088
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	109 342 996	1.00	41 340 634 116	1.24	22.57	25 660 259 109	208 438 441 074	211 385 659 092	21.90	25 550 916 113	124 020 551 553	170 045 024 976
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(5 167 946 030)	0.56	(40 535 697 289)	0.58	5.90	6 705 342 321	53 075 888 282	56 723 854 294	10.18	11 873 288 351	87 150 183 735	97 259 551 583
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 712 016 881)	0.45	(19 845 101 402)	0.51	1.95	2 218 906 745	17 167 388 279	20 612 332 512	4.23	4 930 923 626	35 698 247 583	40 457 433 914
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(71 183 865)	0.83	184 743 562	1.06	0.30	345 593 188	3 338 158 184	3 076 233 870	0.36	416 777 053	2 850 355 552	2 891 490 308
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	211 169 920	1.48	1 627 240 388	1.42	0.57	647 161 842	5 325 566 486	5 545 211 147	0.37	435 991 922	3 811 368 542	3 917 970 759
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(572 396 398)	0.81	(8 722 520 866)	0.65	2.15	2 439 151 710	16 127 286 895	16 449 404 823	2.58	3 011 548 108	11 313 230 055	25 171 925 689
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 397 666 696)	0.40	(19 752 377 469)	0.39	1.41	1 605 770 817	11 969 198 566	12 881 122 591	3.43	4 003 437 513	30 908 039 638	32 633 500 060
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(1 067 659 825)	0.21	(8 244 701 045)	0.20	0.24	277 914 849	2 060 158 160	2 078 742 578	1.15	1 345 574 674	9 990 690 783	10 323 443 623
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(750 843 543)	0.44	(6 106 578 223)	0.43	0.51	585 058 380	4 113 012 799	4 631 229 279	1.15	1 335 901 923	9 429 841 738	10 737 807 502
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	18 268 304 102	9.27	143 628 074 248	10.32	18.01	20 476 791 005	142 623 198 588	159 032 930 866	1.89	2 208 486 903	9 395 851 325	15 404 856 618
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	7 507 735 842	2.36	66 779 093 497	2.49	11.45	13 015 362 209	102 621 342 662	111 575 462 604	4.72	5 507 626 367	44 761 250 001	44 796 369 107
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(16 030 944 366)	0.35	(121 938 432 776)	0.38	7.58	8 622 565 433	69 454 550 795	73 250 947 414	21.14	24 653 509 799	186 281 407 785	195 189 380 190
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	6 314 826 916	1.69	29 015 103 760	1.37	13.65	15 514 928 714	103 818 298 804	107 590 263 660	7.89	9 200 101 798	84 484 619 021	78 575 159 900
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(2 192 959 613)	0.25	(17 375 767 959)	0.25	0.63	714 185 492	5 753 506 300	5 737 433 957	2.49	2 907 145 105	22 205 987 673	23 113 201 916
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 422 874 277)	0.34	(8 758 108 090)	0.41	0.64	725 871 069	5 879 184 164	6 042 702 225	1.84	2 148 745 346	13 960 512 565	14 800 810 315
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	5 202 660	1.06	63 701 849	1.09	0.09	96 806 680	921 862 358	765 847 920	0.08	91 604 020	553 335 207	702 146 071
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	663 274 356	7.04	3 786 062 729	5.18	0.68	773 041 916	6 461 439 650	4 691 068 641	0.09	109 767 560	1 007 124 171	905 005 912
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(9 258 768 784)	0.00	(75 694 289 369)	0.00	0.00	228 883	3 577 665	6 694 422	7.94	9 258 997 667	69 897 257 513	75 700 983 791
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>(2 952 419 242)</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>(325 831 195)</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>113 694 546 329</b>	<b>860 288 136 742</b>	<b>908 676 643 119</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>116 646 965 571</b>	<b>815 402 177 126</b>	<b>909 002 474 314</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 2018 (R'm)	Cumulative 2017 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2018 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2018 (R'm)	Cumulative 2017 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2018 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	
AFRICA	14 198 472 368	1.94	131 447 327 019	2.19	25.84	29 383 588 021	228 215 340 386	242 221 856 669	13.02	15 185 115 653	87 618 334 005	110 774 529 650	
AMERICA	(1 989 330 289)	0.83	(9 138 118 480)	0.89	8.62	9 795 583 560	77 541 172 561	77 677 102 148	10.10	11 784 913 849	89 029 870 965	86 815 220 628	
ASIA	(19 708 406 682)	0.64	(125 540 070 108)	0.69	30.78	34 989 739 939	273 458 393 434	285 644 660 693	46.89	54 698 146 621	360 260 109 135	411 184 730 801	
EUROPE	(145 095 529)	1.00	(52 837 325 794)	0.81	28.91	32 868 075 860	213 276 114 342	229 485 597 959	28.30	33 013 171 389	266 126 038 744	282 322 923 753	
OCEANIA	(510 872 409)	0.68	(4 783 704 056)	0.67	0.95	1 077 623 030	10 672 217 809	9 743 172 624	1.36	1 588 495 439	10 684 407 069	14 526 876 680	
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	4 976 708 701	14.20	56 610 131 898	17.76	4.71	5 353 831 321	50 956 221 803	59 988 324 700	0.32	377 122 620	1 683 417 208	3 378 192 802	
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	226 104 598	-	3 915 928 326	-	0.20	226 104 598	6 168 676 407	3 915 928 326					
<b>Total</b>	<b>(2 952 419 242)</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>(325 831 195)</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>113 694 546 329</b>	<b>860 288 136 742</b>	<b>908 676 643 119</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>116 646 965 571</b>	<b>815 402 177 126</b>	<b>909 002 474 314</b>	
<b>Temporary Imports</b>	<b>January 2018</b>	<b>February 2018</b>	<b>March 2018</b>	<b>April 2018</b>	<b>May 2018</b>	<b>June 2018</b>	<b>July 2018</b>	<b>August 2018</b>	<b>September 2018</b>				
Gold Imports <sup>4)</sup>	6 757 431 501	5 102 273 660	5 725 309 521	5 750 371 888	6 352 969 693	6 887 140 064	5 754 472 340	6 685 705 916	5 789 981 833				

### 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 <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2018 (R'm)	Cumulative 2017 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2018 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2018 (R'm)	Cumulative 2017 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2018 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(514 073 120)	0.64	(3 646 470 154)	0.70	0.91	922 460 236	7 901 191 517	8 503 228 294	1.27	1 436 533 356	11 484 067 112	12 149 698 448
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	5 000 235 942	4.16	33 370 541 796	2.95	6.49	6 581 653 231	48 158 335 113	50 462 821 255	1.40	1 581 417 289	18 305 134 861	17 092 279 459
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(816 811 236)	0.13	(4 867 715 517)	0.23	0.12	122 070 148	1 785 818 642	1 434 556 786	0.83	938 881 384	7 520 791 506	6 302 272 303
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	693 495 304	1.25	4 491 946 280	1.20	3.41	3 457 840 911	24 568 381 658	27 220 817 610	2.44	2 764 345 607	22 810 644 858	22 728 871 330
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	(1 830 683 765)	0.93	26 192 058 372	1.15	23.33	23 668 177 003	194 784 920 690	195 680 805 730	22.52	25 498 860 768	123 456 382 409	169 488 747 358
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(5 635 276 872)	0.50	(44 526 858 485)	0.52	5.58	5 662 765 874	44 604 113 042	47 958 272 375	9.98	11 298 042 746	81 840 962 494	92 485 130 860
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(3 168 370 686)	0.35	(23 599 088 153)	0.41	1.69	1 716 844 835	13 086 362 471	16 495 921 777	4.31	4 885 215 521	35 377 554 515	40 095 009 930
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(102 189 729)	0.75	(59 464 318)	0.98	0.30	305 957 590	2 983 313 110	2 710 268 812	0.36	408 147 319	2 711 789 852	2 769 733 130
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	180 873 555	1.59	1 370 152 697	1.49	0.48	488 710 572	3 951 580 411	4 184 533 235	0.27	307 837 017	2 762 727 086	2 814 380 538
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(994 954 750)	0.66	(10 982 945 088)	0.56	1.94	1 968 940 216	13 956 414 774	13 991 976 694	2.62	2 963 894 966	11 115 027 029	24 974 921 782
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 477 456 957)	0.30	(20 218 818 229)	0.29	1.04	1 053 547 528	7 186 592 466	8 148 109 953	3.12	3 531 004 485	26 794 520 344	28 366 928 182
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(1 234 453 093)	0.07	(9 495 988 809)	0.07	0.09	95 844 044	653 852 950	717 561 414	1.17	1 330 297 137	9 877 385 200	10 213 550 223
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(899 736 342)	0.32	(7 353 310 651)	0.31	0.42	426 116 237	2 837 238 530	3 300 034 538	1.17	1 325 852 579	9 346 990 649	10 653 345 189
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	17 657 453 617	11.00	144 652 797 626	15.05	19.15	19 423 305 986	137 385 811 442	154 950 599 251	1.56	1 765 852 369	4 889 752 321	10 297 801 625
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	6 854 958 778	2.27	61 106 539 673	2.40	12.06	12 239 684 742	94 463 658 136	104 778 869 363	4.76	5 384 725 964	44 086 866 841	43 672 329 690
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(17 246 548 651)	0.29	(133 241 653 689)	0.31	6.81	6 907 891 644	55 737 962 692	58 900 404 804	21.33	24 154 440 295	183 611 421 205	192 142 058 493
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	5 396 256 781	1.59	20 268 972 532	1.26	14.35	14 561 491 084	94 242 587 219	98 144 586 382	8.09	9 165 234 303	84 125 793 306	77 875 613 850
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(2 330 373 262)	0.20	(18 622 949 022)	0.19	0.56	569 829 774	4 510 018 633	4 441 013 685	2.56	2 900 203 036	22 154 838 273	23 063 962 707
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 721 372 672)	0.19	(11 178 091 098)	0.24	0.41	415 051 450	3 342 990 207	3 507 616 068	1.89	2 136 424 122	13 608 602 046	14 685 707 166
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	5 356 325	1.06	63 985 232	1.09	0.09	96 362 856	917 407 348	762 583 851	0.08	91 006 531	551 464 161	698 598 619
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	660 713 425	7.12	3 762 415 652	5.29	0.76	768 703 524	6 407 376 116	4 638 636 108	0.10	107 990 099	969 614 121	876 220 456
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(9 258 768 784)	0.00	(75 694 492 654)	0.00	0.00	228 883	3 003 399	6 491 137	8.18	9 258 997 667	69 897 257 513	75 700 983 791
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>(11 781 726 192)</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>(68 208 436 007)</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>101 453 478 368</b>	<b>763 468 930 566</b>	<b>810 939 709 122</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>113 235 204 560</b>	<b>787 299 587 702</b>	<b>879 148 145 129</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 2018 (R'm)	Cumulative 2017 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2018 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2018 (R'm)	Cumulative 2017 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2018 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)
AFRICA	5 369 165 418	1.46	63 564 722 207	1.79	16.90	17 142 520 060	131 396 134 210	144 484 922 672	10.40	11 773 354 642	59 515 744 581	80 920 200 465
AMERICA	(1 989 330 289)	0.83	(9 138 118 480)	0.89	9.66	9 795 583 560	77 541 172 561	77 677 102 148	10.41	11 784 913 849	89 029 870 965	86 815 220 628
ASIA	(19 708 406 682)	0.64	(125 540 070 108)	0.69	34.49	34 989 739 939	273 458 393 434	285 644 660 693	48.30	54 698 146 621	360 260 109 135	411 184 730 801
EUROPE	(145 095 529)	1.00	(52 837 325 794)	0.81	32.40	32 868 075 860	213 276 114 342	229 485 597 959	29.15	33 013 171 389	266 126 038 744	282 322 923 753
OCEANIA	(510 872 409)	0.68	(4 783 704 056)	0.67	1.06	1 077 623 030	10 672 217 809	9 743 172 624	1.40	1 588 495 439	10 684 407 069	14 526 876 680
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	4 976 708 701	14.20	56 610 131 898	17.76	5.28	5 353 831 321	50 956 221 803	59 988 324 700	0.33	377 122 620	1 683 417 208	3 378 192 802
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	226 104 598	-	3 915 928 326	-	0.22	226 104 598	6 168 676 407	3 915 928 326				
<b>Total</b>	<b>(11 781 726 192)</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>(68 208 436 007)</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>101 453 478 368</b>	<b>763 468 930 566</b>	<b>810 939 709 122</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>113 235 204 560</b>	<b>787 299 587 702</b>	<b>879 148 145 129</b>

  

Temporary Imports	January 2018	February 2018	March 2018	April 2018	May 2018	June 2018	July 2018	August 2018	September 2018
Gold Imports <sup>4)</sup>	6 757 431 501	5 102 273 660	5 725 309 521	5 750 371 888	6 352 969 693	6 887 140 064	5 754 472 340	6 685 705 916	5 789 981 833

**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 2018 recorded a trade surplus of R8.83 billion.

#### Summary

The R8.83 billion surplus for September 2018 is as a result of exports of R12.24 billion and imports of R3.41 billion.

Exports decreased from August 2018 to September 2018 by R0.26 billion (2.0%) and imports decreased from August 2018 to September 2018 by R0.36 billion (9.5%).

The cumulative surplus for 2018 is R67.88 billion compared to R68.72 billion in 2017.

#### Trade Highlights by Category

The main month-on-month export movements:

R' million	BELN:	
Section:	BELN:	
Mineral Products	-R 142	- 7%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	-R 141	- 13%
Prepared Foodstuff	-R 128	- 9%
Base Metals	-R 54	- 6%
Machinery & Electronics	-R 51	- 3%
Plastics & Rubber	-R 23	- 4%
Chemical Products	-R 20	- 2%
Vegetable Products	-R 14	- 3%
Wood Pulp & Paper	+R 182	+ 63%
Precious Metals & Stones	+R 183	+ 21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>-R 208</b>	<b>81 %</b>
<b>Total Movement</b>	<b>-R 256</b>	<b>100%</b>

The main month-on-month import movements:

R' million	BELN:	
Section:	BELN:	
Precious Metals & Stones	-R 273	- 38%
Live Animals	-R 82	- 19%
Textiles	-R 32	- 6%
Prepared Foodstuff	-R 24	- 4%
Machinery & Electronics	+R 62	+14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>-R 349</b>	<b>98%</b>
<b>Total Movement</b>	<b>-R 356</b>	<b>100%</b>

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics September 2018](#)

**ENDS.**

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