

## Media Releases 2009

### South African Trade Statistics for July 2009

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**Pretoria, 31 August 2009** -- The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for July 2009 that record a trade surplus of R0.4 billion.

This is the third consecutive surplus since May 2009. Between 2004 and 2008 there have never been three consecutive surpluses; there were two consecutive surpluses in 2004 and three surpluses in 2005 during April, June and December.

The progressive deficit from January to July 2009 is R17.4 billion, which is largely attributed to the deficit in January 2009 (R17.5b). The progressive deficit from January – July 2008 was R48.09b.

#### Summary

The R0.4 billion surplus for July 2009 was mainly due to an increase in exports of 3.31% and an increase in imports of 10.54%.

Exports for July 2009 of R44.4 billion and imports of R44 billion resulted in a surplus of R0.4 billion.

Imports increased by R4.2 billion (10.54%) to R44 billion and exports increased by R1.4 billion (3.31%) to R44.4 billion.

#### Trade Highlights by Category

The June to July change (up by 10.54%) in imports of goods reflected increases mainly in:

- Mineral products [up by R1.5 billion (18%)]
- Vehicles, vessels and aircrafts [up by R1.4 billion (44%)], and
- Original equipment components [up by R0.5 billion (28%)].

The June to July change (up by 3.31%) in exports of goods reflected increases mainly in:

- Mineral products [up by R1.5 billion (18%)]
- Base metals and articles thereof [up by R0.7 billion (11%)].
- Machinery and electrical appliances [up by R0.5 billion (14%)] and
- Vehicles, aircraft and vessels [up by R0.5 billion (19%)].

#### Trade Highlights by World Zone

The world zone results for July 2009 as given below are unaudited, and those for June 2009 are audited.

**Asia:** The deficit increased from R3.7bn in June 2009 to R4.6bn in July 2009. Exports increased by R0.4bn to R14.6bn and imports increased by R1.3bn to R19.2bn.

**Europe:** The deficit increased from R1.3bn in June 2009 to R2.6bn in July 2009. Exports increased by R1.6bn to R13.8bn and imports increased by R2.9bn to R16.4bn.

**America:** The deficit decreased from R1.6bn in June 2009 to R1.2bn in July 2009. Exports increased by R0.2bn to R3.9bn and imports decreased by R0.2bn to R5.1bn.

**Africa:** The surplus increased from R4.7bn to R5.4bn. Exports increased by R0.7bn to R7.9bn and imports increased by R0.1bn to R2.5bn.

Further details are available on the [Trade Statistics Page](#)

		TRADE											
Harmonised Section		Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Imports				Exports			
Code	Description	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio <sup>6)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2008 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2008 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Ani	92	1.25	514	1.2	367	0.83	2,805	2,626	459	1.03	3,290	3,140
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable F	1,959	3.56	8,501	2.37	764	1.74	6,506	6,195	2,723	6.12	11,903	14,696
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oil	-324	0.23	-2,123	0.19	422	0.96	3,715	2,636	98	0.22	632	513
IV, Ch 16	Prepared Fo	322	1.23	2,581	1.29	1,416	3.22	7,633	8,874	1,738	3.91	9,145	11,455
V, Ch 25	Mineral Proc	270	1.03	-2,657	0.96	9,936	22.57	101,886	66,541	10,206	22.96	64,085	63,885
VI, Ch 28	Chemical Pr	-1,770	0.57	-11,732	0.6	4,142	9.41	35,572	28,996	2,372	5.34	22,257	17,264
VII, Ch 39	Plastics and	-871	0.46	-6,097	0.47	1,624	3.69	13,880	11,524	753	1.69	6,070	5,427
VIII, Ch 41	Hides, Skins	-49	0.68	-231	0.78	152	0.35	1,287	1,051	103	0.23	980	821
IX, Ch 44	Wood and a	40	1.26	90	1.06	154	0.35	1,883	1,481	194	0.44	1,898	1,570
X, Ch 47	Pulp and Pa	-1	1	422	1.08	722	1.64	5,997	5,527	721	1.62	5,968	5,950
XI, Ch 50	Textiles and	-936	0.27	-7,363	0.27	1,282	2.91	9,519	10,104	346	0.78	3,122	2,741
XII, Ch 64	Footwear a	-441	0.07	-3,024	0.06	473	1.08	2,672	3,203	32	0.07	201	179
XIII, Ch 68	Stone, Plast	-415	0.31	-2,495	0.32	602	1.37	5,074	3,645	187	0.42	1,285	1,150
XIV, Ch 7	Precious St	9,511	25.15	68,809	24.91	394	0.89	6,456	2,878	9,905	22.28	90,095	71,687
XV, Ch 7	Base Metals	5,057	4.27	27,309	3	1,547	3.52	20,698	13,685	6,604	14.85	67,671	40,994
XVI, Ch 8	Machinery a	-6,994	0.35	-61,968	0.29	10,799	24.53	104,654	86,669	3,805	8.56	37,806	24,701
XVII, Ch 8	Transport E	-1,178	0.74	-2,328	0.92	4,593	10.43	41,016	27,730	3,415	7.68	36,166	25,402
XVIII, Ch	Precision Pr	-1,215	0.15	-7,376	0.24	1,429	3.25	10,471	9,767	214	0.48	2,088	2,391
XX, Ch 9	Misc Manuf	-287	0.56	-2,103	0.53	647	1.47	5,209	4,469	360	0.81	3,092	2,366
XXI, Ch 9	Works of A	2	1.13	-22	0.85	13	0.03	168	145	15	0.03	560	123
XXXII	Other Uncla	185	7.94	1,324	3.66	27	0.06	563	499	211	0.47	814	1,823
XXIII, Ch 9	Special Prov	-2,509	-	-17,402	0	2,509	5.7	29,489	17,406	-	-	4	4
	<b>Total SA R</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>-17,369</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>44,015</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>417,152</b>	<b>315,651</b>	<b>44,462</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>369,132</b>	<b>298,282</b>

TRADE												
World Zones	Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Imports				Exports			
	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance	Ratio <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2008 (R'm)	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)	Month Total (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2008 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2009 (R'm)
			(R'm)									
Africa	5,326	3.09	32,009	2.53	2,544	5.78	35,770	20,866	7,870	17.7	52,949	52,875
Europe	-2,546	0.84	-23,093	0.79	16,351	37.15	141,600	110,012	13,805	31.05	120,908	86,919
America	-1,222	0.76	-15,963	0.64	5,113	11.62	52,861	43,785	3,891	8.75	47,840	27,822
Asia	-4,577	0.76	-37,743	0.72	19,164	43.54	177,414	133,809	14,588	32.81	110,381	96,067
Oceania	-194	0.74	-2,120	0.65	743	1.69	8,162	6,109	550	1.24	7,923	3,988
Other Unclassified Goods	3,615	37.48	29,063	28.14	99	0.23	1,346	1,071	3,714	8.35	28,741	30,134
Ships/ Aircraft Stores	44		478		-	-			44	0.1	390	478
<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>-17,369</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>44,015</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>417,152</b>	<b>315,651</b>	<b>44,462</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>369,132</b>	<b>298,282</b>
<b>Temporary Imports</b>	<b>09-Jan</b>	<b>09-Feb</b>	<b>09-Mar</b>	<b>09-Apr</b>	<b>09-May</b>	<b>09-Jun</b>	<b>09-Jul</b>	<b>09-Aug</b>	<b>09-Sep</b>	<b>09-Oct</b>	<b>09-Nov</b>	<b>09-Dec</b>
<b>Gold imports (R'm)</b>	<b>4,136</b>	<b>6,047</b>	<b>5,090</b>	<b>2,696</b>	<b>3,630</b>	<b>2,406</b>	<b>6,413</b>					
<b>Notes:</b>												
1) Other Unclassified: Military equipment, unknown countries, ships & a 4) Temporary gold imports are not included in imports or export numbers for the trade balance												
2) Special Provisions: Motor car parts for Motor Industry Development P 5) The ratio is the value of total exports divided by the value of total imports												
3) 2008 Data is audited and 2009 data unaudited												

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