

SA Trade Statistics for August 2015

SARS MEDIA RELEASE

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SARS releases trade statistics for August 2015

Pretoria, 30 September 2015 – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for August 2015 that recorded a trade deficit of R9.95 billion. This figure includes trade data with Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (BLNS).

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

The R9.95 billion deficit for August 2015 is due to exports of R87.63 billion and imports of R97.58 billion. Exports decreased from July 2015 to August 2015 by R5.45 billion (5.9%) and imports increased from July 2015 to August 2015 by R3.38 billion (3.6%).

The cumulative deficit for 2015 is R36.27 billion compared to R69.94 billion in 2014.

The month of July 2015 trade balance was revised downwards by R0.72 billion from the previous month's preliminary deficit of R0.40 billion to a revised deficit of R1.11 billion.

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics August 2015](#)

Trade highlights by category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million		
Section:	Including BLNS:	
Mineral Products	- R4 205	- 20.1%
Base Metals	- R2 464	- 20.0%
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R1 120	+ 7.3%
Vehicle & Transport Equipment	+ R 382	+ 3.4%
Wood and articles thereof	+ R 176	+ 41.2%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million		
Section:	Including BLNS:	
Vehicle & Transport Equipment	+ R2 027	+ 22.1%
Mineral Products	+ R1 758	+ 12.1%
Chemical Products	+ R1 248	+ 12.4%
Equipment Components	- R 743	- 9.4%
Base Metals	- R 681	- 12.8%

Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from July 2015 to August 2015 are given below.

Africa:

Exports: R26 195 million – this is a decrease of R 0.28 million from July 2015

Imports: R10 865 million – this is an increase of R1 106 million from July 2015

Trade surplus: R15 330 million – This is a 6.9% decrease in comparison to the R16 464 million surplus recorded in July 2015.

America:

Exports: R8 015 million – this is a decrease of R1 099 million from July 2015

Imports: R10 947 million – this is an increase of R 941 million from July 2015

Trade deficit: R2 932 million – This is an increase in comparison to the R 892 million deficit recorded in July 2015.

Asia:

Exports: R24 773 million – this is a decrease of R3 111 million from July 2015

Imports: R43 883 million – this is an increase of R1 599 million from July 2015

Trade deficit: R19 110 million – This is a 32.7% increase in comparison to the R14 399 million deficit recorded in July 2015.

Europe:

Exports: R21 371 million – this is a decrease of R 720 million from July 2015

Imports: R30 502 million – this is a decrease of R 332 million from July 2015

Trade deficit: R9 131 million – This is a 4.4% increase in comparison to the R8 743 million deficit recorded in July 2015.

Oceania:

Exports: R1 164 million – this is a decrease of R 162 million from July 2015

Imports: R1 300 million – this is an increase of R 203 million from July 2015

Trade deficit: R 135 million – This is a deterioration compared to the R 229 million surplus recorded in July 2015.

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

The trade data excluding BLNS for August 2015 recorded a trade deficit of R19.07 billion.

Summary

The R19.07 billion deficit for August 2015 is as a result of exports of R75.93 billion and imports of R95.00 billion. Exports decreased from July 2015 to August 2015 by R5.83 billion (7.1%) and imports increased from July 2015 to August 2015 by R3.31 billion (3.6%).

The cumulative deficit for 2015 is R105.59 billion compared to R135.91 billion in 2014.

Trade highlights by category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million		
Section:	Excluding BLNS:	
Mineral Products	- R4 131	- 21.8%
Base Metals	- R2 365	- 20.7%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R 434	+ 4.5%
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R 282	+ 1.9%
Wood and articles thereof	+ R 189	+ 71.3%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million		
Section:	Excluding BLNS:	
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R2 019	+ 22.0%
Mineral Products	+ R1 760	+ 12.2%
Chemical Products	+ R1 239	+ 12.9%
Equipment Components	- R 743	- 9.4%
Base Metals	- R 677	- 12.9%

Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from July 2015 to August 2015 are given below.

Africa:

Exports: R14 495 million – this is a decrease of R 405 million from July 2015

Imports: R8 286 million – this is an increase of R1 039 million from July 2015

Trade surplus: R6 209 million – This is an 18.9% decrease in comparison to the R7 654 million surplus recorded in July 2015.

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics August 2015](#)

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 ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2015 (R'm)	Cumulative 2014 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2015 (R'm)	Cumulative 2014 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(272)	0.79	(1 594)	0.84	1.14	1 001	7 898	8 514	1.30	1 273	7 691	10 108
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	3 731	2.88	21 255	2.48	6.52	5 711	34 647	35 663	2.03	1 980	12 727	14 409
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(266)	0.57	(2 086)	0.51	0.40	347	2 088	2 193	0.63	613	5 422	4 279
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	1 099	1.40	7 552	1.38	4.41	3 869	27 221	27 629	2.84	2 770	18 750	20 077
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	434	1.03	21 540	1.18	19.06	16 704	157 133	143 663	16.67	16 271	170 363	122 123
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(6 075)	0.46	(29 687)	0.59	5.96	5 225	39 988	42 895	11.58	11 300	65 489	72 581
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 265)	0.42	(14 931)	0.49	1.87	1 636	15 818	14 098	4.00	3 901	27 171	29 028
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	10	1.03	364	1.13	0.46	406	3 082	3 222	0.41	395	2 555	2 858
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	180	1.43	927	1.28	0.69	601	3 658	4 195	0.43	421	3 026	3 268
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	316	1.22	2 137	1.21	2.02	1 773	11 588	12 363	1.49	1 457	9 899	10 226
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 507)	0.31	(16 627)	0.35	1.26	1 107	8 289	9 073	3.70	3 614	22 785	25 699
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(1 106)	0.19	(6 845)	0.20	0.30	262	1 555	1 710	1.40	1 367	7 562	8 555
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(636)	0.44	(4 568)	0.45	0.56	494	3 316	3 753	1.16	1 130	7 349	8 321
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	15 644	23.05	114 950	22.06	18.66	16 354	98 942	120 409	0.73	710	8 497	5 460
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	5 193	2.12	44 254	2.10	11.22	9 834	86 723	84 385	4.76	4 641	32 181	40 131
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(13 966)	0.39	(109 558)	0.37	10.20	8 937	63 368	65 067	23.47	22 902	162 125	174 625
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	267	1.02	9 254	1.12	13.10	11 480	62 606	84 582	11.49	11 213	69 348	75 328
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(1 853)	0.22	(13 471)	0.28	0.61	531	4 678	5 246	2.44	2 384	17 330	18 717
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 219)	0.37	(6 617)	0.44	0.81	706	5 258	5 198	1.97	1 925	10 885	11 814
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	24	1.64	265	2.39	0.07	61	336	456	0.04	37	409	191
XXII	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	517	7.91	2 312	3.52	0.68	592	1 487	3 230	0.08	75	1 100	918
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(7 199)	0.00	(55 093)	0.00	0.00	1	23	12	7.38	7 200	46 977	55 104
Total	Total SA Rand	(9 947)	0.90	(36 266)	0.95	100.00	87 632	639 704	677 555	100.00	97 579	709 642	713 821

World Zones	Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Exports				Imports			
	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2015 (R'm)	Cumulative 2014 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2015 (R'm)	Cumulative 2014 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)
AFRICA	15 330	2.41	117 478	2.48	29.89	26 195	192 088	197 090	11.13	10 865	93 794	79 612
AMERICA	(2 932)	0.73	(12 483)	0.84	9.15	8 015	58 667	65 772	11.22	10 947	70 998	78 255
ASIA	(19 110)	0.56	(122 800)	0.62	28.27	24 773	201 779	198 847	44.97	43 883	325 819	321 647
EUROPE	(9 131)	0.70	(63 954)	0.71	24.39	21 371	145 023	158 521	31.26	30 502	208 013	222 475
OCEANIA	(135)	0.90	(2 066)	0.80	1.33	1 164	5 990	8 367	1.33	1 300	9 429	10 433
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	5 597	68.91	40 130	29.69	6.48	5 680	35 287	41 529	0.08	82	1 589	1 399
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	434	-	7 428	-	0.50	434	870	7 428	-	-	-	-
Total	(9 947)	0.90	(36 266)	0.95	100.00	87 632	639 704	677 555	100.00	97 579	709 642	713 821

Temporary Imports	January 2015	February 2015	March 2015	April 2015	May 2015	June 2015	July 2015	August 2015
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	7 069	5 252	5 666	5 733	5 316	5 769	5 220	5 324

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 ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2015 (R'm)	Cumulative 2014 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2015 (R'm)	Cumulative 2014 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(217)	0.77	(1 316)	0.83	0.98	742	5 886	6 355	1.01	958	6 117	7 671
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	3 249	2.67	17 407	2.23	6.83	5 189	30 445	31 538	2.04	1 940	12 429	14 131
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(369)	0.40	(2 742)	0.36	0.32	243	1 370	1 526	0.64	612	5 410	4 268
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	499	1.21	3 008	1.18	3.77	2 862	20 130	19 914	2.49	2 363	16 018	16 906
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	(1 397)	0.91	6 915	1.06	19.54	14 837	142 437	128 683	17.09	16 234	169 835	121 768
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(6 571)	0.39	(33 362)	0.51	5.63	4 272	33 181	35 376	11.41	10 843	61 605	68 738
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 757)	0.29	(18 562)	0.35	1.47	1 114	12 165	10 183	4.07	3 870	26 915	28 745
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(13)	0.97	269	1.10	0.47	360	2 814	2 843	0.39	372	2 339	2 574
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	131	1.41	478	1.18	0.60	454	2 684	3 094	0.34	322	2 492	2 616
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	119	1.08	556	1.06	2.01	1 530	9 816	10 519	1.49	1 411	9 606	9 963
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 676)	0.18	(17 865)	0.23	0.77	581	4 743	5 257	3.43	3 257	20 609	23 122
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(1 260)	0.05	(7 908)	0.06	0.09	70	477	518	1.40	1 330	7 417	8 426
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(796)	0.29	(5 737)	0.30	0.43	323	2 236	2 494	1.18	1 118	7 277	8 232
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	15 083	37.25	111 847	33.08	20.41	15 499	93 862	115 334	0.44	416	6 088	3 487
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	4 511	1.99	38 750	1.98	11.94	9 064	81 197	78 162	4.79	4 552	31 339	39 412
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(15 397)	0.32	(120 561)	0.30	9.51	7 220	51 859	52 162	23.81	22 617	160 914	172 723
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	(1 067)	0.90	(1 094)	0.99	13.34	10 127	52 012	74 015	11.78	11 194	69 033	75 109
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(1 993)	0.16	(14 498)	0.22	0.51	387	3 640	4 184	2.51	2 380	17 303	18 682
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 482)	0.22	(8 628)	0.26	0.55	417	3 378	3 008	2.00	1 899	10 824	11 636
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	23	1.62	261	2.37	0.08	60	332	451	0.04	37	406	191
XXII	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	512	8.14	2 292	3.57	0.77	583	1 433	3 183	0.08	72	1 071	891
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(7 200)	0.00	(55 094)	0.00	0.00	0	15	10	7.58	7 200	46 977	55 104
Total	Total SA Rand	(19 067)	0.80	(105 586)	0.85	100.00	75 932	556 110	588 809	100.00	95 000	692 023	694 395

World Zones	Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Exports				Imports				
	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2015 (R'm)	Cumulative 2014 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2015 (R'm)	Cumulative 2014 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	
AFRICA	6 209	1.75	48 158	1.80	19.09	14 495	108 494	108 345	8.72	8 286	76 176	60 187	
AMERICA	(2 932)	0.73	(12 483)	0.84	10.55	8 015	58 667	65 772	11.52	10 947	70 998	78 255	
ASIA	(19 110)	0.56	(122 800)	0.62	32.63	24 773	201 779	198 847	46.19	43 883	325 819	321 647	
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SHIP/AIRCRAFT	434	-	7 428	-	0.57	434	870	7 428	-	-	-	-	
Total	(19 067)	0.80	(105 586)	0.85	100.00	75 932	556 110	588 809	100.00	95 000	692 023	694 395	
Temporary Imports	January 2015	February 2015	March 2015	April 2015	May 2015	June 2015	July 2015	August 2015					
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	7 069	5 252	5 666	5 733	5 316	5 769	5 220	5 324					

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 August 2015 recorded a trade surplus of R9.12 billion.

Summary

The R9.12 billion surplus for August 2015 is as a result of exports of R11.70 billion and imports of R2.58 billion.

Exports increased from July 2015 to August 2015 by R0.38 billion (3.3%) and imports increased from July 2015 to August 2015 by R0.07 billion (2.7%).

The cumulative surplus for 2015 is R69.32 billion compared to R65.98 billion in 2014.

Trade Highlights by Category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R 837	+ 4812.3%
Base Metals	- R 99	- 11.4%
Chemical Products	- R 96	- 9.1%
Mineral Products	- R 74	- 3.8%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R 52	- 3.7%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R 60	+ 25.6%
Machinery and Electronics	+ R 28	+ 10.8%
Live Animals	- R 19	- 5.8%
Raw Hides & Leather	- R 14	- 37.0%
Plastics & Rubber	- R 10	- 25.5%

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics August 2015](#)

ENDS.

For any enquiries please contact Mr Luther Lebelo on 083 463 8882 or llebelo@sars.gov.za