

SA Trade Statistics for November 2015

SARS MEDIA RELEASE

UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Wednesday, 30 December 2015

SARS releases trade statistics for November 2015

Pretoria, 30 December 2015 – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for November 2015 that recorded a trade surplus of R1.77 billion. This figure includes trade data with Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (BLNS).

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

The R1.77 billion surplus for November 2015 is due to exports of R94.66 billion and imports of R92.89 billion. Exports increased from October 2015 to November 2015 by R8.86 billion (10.3%) and imports decreased from October 2015 to November 2015 by R14.51 billion (13.5%).

The R1.77 billion surplus is an improvement on the deficit recorded in November 2014 of R5.34 billion. Exports of R94.66 billion are 12.6% more than the exports recorded in November 2014 of R84.08 billion. Imports of R92.89 billion are 3.9% more than the imports recorded in November 2014 of R89.42 billion.

The cumulative deficit for 2015 of R58.18 billion is 42.1% less than the deficit for the comparable period in 2014 of R100.48 billion.

The month of October 2015 trade balance deficit was revised upwards by R0.21 billion from the previous month's preliminary deficit of R21.39 billion to a revised deficit of R21.60 billion.

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

Trade highlights by category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million	Including BLNS:	
Section:		
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R6 645	+ 51.7%
Vehicle & Transport Equipment	+ R1 827	+ 16.3%
Chemical Products	+ R 238	+ 4.0%
Live Animals	+ R 155	+ 14.6%
Vegetable Products	- R 329	- 10.0%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million		
Section:	Including BLNS:	
Machinery & Electronics	- R 3 947	- 13.8%
Equipment Components	- R3 870	- 45.1%
Vehicle & Transport Equipment	- R2 820	- 24.7%
Chemical Products	- R2 171	- 18.5%
Vegetable Products	+ R 803	+ 45.8%

Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from October 2015 to November 2015 are given below.

Africa:

Exports: R26 946 million – this is a decrease of R 774 million from October 2015

Imports: R10 211 million – this is a decrease of R1 064 million from October 2015

Trade surplus: R16 735 million – This is a 1.8% increase in comparison to the R16 445 million surplus recorded in October 2015.

America:

Exports: R10 261 million – this is an increase of R2 247 million from October 2015

Imports: R10 167 million – this is a decrease of R1 276 million from October 2015

Trade surplus: R 94 million – This is an improvement in comparison to the R3 429 million deficit recorded in October 2015.

Asia:

Exports: R26 244 million – this is an increase of R1 271 million from October 2015

Imports: R43 078 million – this is a decrease of R5 650 million from October 2015

Trade deficit: R16 833 million – This is a 29.1% decrease in comparison to the R23 754 million deficit recorded in October 2015.

Europe:

Exports: R19 808 million – this is an increase of R 545 million from October 2015

Imports: R28 413 million – this is a decrease of R5 961 million from October 2015

Trade deficit: R8 605 million – This is a 43.1% decrease in comparison to the R15 111 million deficit recorded in October 2015.

Oceania:

Exports: R 827 million – this is a decrease of R 311 million from October 2015

Imports: R 876 million – this is a decrease of R 464 million from October 2015

Trade deficit: R 49 million – This is a 75.6% decrease in comparison to the R 202 million deficit recorded in October 2015.

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

The trade data excluding BLNS for November 2015 recorded a trade deficit of R7.45 billion.

Summary

The R7.45 billion deficit for November 2015 is as a result of exports of R82.31 billion and imports of R89.76 billion. Exports increased from October 2015 to November 2015 by R9.17 billion (12.5%) and imports decreased from October 2015 to November 2015 by R14.78 billion (14.1%).

The cumulative deficit for 2015 is R155.74 billion compared to R196.53 billion in 2014.

Trade highlights by category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million		
Section:	Excluding BLNS:	
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R7 183	+ 58.4%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R1 522	+ 15.3%
Mineral Products	+ R 374	+ 2.4%
Chemical Products	+ R 250	+ 5.2%
Vegetable Products	- R 380	- 14.0%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million		
Section:	Excluding BLNS:	
Machinery & Electronics	- R3 967	- 14.0%
Equipment Components	- R3 870	- 45.1%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R2 862	- 25.1%
Chemical Products	- R2 344	- 21.4%
Vegetable Products	+ R 797	+ 46.5%

Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results other than Africa from October 2015 to November 2015 are given above.

Africa:

Exports: R14 597 million – this is a decrease of R 466 million from October 2015

Imports: R7 084 million – this is a decrease of R1 331 million from October 2015

Trade surplus: R7 513 million – This is a 13.0% increase in comparison to the R6 648 million surplus recorded in October 2015.

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics November 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	(22)	0.98	(1 826)	0.87	1.29	1 219	10 987	11 948	1.34	1 240	11 257	13 774
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	395	1.15	25 105	2.15	3.12	2 949	44 236	46 983	2.75	2 554	18 745	21 878
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(868)	0.22	(3 900)	0.43	0.26	242	2 849	2 943	1.20	1 110	7 648	6 843
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	1 282	1.43	11 243	1.39	4.48	4 245	39 296	40 271	3.19	2 963	27 073	29 028
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	3 663	1.26	35 158	1.22	18.57	17 577	214 032	196 688	14.98	13 915	239 346	161 530
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(3 355)	0.65	(42 843)	0.59	6.53	6 179	57 412	61 079	10.26	9 534	94 564	103 923
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 139)	0.48	(21 791)	0.48	2.09	1 978	21 801	20 040	4.43	4 117	38 884	41 831
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(20)	0.95	239	1.06	0.44	413	4 341	4 499	0.47	433	3 817	4 260
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	120	1.23	1 125	1.24	0.68	640	5 168	5 879	0.56	520	4 312	4 753
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	342	1.21	2 652	1.17	2.05	1 938	16 025	17 808	1.72	1 596	14 217	15 156
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 404)	0.38	(24 292)	0.36	1.58	1 497	12 321	13 427	4.20	3 902	32 531	37 719
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(794)	0.28	(10 000)	0.21	0.32	306	2 462	2 612	1.18	1 100	10 887	12 612
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(526)	0.51	(6 508)	0.45	0.58	548	4 768	5 357	1.16	1 074	10 526	11 865
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	18 977	36.71	161 307	22.78	20.61	19 508	142 561	168 714	0.57	531	10 745	7 407
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	5 132	1.96	59 336	2.06	11.08	10 492	119 154	115 377	5.77	5 360	46 168	56 041
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(15 296)	0.38	(159 153)	0.37	9.80	9 279	90 672	92 462	26.46	24 576	229 603	251 615
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	4 454	1.52	17 654	1.17	13.79	13 056	96 221	121 113	9.26	8 603	94 154	103 459
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(2 033)	0.28	(19 249)	0.29	0.84	793	6 959	7 752	3.04	2 826	24 442	27 002
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 150)	0.43	(10 437)	0.43	0.92	866	7 570	7 798	2.17	2 017	16 211	18 235
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	(29)	0.68	414	2.06	0.07	64	463	803	0.10	93	505	389
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	742	7.18	4 051	4.06	0.91	862	3 201	5 377	0.13	120	1 395	1 326
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(4 697)	0.00	(76 468)	0.00	0.01	6	27	20	5.06	4 703	65 973	76 488
Total	Total SA Rand	1 772	1.02	(58 182)	0.94	100.00	94 658	902 526	948 952	100.00	92 886	1 003 002	1 007 134

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	16 735	2.64	170 731	2.58	28.47	26 946	277 745	279 026	10.99	10 211	135 637	108 294
AMERICA	94	1.01	(17 763)	0.84	10.84	10 261	83 705	92 540	10.95	10 167	101 348	110 304
ASIA	(16 833)	0.61	(182 468)	0.60	27.73	26 244	277 970	275 409	46.38	43 078	455 586	457 878
EUROPE	(8 605)	0.70	(94 659)	0.70	20.93	19 808	202 634	220 432	30.59	28 413	295 566	315 092
OCEANIA	(49)	0.94	(2 252)	0.84	0.87	827	9 364	11 455	0.94	876	12 995	13 706
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	9 909	71.22	59 312	32.87	10.62	10 050	49 890	61 173	0.15	141	1 871	1 861
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	522	-	8 917	-	0.55	522	1 217	8 917	-	-	-	-
Total	1 772	1.02	(58 182)	0.94	100.00	94 658	902 526	948 952	100.00	92 886	1 003 002	1 007 134
Temporary Imports	January 2015	February 2015	March 2015	April 2015	May 2015	June 2015	July 2015	August 2015	September 2015	October 2015	November 2015	
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	7 069	5 252	5 666	5 733	5 316	5 769	5 220	5 324	5 591	6 083	5 808	

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	(150)	0.85	(1 763)	0.83	1.06	877	8 081	8 807	1.14	1 026	8 928	10 570
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	(182)	0.93	19 671	1.92	2.83	2 328	38 399	41 152	2.80	2 510	18 316	21 480
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(985)	0.11	(4 883)	0.28	0.15	124	1 878	1 944	1.24	1 109	7 633	6 827
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	461	1.19	4 301	1.18	3.56	2 933	28 886	28 814	2.75	2 472	22 934	24 512
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	2 067	1.15	15 224	1.09	19.34	15 918	193 387	176 233	15.43	13 851	238 661	161 008
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(3 600)	0.58	(47 587)	0.51	6.10	5 021	47 387	50 140	9.60	8 621	88 689	97 726
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 741)	0.33	(27 103)	0.35	1.62	1 334	16 424	14 325	4.54	4 075	38 500	41 428
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(60)	0.85	64	1.02	0.42	346	3 913	3 945	0.45	406	3 490	3 881
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	64	1.16	497	1.13	0.57	471	3 727	4 283	0.45	407	3 551	3 786
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	136	1.09	416	1.03	1.99	1 638	13 413	15 129	1.67	1 502	13 749	14 712
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 470)	0.26	(25 829)	0.23	1.05	866	7 033	7 808	3.72	3 336	29 246	33 637
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(999)	0.07	(11 636)	0.06	0.09	71	729	749	1.19	1 070	10 681	12 384
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(697)	0.34	(8 188)	0.30	0.44	366	3 189	3 551	1.18	1 063	10 423	11 739
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	18 981	39.03	157 451	33.07	23.67	19 480	135 229	162 360	0.56	499	7 847	4 909
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	4 325	1.82	51 511	1.93	11.68	9 616	110 845	106 638	5.89	5 291	44 912	55 127
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(16 871)	0.30	(174 790)	0.30	8.99	7 396	73 655	74 020	27.04	24 268	227 565	248 810
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	2 969	1.35	3 212	1.03	13.98	11 503	80 837	106 315	9.51	8 534	93 770	103 103
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(2 221)	0.21	(20 829)	0.23	0.73	599	5 408	6 116	3.14	2 819	24 403	26 945
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 489)	0.25	(13 444)	0.25	0.61	499	4 684	4 532	2.22	1 988	16 109	17 976
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	(30)	0.68	409	2.05	0.08	63	457	797	0.10	93	503	388
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	741	7.41	4 023	4.12	1.04	856	3 128	5 313	0.13	116	1 356	1 290
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(4 700)	0.00	(76 474)	0.00	0.00	4	19	15	5.24	4 703	65 973	76 488
Total	Total SA Rand	(7 450)	0.92	(155 744)	0.84	100.00	82 309	780 706	822 984	100.00	89 759	977 239	978 728

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	7 513	2.06	73 169	1.92	17.73	14 597	155 926	153 058	7.89	7 084	109 874	79 889
AMERICA	94	1.01	(17 763)	0.84	12.47	10 261	83 705	92 540	11.33	10 167	101 348	110 304
ASIA	(16 833)	0.61	(182 468)	0.60	31.89	26 244	277 970	275 409	47.99	43 078	455 586	457 878
EUROPE	(8 605)	0.70	(94 659)	0.70	24.07	19 808	202 634	220 432	31.65	28 413	295 566	315 092
OCEANIA	(49)	0.94	(2 252)	0.84	1.00	827	9 364	11 455	0.98	876	12 995	13 706
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	9 909	71.22	59 312	32.87	12.21	10 050	49 890	61 173	0.16	141	1 871	1 861
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	522	-	8 917	-	0.63	522	1 217	8 917	-	-	-	-
Total	(7 450)	0.92	(155 744)	0.84	100.00	82 309	780 706	822 984	100.00	89 759	977 239	978 728

Temporary Imports	January 2015	February 2015	March 2015	April 2015	May 2015	June 2015	July 2015	August 2015	September 2015	October 2015	November 2015
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	7 069	5 252	5 666	5 733	5 316	5 769	5 220	5 324	5 591	6 083	5 808

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 November 2015 recorded a trade surplus of R9.22 billion.

Summary

The R9.22 billion surplus for November 2015 is as a result of exports of R12.35 billion and imports of R3.13 billion.

Exports decreased from October 2015 to November 2015 by R0.31 billion (2.4%) and imports increased from October 2015 to November 2015 by R0.27 billion (9.3%).

The cumulative surplus for 2015 is R97.56 billion compared to R96.06 billion in 2014.

Trade Highlights by Category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 538	- 95.0%
Mineral Products	- R 230	- 12.2%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R 304	+ 24.4%
Plastics and Rubber	+ R 68	+ 11.8%
Vegetable Products	+ R 52	+ 9.1%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Chemical Products	+ R 173	+ 23.4%
Textiles	+ R 55	+ 10.9%
Prepared Foodstuff	+ R 48	+ 10.8%
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 95	- 74.6%
Live Animals	- R 54	- 20.3%

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

ENDS.

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