

SA Trade Statistics for September 2015

SARS MEDIA RELEASE

UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Friday, 30 October 2015

SARS releases trade statistics for September 2015

Pretoria, 30 October 2015 – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for September 2015 that recorded a trade deficit of R0.89 billion. This figure includes trade data with Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (BLNS).

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

The R0.89 billion deficit for September 2015 is due to exports of R92.28 billion and imports of R93.17 billion. Exports increased from August 2015 to September 2015 by R4.86 billion (5.6%) and imports decreased from August 2015 to September 2015 by R4.39 billion (4.5%).

The cumulative deficit for 2015 is R37.35 billion compared to R73.37 billion in 2014.

The month of August 2015 trade balance deficit was revised upwards by R0.19 billion from the previous month's preliminary deficit of R9.95 billion to a revised deficit of R10.14 billion.

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

Trade highlights by category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million	Including BLNS:	
Section:	Including BLNS:	
Mineral Products	+ R2 627	+ 15.8%
Vehicle & Transport Equipment	+ R1 242	+ 10.9%
Chemical Products	+ R855	+ 16.4%
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 421	- 2.6%
Vegetable Products	- R 614	- 10.7%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million	Including BLNS:	
Section:	Including BLNS:	
Mineral Products	- R 4 530	- 27.8%
Vehicle & Transport Equipment	- R3 107	- 27.7%
Chemical Products	- R1 184	- 10.5%
Vegetable Products	+ R1 233	+ 62.3%
Machinery & Electronics	+ R1 028	+ 4.5%

Trade highlights by world zone

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

Africa:

Exports: R27 166 million – this is an increase of R1 007 million from August 2015

Imports: R7 206 million – this is a decrease of R3 660 million from August 2015

Trade surplus: R19 960 million – This is a 30.5% increase in comparison to the R15 293 million surplus recorded in August 2015.

America:

Exports: R8 760 million – this is an increase of R 767 million from August 2015

Imports: R10 492 million – this is a decrease of R 450 million from August 2015

Trade deficit: R1 732 million – This is a 41.3% decrease in comparison to the R2 950 million deficit recorded in August 2015.

Asia:

Exports: R25 829 million – this is an increase of R1 063 million from August 2015

Imports: R44 453 million – this is an increase of R 573 million from August 2015

Trade deficit: R18 624 million – This is a 2.6% decrease in comparison to the R19 114 million deficit recorded in August 2015.

Europe:

Exports: R23 281 million – this is an increase of R2 054 million from August 2015

Imports: R29 890 million – this is a decrease of R 598 million from August 2015

Trade deficit: R6 610 million – This is a 28.6% decrease in comparison to the R9 261 million deficit recorded in August 2015.

Oceania:

Exports: R1 120 million – this is a decrease of R 44 million from August 2015

Imports: R1 041 million – this is a decrease of R 259 million from August 2015

Trade surplus: R 79 million – This is an improvement compared to the R 136 million deficit recorded in August 2015.

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

The trade data excluding BLNS for September 2015 recorded a trade deficit of R10.12 billion.

Summary

The R10.12 billion deficit for September 2015 is as a result of exports of R80.05 billion and imports of R90.17 billion. Exports increased from August 2015 to September 2015 by R4.31 billion (5.7%) and imports decreased from August 2015 to September 2015 by R4.81 billion (5.1%).

The cumulative deficit for 2015 is R115.89 billion compared to R149.02 billion in 2014.

Trade highlights by category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million		
Section:	Excluding BLNS:	
Mineral Products	+ R2 556	+ 17.3%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R1 163	+ 11.6%
Chemical Products	+ R 715	+ 16.7%
Base Metals	+ R 256	+ 2.8%
Vegetable Product	- R 607	- 11.7%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million		
Section:	Excluding BLNS:	
Mineral Products	- R4 550	- 28.0%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R3 129	- 28.0%
Chemical Products	- R1 428	- 13.2%
Vegetable Product	+ R1 235	+ 63.7%
Machinery & Electronics	+ R1 006	+ 4.5%

Trade highlights by world zone

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

Africa:

Exports: R14 929 million – this is an increase of R 459 million from August 2015

Imports: R4 203 million – this is a decrease of R4 083 million from August 2015

Trade surplus: R10 725 million – This is a 73.5% increase in comparison to the R6 183 million surplus recorded in August 2015.

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics September 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	(31)	0.97	(1 626)	0.86	1.24	1 141	8 951	9 656	1.26	1 173	8 879	11 281
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	1 886	1.59	23 140	2.31	5.52	5 098	39 106	40 761	3.45	3 213	15 735	17 621
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(292)	0.50	(2 380)	0.51	0.31	289	2 387	2 480	0.62	581	6 031	4 860
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	1 237	1.45	8 931	1.39	4.31	3 976	30 893	31 745	2.94	2 740	21 564	22 814
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	7 557	1.64	28 776	1.21	20.91	19 298	176 353	162 640	12.60	11 741	191 713	133 864
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(4 036)	0.60	(33 712)	0.59	6.59	6 081	45 871	48 978	10.86	10 117	74 826	82 690
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 111)	0.48	(17 009)	0.49	2.11	1 943	17 813	16 060	4.35	4 054	30 782	33 069
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(72)	0.85	293	1.09	0.45	412	3 563	3 634	0.52	484	2 957	3 341
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	85	1.19	1 012	1.27	0.57	524	4 138	4 718	0.47	439	3 420	3 707
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	134	1.09	2 278	1.19	1.79	1 656	13 151	14 026	1.63	1 522	11 351	11 748
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 468)	0.35	(19 080)	0.35	1.41	1 302	9 522	10 384	4.05	3 770	25 977	29 464
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(1 158)	0.19	(8 001)	0.20	0.29	266	1 822	1 976	1.53	1 425	8 716	9 978
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(677)	0.43	(5 244)	0.45	0.55	505	3 795	4 258	1.27	1 182	8 429	9 502
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	15 207	21.93	130 156	22.04	17.27	15 933	114 565	136 343	0.78	726	9 377	6 186
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	5 238	2.08	49 488	2.10	10.91	10 066	97 914	94 449	5.18	4 829	36 672	44 961
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(15 127)	0.37	(124 692)	0.37	9.53	8 792	72 229	73 840	25.67	23 919	183 015	198 532
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	4 490	1.55	13 677	1.16	13.65	12 597	73 897	97 111	8.70	8 106	76 976	83 434
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(1 880)	0.29	(15 351)	0.28	0.85	782	5 295	6 028	2.86	2 662	19 586	21 379
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 297)	0.40	(7 914)	0.43	0.93	859	5 948	6 055	2.31	2 156	12 702	13 970
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	(32)	0.61	233	1.85	0.05	51	379	506	0.09	83	416	274
XXII	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	570	4.99	2 882	3.72	0.77	713	2 351	3 943	0.15	143	1 207	1 061
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(8 108)	0.00	(63 207)	0.00	0.00	0	23	12	8.70	8 108	53 004	63 219
Total	Total SA Rand	(885)	0.99	(37 352)	0.95	100.00	92 284	729 965	769 602	100.00	93 169	803 333	806 954

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	19 960	3.77	137 567	2.58	29.44	27 166	219 673	224 388	7.73	7 206	105 352	86 821
AMERICA	(1 732)	0.83	(14 218)	0.84	9.49	8 760	66 908	74 515	11.26	10 492	80 057	88 732
ASIA	(18 624)	0.58	(141 416)	0.61	27.99	25 829	227 585	224 678	47.71	44 453	369 889	366 094
EUROPE	(6 610)	0.78	(70 663)	0.72	25.23	23 281	167 869	181 684	32.08	29 890	235 759	252 347
OCEANIA	79	1.08	(1 987)	0.83	1.21	1 120	6 988	9 488	1.12	1 041	10 595	11 475
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	5 426	63.52	45 556	31.67	5.97	5 513	39 961	47 042	0.09	87	1 680	1 485
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	616	-	7 808	-	0.67	616	981	7 808	-	-	-	-
Total	(885)	0.99	(37 352)	0.95	100.00	92 284	729 965	769 602	100.00	93 169	803 333	806 954

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

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	(62)	0.93	(1 378)	0.84	1.03	827	6 653	7 183	0.99	890	7 021	8 561
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	1 408	1.44	18 815	2.09	5.73	4 583	34 430	36 120	3.52	3 175	15 401	17 306
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(397)	0.31	(3 141)	0.35	0.23	182	1 588	1 706	0.64	579	6 019	4 847
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	525	1.23	3 676	1.19	3.55	2 841	22 809	22 896	2.57	2 316	18 423	19 220
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	5 677	1.49	12 273	1.09	21.69	17 361	159 511	145 726	12.96	11 684	191 124	133 453
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(4 429)	0.53	(37 779)	0.52	6.23	4 988	38 047	40 367	10.44	9 416	70 435	78 146
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 654)	0.34	(21 183)	0.35	1.70	1 363	13 578	11 566	4.45	4 017	30 486	32 749
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(89)	0.80	181	1.06	0.45	362	3 250	3 204	0.50	451	2 706	3 024
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	30	1.09	507	1.17	0.47	372	3 022	3 466	0.38	343	2 814	2 959
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(91)	0.94	472	1.04	1.74	1 392	11 141	11 918	1.65	1 483	10 998	11 446
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 583)	0.23	(20 431)	0.23	0.95	760	5 453	6 027	3.71	3 343	23 467	26 458
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(1 321)	0.05	(9 227)	0.06	0.09	69	545	586	1.54	1 389	8 549	9 813
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(848)	0.28	(6 585)	0.30	0.40	322	2 557	2 816	1.30	1 170	8 347	9 401
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	14 889	42.28	126 736	33.94	19.05	15 249	108 664	130 584	0.40	361	6 754	3 848
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	4 539	1.95	43 289	1.98	11.61	9 293	91 518	87 457	5.27	4 754	35 699	44 168
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(16 570)	0.30	(137 138)	0.30	8.80	7 042	59 083	59 185	26.19	23 612	181 584	196 323
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	3 100	1.38	1 939	1.02	13.95	11 165	61 810	85 113	8.94	8 065	76 642	83 174
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(2 079)	0.22	(16 577)	0.22	0.72	578	4 105	4 762	2.95	2 657	19 555	21 340
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 591)	0.25	(10 219)	0.26	0.67	539	3 784	3 547	2.36	2 130	12 629	13 766
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	(32)	0.61	228	1.84	0.06	50	374	501	0.09	83	414	273
XXII	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	566	5.01	2 858	3.77	0.88	707	2 290	3 890	0.16	141	1 175	1 032
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(8 108)	0.00	(63 208)	0.00	0.00	0	15	11	8.99	8 108	53 004	63 219
Total	Total SA Rand	(10 120)	0.89	(115 893)	0.85	100.00	80 047	634 228	668 631	100.00	90 167	783 245	784 524

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	10 725	3.55	59 026	1.92	18.65	14 929	123 935	123 417	4.66	4 203	85 264	64 391
AMERICA	(1 732)	0.83	(14 218)	0.84	10.94	8 760	66 908	74 515	11.64	10 492	80 057	88 732
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SHIP/AIRCRAFT	616	-	7 808	-	0.77	616	981	7 808	-	-	-	-
Total	(10 120)	0.89	(115 893)	0.85	100.00	80 047	634 228	668 631	100.00	90 167	783 245	784 524

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Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (Only)

Trade Statistics with BLNS countries

Trade statistics with the BLNS for September 2015 recorded a trade surplus of R9.23 billion.

Summary

The R9.23 billion surplus for September 2015 is as a result of exports of R12.24 billion and imports of R3.00 billion.

Exports increased from August 2015 to September 2015 by R0.55 billion (4.7%) and imports increased from August 2015 to September 2015 by R0.42 billion (16.4%).

The cumulative surplus for 2015 is R78.54 billion compared to R75.65 billion in 2014.

Trade Highlights by Category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Chemical Products	+ R 140	+ 14.7%
Prepared Foodstuff	+ R 129	+ 12.8%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R 79	+ 5.8%
Mineral Products	+ R 71	+ 3.8%
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 171	- 20.0%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Chemical Products	+ R 244	+ 53.3%
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R 72	+ 24.6%
Textiles	+ R 69	+ 19.4%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R 22	+ 111.7%
Live Animals	- R 32	- 10.1%

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

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