

## SA Trade Statistics for April 2016

### SARS MEDIA RELEASE

*UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Tuesday, 31 May 2016*

### SARS releases trade statistics for April 2016

**Pretoria, 31 May 2016** – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for April 2016 that recorded a trade surplus of R0.43 billion. This figure includes trade data with Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (BLNS).

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

The R0.43 billion surplus for April 2016 is due to exports of R92.22 billion and imports of R91.79 billion, decreasing from a revised surplus of R2.03 billion in March 2016. Exports decreased from March 2016 to April 2016 by R3.02 billion (3.2%) and imports decreased from March 2016 to April 2016 by R1.42 billion (1.5%).

On a year-on-year basis, the R0.43 billion surplus is an improvement from the deficit recorded in April 2015 of R2.50 billion. Exports of R92.22 billion are 10.1% more than the exports recorded in April 2015 of R83.74 billion. Imports of R91.79 billion are 6.4% more than the imports recorded in April 2015 of R86.24 billion.

The cumulative deficit for 2016 of R18.67 billion is 41.7% less than the deficit for the comparable period in 2015 of R32.01 billion.

The month of March 2016 trade balance surplus was revised downwards by R0.89 billion from the previous month's preliminary surplus of R2.92 billion to a revised surplus of R2.03 billion.

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### Trade highlights by category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million	Including BLNS:	
Section:		
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 743	- 9.5%
Chemical Products	- R 738	- 12.8%
Base Metals	- R 722	- 6.0%
Mineral Products	- R 527	- 3.1%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R1 692	+ 13.3%

The month-on-month import movements:

<b>R' million</b>		
<b>Section:</b>	<b>Including BLNS:</b>	
Vegetable Products	- R1 204	- 34.0%
Mineral Products	- R 334	- 2.6%
Optical Photographic Products	- R 292	- 10.4%
Plastics & Rubber	- R 260	- 6.2%
Machinery & Electronics	+ R 810	+ 3.5%

### **Trade highlights by world zone**

The world zone results from March 2016 to April 2016 are given below.

#### **Africa:**

Exports: R26 000 million – this is an increase of R 154 million from March 2016.

Imports: R9 884 million – this is an increase of R 70 million from March 2016.

Trade surplus: R16 116 million – this is a 0.5% increase in comparison to the R16 032 million surplus recorded in March 2016.

#### **America:**

Exports: R8 650 million – this is a decrease of R1 658 million from March 2016.

Imports: R10 825 million – this is a decrease of R 942 million from March 2016.

Trade deficit: R2 175 million – this is a 49.1% increase in comparison to the R1 459 million deficit recorded in March 2016.

#### **Asia:**

Exports: R26 132 million – this is a decrease of R1 295 million from March 2016.

Imports: R40 072 million – this is an increase of R2 439 million from March 2016.

Trade deficit: R13 940 million – this is a 36.6% increase in comparison to the R10 206 million deficit recorded in March 2016.

#### **Europe:**

Exports: R21 673 million – this is an increase of R 404 million from March 2016.

Imports: R29 893 million – this is a decrease of R2 722 million from March 2016.

Trade deficit: R8 220 million – this is a 27.6% decrease in comparison to the R11 347 million deficit recorded in March 2016.

#### **Oceania:**

Exports: R1 025 million – this is an increase of R 13 million from March 2016.

Imports: R 796 million – this is a decrease of R 326 million from March 2016.

Trade surplus: R 229 million – this is an improvement in comparison to the R 110 million deficit recorded in March 2016.

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

The trade data excluding BLNS for April 2016 recorded a trade deficit of R9.12 billion.

### **Summary**

The R9.12 billion deficit for April 2016 is as a result of exports of R80.28 billion and imports of R89.40 billion. Exports decreased from March 2016 to April 2016 by R3.16 billion (3.8%) and imports decreased from March 2016 to April 2016 by R1.09 billion (1.2%).

The cumulative deficit for 2016 is R52.63 billion compared to R65.06 billion in 2015.

### **Trade highlights by category**

The month-on-month export movements:

<b>R' million</b>		
<b>Section:</b>	<b>Excluding BLNS:</b>	
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 1 407	- 8.1%
Mineral Products	- R 934	- 6.1%
Base Metals	- R 744	- 6.6%
Chemical Products	- R 667	- 14.0%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R 1 791	+ 15.9%

The month-on-month import movements:

<b>R' million</b>		
<b>Section:</b>	<b>Excluding BLNS:</b>	
Vegetable Products	- R 1 226	- 35.0%
Mineral Products	- R 318	- 2.5%
Optical Photographic Products	- R 292	- 10.4%
Machinery & Electronics	+ R 806	+ 3.5%
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R 515	+ 92.6%

### **Trade highlights by world zone**

The world zone results for Africa excluding BLNS from March 2016 to April 2016 are given below.

#### **Africa:**

Exports: R14 057 million – this is an increase of R 16 million from March 2016.

Imports: R7 496 million – this is an increase of R 395 million from March 2016.

Trade surplus: R6 561 million – this is a 5.5% decrease in comparison to the R6 940 million surplus recorded in March 2016.

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics April 2016](#)

## 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 <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(378 274 308)	0.75	(216 500 095)	0.96	1.2%	1 130 032 005	4 186 860 643	4 989 250 762	1.6%	1 508 306 313	4 803 450 264	5 205 750 857
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	2 269 087 407	1.97	6 783 964 980	1.60	5.0%	4 606 019 747	14 057 279 582	18 088 921 793	2.5%	2 336 932 340	7 279 381 616	11 304 956 813
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(758 962 109)	0.28	(2 130 674 017)	0.32	0.3%	295 872 705	943 256 950	1 012 957 551	1.1%	1 054 834 814	1 906 287 282	3 143 631 568
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	1 174 417 979	1.43	4 084 268 344	1.38	4.3%	3 922 178 842	12 749 904 126	14 755 989 837	3.0%	2 747 760 863	10 179 911 324	10 671 721 493
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	4 169 351 256	1.34	18 120 472 764	1.39	17.9%	16 481 538 299	68 862 266 367	64 252 554 443	13.4%	12 312 187 043	63 521 035 621	46 132 081 679
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(4 199 643 764)	0.55	(15 819 063 804)	0.57	5.5%	5 046 255 298	21 277 596 448	20 880 264 750	10.1%	9 245 899 062	33 961 903 149	36 699 328 554
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 031 043 511)	0.49	(8 398 259 090)	0.46	2.1%	1 928 108 970	6 915 000 391	7 172 795 468	4.3%	3 959 152 481	14 327 128 542	15 571 054 558
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	164 345 697	1.62	223 593 456	1.16	0.5%	430 391 018	1 664 262 865	1 594 761 316	0.3%	266 045 321	1 353 901 109	1 371 167 860
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	226 366 362	1.54	293 980 911	1.15	0.7%	646 372 566	2 146 705 528	2 245 666 035	0.5%	420 006 204	1 691 944 551	1 951 685 124
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	412 082 809	1.32	1 651 655 917	1.29	1.9%	1 714 690 933	5 909 010 728	7 422 282 812	1.4%	1 302 608 124	4 936 551 883	5 770 626 895
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 077 940 084)	0.40	(10 131 443 201)	0.34	1.5%	1 406 148 410	4 492 736 527	5 262 007 486	3.8%	3 484 088 494	12 790 241 209	15 393 450 687
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(713 882 568)	0.26	(4 195 284 471)	0.17	0.3%	249 541 092	827 100 163	863 913 574	1.0%	963 423 660	4 122 150 629	5 059 198 045
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(441 865 398)	0.62	(2 091 430 810)	0.56	0.8%	708 544 793	1 664 415 764	2 619 490 938	1.3%	1 150 410 191	4 120 600 538	4 710 921 748
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	15 471 818 924	15.16	59 819 007 276	17.09	18.0%	16 564 183 197	59 552 276 337	63 537 922 308	1.2%	1 092 364 273	2 845 468 192	3 718 915 032
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	6 241 023 658	2.22	23 616 034 539	2.12	12.3%	11 358 956 865	40 793 496 010	44 746 148 107	5.6%	5 117 933 207	20 337 631 821	21 130 113 568
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(14 865 345 974)	0.38	(59 564 801 971)	0.36	9.9%	9 138 384 582	30 219 714 147	34 084 433 609	26.2%	24 003 730 556	85 159 850 126	93 649 235 580
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	6 189 662 833	1.75	10 099 681 257	1.28	15.7%	14 435 410 744	38 846 800 394	45 687 027 516	9.0%	8 245 747 911	38 730 041 428	35 587 346 259
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(1 878 546 265)	0.26	(7 671 951 890)	0.26	0.7%	648 163 756	2 769 312 812	2 626 303 082	2.8%	2 526 710 021	9 116 721 360	10 298 254 972
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(710 961 875)	0.50	(3 648 892 084)	0.41	0.8%	713 110 064	2 367 916 414	2 555 373 929	1.6%	1 424 071 939	5 156 590 845	6 204 266 013
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	122 239 728	4.55	303 845 912	3.35	0.2%	156 718 414	172 321 799	433 156 364	0.0%	34 478 686	75 478 018	129 310 452
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	531 494 349	5.96	1 971 391 778	3.98	0.7%	638 689 653	1 241 366 279	2 633 553 002	0.1%	107 195 304	538 756 282	662 161 224
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(8 484 883 740)	0.00	(31 764 918 742)	0.00	0.0%	723 572	7 840 069	1 341 159	9.2%	8 485 607 312	26 726 736 405	31 766 259 901
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>430 541 406</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>(18 665 323 041)</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>92 220 035 525</b>	<b>321 667 440 343</b>	<b>347 466 115 841</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>91 789 494 119</b>	<b>353 681 762 194</b>	<b>366 131 438 882</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 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)
AFRICA	16 116 241 762	2.63	57 822 278 755	2.39	28.2%	25 999 889 574	94 114 208 154	97 630 203 126	10.8%	9 883 647 812	42 903 718 359	39 807 924 371
AMERICA	(2 174 706 643)	0.80	(9 873 575 903)	0.76	9.4%	8 649 873 016	31 828 021 416	33 283 871 816	11.8%	10 824 579 659	38 127 562 014	43 157 447 719
ASIA	(13 940 083 888)	0.65	(56 393 382 984)	0.64	28.3%	26 132 090 994	93 382 184 799	100 505 525 389	43.7%	40 072 174 882	158 258 387 428	156 898 908 373
EUROPE	(8 220 739 736)	0.72	(39 696 853 372)	0.67	23.5%	21 672 597 531	74 125 745 241	82 021 021 629	32.6%	29 893 337 267	108 319 436 668	121 717 875 001
OCEANIA	229 095 748	1.29	337 839 636	1.04	1.1%	1 024 956 718	3 731 571 161	4 187 149 417	0.9%	795 860 970	5 375 641 800	3 849 309 781
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	7 995 817 411	26.00	27 656 697 222	52.75	9.0%	8 315 710 940	22 404 994 785	28 356 670 859	0.3%	319 893 529	697 015 925	699 973 637
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	424 916 752	-	1 481 673 605	-	0.5%	424 916 752	2 080 714 787	1 481 673 605	0.0%	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>430 541 406</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>(18 665 323 041)</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>92 220 035 525</b>	<b>321 667 440 343</b>	<b>347 466 115 841</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>91 789 494 119</b>	<b>353 681 762 194</b>	<b>366 131 438 882</b>

  

Temporary Imports	January 2016	February 2016	March 2016	April 2016
Gold Imports <sup>4)</sup>	5 963 872 063	7 353 076 196	7 753 430 066	6 219 477 706

### 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 <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(372 756 677)	0.69	(384 168 709)	0.91	1.0%	821 917 952	3 129 140 752	3 854 644 273	1.3%	1 194 674 629	3 659 561 011	4 238 812 982
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	1 702 599 088	1.75	4 534 723 065	1.41	5.0%	3 979 223 311	12 018 266 174	15 658 797 732	2.5%	2 276 624 223	7 149 417 026	11 124 074 667
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(857 752 543)	0.18	(2 463 275 176)	0.21	0.2%	193 337 581	651 601 378	668 875 350	1.2%	1 051 090 124	1 901 405 756	3 132 150 526
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	596 009 426	1.25	1 746 581 049	1.19	3.7%	2 942 188 124	8 916 363 339	10 775 919 484	2.6%	2 346 178 698	8 646 607 738	9 029 338 435
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	2 174 829 661	1.18	11 296 580 934	1.25	18.0%	14 447 706 670	61 801 404 648	57 224 995 153	13.7%	12 272 877 009	63 343 704 626	45 928 414 219
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(4 679 225 883)	0.47	(17 252 728 891)	0.50	5.1%	4 100 395 061	17 649 150 021	17 242 668 097	9.8%	8 779 620 944	31 970 364 640	34 495 396 988
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 499 233 008)	0.36	(10 056 849 953)	0.35	1.8%	1 420 587 929	5 015 303 449	5 372 968 413	4.4%	3 919 820 937	14 187 122 106	15 429 818 366
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	135 858 741	1.56	115 181 021	1.09	0.5%	380 394 597	1 473 208 022	1 398 549 692	0.3%	244 535 856	1 213 818 737	1 283 368 671
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	176 807 512	1.58	128 087 883	1.08	0.6%	484 135 869	1 636 485 961	1 673 970 380	0.3%	307 328 357	1 404 821 073	1 545 882 497
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	202 495 152	1.16	825 470 829	1.15	1.9%	1 487 902 633	4 957 593 526	6 498 907 017	1.4%	1 285 407 481	4 828 253 287	5 673 436 188
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 263 080 180)	0.26	(10 554 787 459)	0.24	1.0%	815 047 905	2 635 972 174	3 250 705 788	3.4%	3 078 128 085	11 565 398 305	13 805 493 247
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(871 078 465)	0.08	(4 721 309 777)	0.05	0.1%	78 797 498	250 757 750	271 365 646	1.1%	949 875 963	4 086 349 016	4 992 675 423
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(588 911 961)	0.48	(2 605 073 339)	0.44	0.7%	551 805 234	1 146 221 648	2 064 275 558	1.3%	1 140 717 195	4 081 193 178	4 669 348 897
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	14 884 823 772	14.90	57 653 461 787	24.79	19.9%	15 955 964 785	56 973 998 464	60 077 312 458	1.2%	1 071 141 013	1 637 199 823	2 423 850 671
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	5 547 384 832	2.10	21 043 924 522	2.01	13.2%	10 588 011 131	37 800 866 226	41 896 933 666	5.6%	5 040 626 299	19 996 621 271	20 853 009 144
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(16 390 401 035)	0.31	(64 921 980 168)	0.30	9.1%	7 316 957 237	24 198 945 703	27 550 060 834	26.5%	23 707 358 272	84 287 134 140	92 472 041 002
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	4 842 267 508	1.59	5 253 734 552	1.15	16.2%	13 043 414 445	33 716 528 689	40 577 065 923	9.2%	8 201 146 937	38 589 950 384	35 323 331 371
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(2 033 535 677)	0.19	(8 230 745 777)	0.20	0.6%	487 924 818	2 265 112 161	2 046 001 010	2.8%	2 521 460 495	9 102 044 611	10 276 746 787
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(993 640 582)	0.28	(4 535 536 490)	0.25	0.5%	395 285 840	1 370 767 817	1 536 450 108	1.6%	1 388 926 422	5 088 926 838	6 071 986 598
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	121 829 402	4.54	300 053 115	3.32	0.2%	156 256 672	170 719 940	429 225 006	0.0%	34 427 270	75 368 535	129 171 891
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	525 059 825	6.03	1 965 283 105	4.04	0.8%	629 518 656	1 218 839 773	2 610 793 232	0.1%	104 458 831	525 056 813	645 510 127
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(8 484 883 740)	0.00	(31 764 918 742)	0.00	0.0%	723 572	7 695 073	1 341 159	9.5%	8 485 607 312	26 726 736 405	31 766 259 901
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>(9 124 534 832)</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>(52 628 292 619)</b>	<b>0.85</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>80 277 497 520</b>	<b>279 004 942 688</b>	<b>302 681 825 979</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>89 402 032 352</b>	<b>344 067 055 319</b>	<b>355 310 118 598</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 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)
AFRICA	6 561 165 524	1.88	23 859 309 177	1.82	17.5%	14 057 351 569	51 451 710 499	52 845 913 264	8.4%	7 496 186 045	33 289 011 484	28 986 604 087
AMERICA	(2 174 706 643)	0.80	(9 873 575 903)	0.77	10.8%	8 649 873 016	31 828 021 416	33 283 871 816	12.1%	10 824 579 659	38 127 562 014	43 157 447 719
ASIA	(13 940 083 888)	0.65	(56 393 382 984)	0.64	32.6%	26 132 090 994	93 382 184 799	100 505 525 389	44.8%	40 072 174 882	158 258 387 428	156 898 908 373
EUROPE	(8 220 739 736)	0.72	(39 696 853 372)	0.67	27.0%	21 672 597 531	74 125 745 241	82 021 021 629	33.4%	29 893 337 267	108 319 436 668	121 717 875 001
OCEANIA	229 095 748	1.29	337 839 636	1.09	1.3%	1 024 956 718	3 731 571 161	4 187 149 417	0.9%	795 860 970	5 375 641 800	3 849 309 781
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	7 995 817 411	26.00	27 656 697 222	40.51	10.4%	8 315 710 940	22 404 994 785	28 356 670 859	0.4%	319 893 529	697 015 925	699 973 637
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	424 916 752		1 481 673 605		0.5%	424 916 752	2 080 714 787	1 481 673 605	0.0%	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>(9 124 534 832)</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>(52 628 292 619)</b>	<b>0.85</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>80 277 497 520</b>	<b>279 004 942 688</b>	<b>302 681 825 979</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>89 402 032 352</b>	<b>344 067 055 319</b>	<b>355 310 118 598</b>

  

Temporary Imports	January 2016	February 2016	March 2016	April 2016
Gold Imports <sup>4)</sup>	5 963 872 063	7 353 076 196	7 753 430 066	6 219 477 706

**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 April 2016 recorded a trade surplus of R9.55 billion.

#### Summary

The R9.55 billion surplus for April 2016 is as a result of exports of R11.94 billion and imports of R2.39 billion.

Exports increased from March 2016 to April 2016 by R0.14 billion (1.2%) and imports decreased from March 2016 to April 2016 by R0.33 billion (12.0%).

The cumulative surplus for 2016 is R33.96 billion compared to R33.05 billion in 2015.

#### Trade Highlights by Category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Mineral Products	+ R 407	+ 25.0%
Machinery & Electronics	+ R 73	+ 4.2%
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 336	- 35.6%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R 100	- 6.7%
Chemical Products	- R 71	- 7.0%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 394	- 94.9%
Chemical Products	- R 56	- 10.8%
Prepared Foodstuff	+ R 68	+ 20.5%
Live Animals	+ R 46	+ 17.3%
Vegetable Products	+ R 22	+ 58.2%

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics April 2016](#)

**ENDS.**

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