

SA Trade Statistics for February 2016

SARS MEDIA RELEASE

UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Thursday, 31 March 2016

SARS releases trade statistics for February 2016

Pretoria, 31 March 2016 – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for February 2016 that recorded a trade deficit of R1.07 billion. This figure includes trade data with Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (BLNS).

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

The R1.07 billion deficit for February 2016 is due to exports of R90.68 billion and imports of R91.75 billion, improving from a revised deficit of R17.96 billion in January 2016. Exports increased from January 2016 to February 2016 by R19.29 billion (27.0%) and imports increased from January 2016 to February 2016 by R2.39 billion (2.7%).

On a year-on-year basis, the R1.07 billion deficit is an 85.8% decrease on the deficit recorded in February 2015 of R7.53 billion. Exports of R90.68 billion are 16.5% more than the exports recorded in February 2015 of R77.82 billion. Imports of R91.75 billion are 7.5% more than the imports recorded in February 2015 of R85.35 billion.

The cumulative deficit for 2016 of R19.03 billion is 38.5% less than the deficit for the comparable period in 2015 of R30.96 billion.

The month of January 2016 trade balance deficit was revised upwards by R0.09 billion from the previous month's preliminary deficit of R17.87 billion to a revised deficit of R17.96 billion.

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

Trade highlights by category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million	Including BLNS:	
Section:		
Vehicle & Transport Equipment	+ R6 596	+ 109.1%
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R5 908	+ 51.9%
Machinery & Electronics	+ R1 962	+ 28.1%
Vegetable Products	+ R1 279	+ 34.8%
Mineral Products	- R1 373	- 8.2%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million		
Section:	Including BLNS:	
Vehicle & Transport Equipment	+ R 1 671	+ 19.1%
Equipment Components	+ R 939	+ 13.3%
Textiles	+ R 898	+ 24.1%
Vegetable Products	+ R 677	+ 28.5%
Machinery & Electronics	- R1 668	- 6.9%
Mineral Products (Including Crude Oil)	- R 620	- 5.7%

Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from January 2016 to February 2016 are given below.

Africa:

Exports: R24 867 million – this is an increase of R3 505 million from January 2016.

Imports: R 10 547million – this is an increase of R 983 million from January 2016.

Trade surplus: R14 320 million – this is a 21.4% increase in comparison to the R11 798 million surplus recorded in January 2016.

America:

Exports: R8 682 million – this is an increase of R3 012 million from January 2016.

Imports: R11 288 million – this is an increase of R2 044 million from January 2016.

Trade deficit: R2 606 million – this is a 27.1% decrease in comparison to the R3 573 million deficit recorded in January 2016.

Asia:

Exports: R25 757 million – this is an increase of R3 289 million from January 2016.

Imports: R39 122 million – this is a decrease of R 966 million from January 2016.

Trade deficit: R13 365 million – this is a 24.1% decrease in comparison to the R17 620 million deficit recorded in January 2016.

Europe:

Exports: R22 674 million – this is an increase of R5 952 million from January 2016.

Imports: R29 734 million – this is an increase of R 259 million from January 2016.

Trade deficit: R7 060 million – this is a 44.6% decrease in comparison to the R12 752 million deficit recorded in January 2016.

Oceania:

Exports: R1 498 million – this is an increase of R 844 million from January 2016.

Imports: R 981 million – this is an increase of R 43 million from January 2016.

Trade surplus: R 517 million – this is an improvement in comparison to the R 285 million deficit recorded in January 2016.

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

The trade data excluding BLNS for February 2016 recorded a trade deficit of R9.21 billion.

Summary

The R9.21 billion deficit for February 2016 is as a result of exports of R79.39 billion and imports of R88.60 billion. Exports increased from January 2016 to February 2016 by R18.15 billion (29.6%) and imports increased from January 2016 to February 2016 by R1.82 billion (2.1%).

The cumulative deficit for 2016 is R34.76 billion compared to R46.38 billion in 2015.

Trade highlights by category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million		
Section:	Excluding BLNS:	
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R6 204	+ 120.9%
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R5 665	+ 53.7%
Machinery & Electronics	+ R1 618	+ 28.6%
Prepared Foodstuff	+ R1 442	+ 80.3%
Vegetable Products	+ R1 253	+ 40.3%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million		
Section:	Excluding BLNS:	
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R1 657	+ 19.1%
Equipment Components	+ R 939	+ 13.3%
Textiles	+ R 788	+ 23.2%
Vegetable Products	+ R 690	+ 29.7%
Machinery & Electronics	- R1 730	- 7.3%

Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results for Africa excluding BLNS from January 2016 to February 2016 are given below.

Africa:

Exports: R13 574 million – this is an increase of R2 369 million from January 2016.

Imports: R7 401 million – this is an increase of R 413 million from January 2016.

Trade surplus: R6 173 million – this is a 46.3% increase in comparison to the R4 218 million surplus recorded in January 2016.

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics February 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 ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 ³⁾ (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	329	1.30	342	1.15	1.57	1 428	1 926	2 567	1.20	1 099	2 119	2 226
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	1 905	1.62	3 207	1.59	5.47	4 956	6 615	8 633	3.33	3 052	3 994	5 426
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(423)	0.36	(746)	0.41	0.26	233	380	520	0.72	656	832	1 266
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	1 754	1.71	2 389	1.48	4.67	4 238	5 854	7 377	2.71	2 484	5 321	4 988
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	5 020	1.49	10 794	1.51	16.87	15 297	34 178	31 967	11.20	10 277	33 362	21 173
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(3 574)	0.61	(8 080)	0.56	6.17	5 592	9 359	10 082	9.99	9 166	16 979	18 162
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(1 635)	0.53	(4 068)	0.45	2.02	1 835	2 977	3 328	3.78	3 470	7 264	7 396
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	27	1.07	(53)	0.93	0.47	426	799	741	0.44	399	732	795
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	244	1.52	65	1.06	0.79	714	944	1 094	0.51	470	890	1 029
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	590	1.40	1 010	1.35	2.26	2 049	2 667	3 929	1.59	1 459	2 406	2 918
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(3 290)	0.29	(6 042)	0.28	1.48	1 342	1 913	2 323	5.05	4 631	6 524	8 365
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(1 453)	0.14	(2 720)	0.12	0.26	233	333	367	1.84	1 686	2 429	3 087
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(533)	0.55	(1 314)	0.46	0.71	646	724	1 131	1.28	1 179	2 085	2 445
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	16 366	18.76	27 012	17.33	19.06	17 287	23 929	28 666	1.00	921	1 289	1 654
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	5 406	1.99	10 359	1.95	12.01	10 890	19 369	21 281	5.98	5 483	10 593	10 921
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(13 463)	0.40	(30 555)	0.34	9.85	8 935	13 454	15 909	24.41	22 398	41 070	46 463
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	2 215	1.21	(495)	0.97	13.94	12 644	17 440	18 692	11.37	10 428	18 744	19 186
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(2 070)	0.23	(3 708)	0.25	0.69	627	1 393	1 242	2.94	2 698	4 250	4 950
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(965)	0.41	(2 127)	0.36	0.75	677	1 038	1 196	1.79	1 642	2 646	3 323
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	46	4.46	38	1.61	0.06	59	66	99	0.01	13	46	62
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	416	3.68	681	3.74	0.63	571	274	929	0.17	155	226	248
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(7 980)	0.00	(15 021)	0.00	0.00	0	7	1	8.70	7 980	12 801	15 021
Total	Total SA Rand	(1 068)	0.99	(19 032)	0.89	100.00	90 680	145 639	162 072	100.00	91 747	176 601	181 104

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 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 ³⁾ (R'm)
AFRICA	14 320	2.36	26 118	2.30	27.42	24 867	42 637	46 228	11.50	10 547	23 600	20 111
AMERICA	(2 605)	0.77	(6 179)	0.70	9.57	8 682	14 264	14 353	12.30	11 288	19 261	20 531
ASIA	(13 365)	0.66	(30 985)	0.61	28.40	25 757	43 160	48 225	42.64	39 122	79 766	79 210
EUROPE	(7 059)	0.76	(19 811)	0.67	25.01	22 674	34 656	39 397	32.41	29 734	50 583	59 209
OCEANIA	517	1.53	232	1.12	1.65	1 498	1 666	2 151	1.07	981	3 065	1 919
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	6 692	88.65	10 880	88.28	7.46	6 768	8 015	11 005	0.08	76	325	125
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	434	-	713	-	0.48	434	1 242	713	-	-	-	-
Total	(1 068)	0.99	(19 032)	0.89	100.00	90 680	145 639	162 072	100.00	91 747	176 601	181 104

Temporary Imports	January 2016	February 2016
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	5 957	7 353

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 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 ³⁾ (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	274	1.31	189	1.10	1.45	1 147	1 428	2 030	0.99	873	1 603	1 841
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	1 341	1.44	2 118	1.40	5.49	4 358	5 713	7 462	3.41	3 017	3 927	5 344
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(501)	0.23	(905)	0.28	0.19	149	262	354	0.73	651	831	1 259
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	1 195	1.59	951	1.23	4.08	3 237	3 856	5 031	2.30	2 041	4 504	4 081
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	3 537	1.35	7 503	1.36	17.32	13 746	30 858	28 567	11.52	10 209	33 275	21 064
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(3 784)	0.55	(8 540)	0.50	5.94	4 714	7 653	8 407	9.59	8 498	15 913	16 947
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 075)	0.40	(4 849)	0.34	1.71	1 358	2 103	2 481	3.88	3 433	7 196	7 331
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	6	1.01	(103)	0.86	0.48	379	712	649	0.42	374	667	753
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	196	1.53	(2)	1.00	0.71	564	719	837	0.42	368	755	840
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	400	1.28	600	1.21	2.30	1 827	2 174	3 464	1.61	1 427	2 356	2 864
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(3 350)	0.20	(6 129)	0.19	1.06	842	1 131	1 466	4.73	4 191	5 946	7 595
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(1 581)	0.05	(2 932)	0.04	0.10	78	105	111	1.87	1 659	2 411	3 043
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(655)	0.44	(1 544)	0.36	0.65	513	486	878	1.32	1 168	2 067	2 422
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	15 777	37.31	25 963	33.63	20.42	16 211	22 515	26 758	0.49	435	779	796
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	4 705	1.87	9 152	1.85	12.75	10 118	18 045	19 951	6.11	5 413	10 400	10 798
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(14 791)	0.33	(32 930)	0.28	9.17	7 281	10 735	12 944	24.91	22 072	40 681	45 875
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	999	1.10	(2 548)	0.87	14.28	11 334	14 963	16 464	11.66	10 335	18 687	19 013
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(2 207)	0.18	(3 943)	0.20	0.61	486	1 158	997	3.04	2 693	4 243	4 939
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 183)	0.26	(2 503)	0.23	0.53	419	594	755	1.81	1 602	2 619	3 258
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	45	4.43	34	1.56	0.07	58	66	96	0.01	13	46	62
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	416	3.79	680	3.86	0.71	565	264	918	0.17	149	219	238
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(7 980)	0.00	(15 021)	0.00	0.00	0	6	1	9.01	7 980	12 801	15 021
Total	Total SA Rand	(9 215)	0.90	(34 759)	0.80	100.00	79 387	125 546	140 624	100.00	88 602	171 925	175 383

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 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2016 ³⁾ (R'm)
AFRICA	6 173	1.83	10 390	1.72	17.10	13 574	22 543	24 779	8.35	7 401	18 924	14 389
AMERICA	(2 605)	0.77	(6 179)	0.70	10.94	8 682	14 264	14 353	12.74	11 288	19 261	20 531
ASIA	(13 365)	0.66	(30 985)	0.61	32.44	25 757	43 160	48 225	44.15	39 122	79 766	79 210
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OCEANIA	517	1.53	232	1.12	1.89	1 498	1 666	2 151	1.11	981	3 065	1 919
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SHIP/AIRCRAFT	434	-	713	-	0.55	434	1 242	713	-	-	-	-
Total	(9 215)	0.90	(34 759)	0.80	100.00	79 387	125 546	140 624	100.00	88 602	171 925	175 383
Temporary Imports	January 2016	February 2016										
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	5 957	7 353										

Notes:

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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 February 2016 recorded a trade surplus of R8.15 billion.

Summary

The R8.15 billion surplus for February 2016 is as a result of exports of R11.29 billion and imports of R3.14 billion.

Exports increased from January 2016 to February 2016 by R1.14 billion (11.2%) and imports increased from January 2016 to February 2016 by R0.57 billion (22.1%).

The cumulative surplus for 2016 is R15.73 billion compared to R15.42 billion in 2015.

Trade Highlights by Category

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R 392	+ 42.8%
Machinery & Electronics	+ R 343	+ 26.2%
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R 244	+ 29.3%
Prepared Foodstuff	- R 343	- 25.5%
Mineral Products	- R 298	- 16.1%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Chemical Products	+ R 122	+ 22.4%
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R 115	+ 31.0%
Textiles	+ R 110	+ 33.3%
Live Animals	+ R 67	+ 41.9%
Machinery & Electronics	+ R 62	+ 23.6%

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

ENDS.

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