

## **SA Trade Statistics for May 2016**

### **SARS MEDIA RELEASE**

UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Thursday, 30 June 2016

### **SARS releases trade statistics for May 2016**

**Pretoria, 30 June 2016** – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for May 2016 that recorded a trade surplus of R18.73 billion. This figure includes trade data with Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (BLNS).

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

The R18.73 billion trade balance surplus for May 2016 is due to exports of R104.68 billion and imports of R85.95 billion. Exports for the year-to-date of R451.62 billion are 10.2% more than the exports of R409.98 billion recorded in January to May 2015. Imports for the year-to-date of R452.28 billion are 3.4% more than the imports recorded in January to May 2015 of R437.56 billion. The cumulative deficit for 2016 of R0.65 billion is 97.6% less than the deficit for the comparable period in 2015 of R27.58 billion.

April 2016's trade balance was revised downwards by R0.56 billion from the previous month's preliminary surplus of R0.43 billion to a revised deficit of R0.13 billion. Exports increased from April 2016 to May 2016 by R12.82 billion (14.0%) and imports decreased from April 2016 to May 2016 by R6.04 billion (6.6%).

On a year-on-year basis, the R18.73 billion surplus is an improvement from the surplus recorded in May 2015 of R4.44 billion. Exports of R104.68 billion are 18.5% more than the exports recorded in May 2015 of R88.31 billion. Imports of R85.95 billion are 2.5% more than the imports recorded in May 2015 of R83.87 billion.

[\*\*Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics May 2016\*\*](#)

#### **Trade highlights by category**

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million	Including BLNS:	
Section:		
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R8 141	+ 49.1%
Mineral Products	+ R1 695	+ 10.4%
Vegetable Products	+ R1 263	+ 27.4%
Base Metals	+ R 711	+ 6.3%
Chemical Products	+ R 525	+ 10.4%

The year-to-date export movements:

R' million	Including BLNS:	
Section:		
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R12 348	+ 16.3%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	+ R9 373	+ 18.8%
Vegetable Products	+ R5 441	+ 29.4%
Base Metals	+ R5 098	+ 9.9%
Machinery & Electronics	+ R4 762	+ 12.4%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million	Including BLNS:	
Section:		
Machinery & Electronics	- R2 803	- 11.7%
Mineral Products	- R1 812	- 14.5%
Original Equipment Components	- R 862	- 10.2%
Animal/Vegetable Fats	- R 453	- 43.0%
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 380	- 34.8%

The year-to-date import movements:

R' million	Including BLNS:	
Section:		
Machinery & Electronics	+ R8 648	+ 8.1%
Original Equipment Components	+ R6 102	+ 18.3%
Vegetable Product	+ R4 611	+ 49.8%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R3 176	- 6.7%
Mineral Products	- R21 415	- 27.3%

### Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from April 2016 (Revised) to May 2016 are given below.

#### Africa:

Exports: R25 105 million – this is a decrease of R 872 million from April 2016.

Imports: R9 372 million – this is a decrease of R 758 million from April 2016.

Trade surplus: R15 733 million – this is a 0.7% decrease in comparison to the R15 847 million surplus recorded in April 2016.

#### America:

Exports: R9 396 million – this is an increase of R 775 million from April 2016.

Imports: R10 373 million – this is a decrease of R 452 million from April 2016.

Trade deficit: R 977 million – this is a 55.7% decrease in comparison to the R2 204 million deficit recorded in April 2016.

**Asia:**

Exports: R30 575 million – this is an increase of R4 579 million from April 2016.

Imports: R36 047 million – this is a decrease of R3 977 million from April 2016.

Trade deficit: R5 472 million – this is a 61.0% decrease in comparison to the R14 028 million deficit recorded in April 2016.

**Europe:**

Exports: R27 945 million – this is an increase of R6 439 million from April 2016.

Imports: R29 032 million – this is a decrease of R 865 million from April 2016.

Trade deficit: R1 087 million – this is a 87.0% decrease in comparison to the R8 391 million deficit recorded in April 2016.

**Oceania:**

Exports: R1 162 million – this is an increase of R 138 million from April 2016.

Imports: R1 091 million – this is an increase of R 295 million from April 2016.

Trade surplus: R 71 million – this is a 68.8% decrease in comparison to the R 228 million surplus recorded in April 2016.

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

The trade data excluding BLNS for May 2016 recorded a trade surplus of R10.70 billion.

**Summary**

The R10.70 billion surplus for May 2016 is as a result of exports of R93.95 billion and imports of R83.25 billion. Exports increased from April 2016 to May 2016 by R14.03 billion (17.6%) and imports decreased from April 2016 to May 2016 by R6.36 billion (7.1%).

The cumulative deficit for 2016 is R42.62 billion compared to R69.71 billion in 2015.

**Trade highlights by category**

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million	Excluding BLNS:	
Section:		
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R8 695	+ 54.5%
Mineral Products	+ R2 040	+ 14.2%
Vegetable Products	+ R1 300	+ 32.7%
Base Metals	+ R 693	+ 6.6%
Chemical Products	+ R 520	+ 12.7%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million	Excluding BLNS:	
Section:		
Machinery & Electronics	- R2 780	- 11.7%
Mineral Products	- R1 817	- 14.6%
Original Equipment Components	- R 862	- 10.2%
Animal/Vegetable Fats	- R 457	- 43.5%
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 627	- 58.5%

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

The world zone results for Africa excluding BLNS from April 2016 (Revised) to May 2016 are given below.

##### **Africa:**

Exports: R14 375 million – this is an increase of R 337 million from April 2016.

Imports: R6 664 million – this is a decrease of R1 078 million from April 2016.

Trade surplus: R7 711 million – this is a 22.5% increase in comparison to the R6 295 million surplus recorded in April 2016.

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics May 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) (R'm)</sup>	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3) (R'm)</sup>	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3) (R'm)</sup>	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3) (R'm)</sup>
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(235 975 563)	0.85	(453 463 376)	0.93	1.2%	1 306 203 330	5 244 061 495	6 295 456 626	1.8%	1 542 178 893	6 065 211 005	6 748 920 002
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	3 317 863 901	2.30	10 095 101 228	1.73	5.6%	5 868 592 525	18 516 084 677	23 957 441 013	3.0%	2 550 728 624	9 251 590 734	13 862 339 785
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(264 912 763)	0.56	(2 395 358 752)	0.36	0.3%	336 584 947	1 231 392 909	1 349 527 562	0.7%	601 497 710	2 560 054 209	3 744 886 314
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	1 798 275 528	1.69	5 859 318 256	1.44	4.2%	4 386 297 101	16 337 401 092	19 119 205 434	3.0%	2 588 021 573	12 377 126 876	13 259 887 178
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	7 349 316 760	1.69	25 231 464 514	1.44	17.2%	18 057 912 570	87 575 454 317	82 280 418 783	12.5%	10 708 595 810	78 464 418 455	57 048 954 269
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(3 579 177 852)	0.61	(19 397 937 696)	0.58	5.3%	5 571 693 889	26 699 509 829	26 452 445 217	10.6%	9 150 871 741	42 292 919 487	45 850 382 913
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(1 899 631 918)	0.52	(10 292 467 233)	0.47	2.0%	2 043 318 097	8 846 053 966	9 219 391 760	4.6%	3 942 950 015	17 608 545 541	19 511 858 993
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	140 741 818	1.44	365 134 617	1.22	0.4%	458 582 992	2 069 627 651	2 053 777 596	0.4%	317 841 174	1 670 074 881	1 688 642 979
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	93 198 913	1.22	387 152 921	1.16	0.5%	510 892 701	2 656 336 380	2 756 021 734	0.5%	417 693 788	2 056 830 643	2 368 868 813
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	547 752 176	1.38	2 077 491 811	1.29	1.9%	1 975 384 847	7 461 875 922	9 266 586 726	1.7%	1 427 632 671	6 169 242 416	7 189 094 915
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(1 888 340 994)	0.42	(12 018 031 328)	0.36	1.3%	1 395 277 737	5 728 909 322	6 656 037 267	3.8%	3 283 618 731	15 462 985 358	18 674 068 595
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(742 396 140)	0.23	(4 937 965 708)	0.18	0.2%	219 845 573	1 030 950 079	1 083 431 102	1.1%	962 241 713	4 876 533 975	6 021 396 810
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(715 301 316)	0.42	(2 802 667 913)	0.53	0.5%	510 446 730	2 213 117 338	3 130 063 304	1.4%	1 225 748 046	5 047 744 956	5 932 731 217
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	23 992 813 013	34.68	83 810 002 430	19.91	23.6%	24 705 290 224	75 893 423 039	88 241 772 321	0.8%	712 477 211	3 345 467 694	4 431 769 891
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	7 199 041 726	2.49	30 772 004 602	2.19	11.5%	12 033 452 688	51 636 901 881	56 735 067 061	5.6%	4 834 410 962	25 173 401 556	25 963 062 459
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(12 237 635 136)	0.42	(71 803 643 638)	0.37	8.6%	8 963 033 182	38 284 140 822	43 046 388 138	24.7%	21 200 668 318	106 201 640 887	114 850 031 776
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	5 603 503 948	1.67	15 406 903 946	1.35	13.3%	13 948 152 999	49 962 602 437	59 335 787 774	9.7%	8 344 649 051	47 105 368 369	43 928 883 828
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(1 885 762 684)	0.32	(9 557 383 759)	0.27	0.9%	907 767 616	3 435 250 088	3 534 262 314	3.3%	2 793 530 300	11 249 862 508	13 091 646 073
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(780 308 934)	0.49	(4 429 295 018)	0.43	0.7%	753 374 165	3 065 445 972	3 308 864 751	1.8%	1 533 683 099	6 537 165 248	7 738 159 769
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	2 469 229	1.04	306 267 363	2.56	0.1%	70 010 674	213 733 155	503 167 038	0.1%	67 541 445	121 937 048	196 899 675
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	538 270 409	5.37	2 509 754 977	4.20	0.6%	661 578 846	1 867 146 704	3 295 118 970	0.1%	123 308 437	633 624 700	785 363 993
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(7 622 865 640)	0.00	(39 386 114 883)	0.00	0.0%	5 053	8 242 091	1 278 401	8.9%	7 622 870 693	33 285 245 526	39 387 393 284
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>18 730 938 481</b>	<b>1.22</b>	<b>(653 732 639)</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>104 683 698 486</b>	<b>409 977 661 166</b>	<b>451 621 510 892</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>85 952 760 005</b>	<b>437 556 992 072</b>	<b>452 275 243 531</b>

World Zones	Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Exports	Imports				Exports	Imports	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) (R'm)</sup>	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3) (R'm)</sup>			
AFRICA	15 733 758 407	2.68	73 236 052 725	2.48	24.0%	25 105 447 472	118 708 878 233	122 662 512 631	10.9%	9 371 689 065	51 067 036 601	49 426 459 906
AMERICA	(976 685 629)	0.91	(10 978 039 429)	0.79	9.0%	9 395 895 838	40 371 479 230	42 551 967 893	12.1%	10 372 581 467	47 943 890 449	53 530 007 322
ASIA	(5 472 189 565)	0.85	(61 841 824 544)	0.68	29.2%	30 575 089 798	120 470 986 517	131 046 357 829	41.9%	36 047 279 363	195 898 377 202	192 888 182 373
EUROPE	(1 087 151 739)	0.96	(41 077 666 520)	0.73	26.7%	27 945 333 874	93 860 854 953	109 675 007 790	33.8%	29 032 485 613	134 995 938 126	150 752 674 310
OCEANIA	71 021 718	1.07	407 202 493	1.08	1.1%	1 161 556 410	4 801 656 427	5 346 958 671	1.3%	1 090 534 692	6 755 497 724	4 939 756 178
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	9 953 671 236	261.64	37 610 368 458	51.95	9.5%	9 991 861 041	27 646 252 387	38 348 531 900	0.0%	38 189 805	896 251 970	738 163 442
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	508 514 053		1 990 174 178		0.5%	508 514 053	4 117 553 419	1 990 174 178	0.0%	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>18 730 938 481</b>	<b>1.22</b>	<b>(653 732 639)</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>104 683 698 486</b>	<b>409 977 661 166</b>	<b>451 621 510 892</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>85 952 760 005</b>	<b>437 556 992 072</b>	<b>452 275 243 531</b>

Temporary Imports	January 2016	February 2016	March 2016	April 2016	May 2016
Gold Imports <sup>4)</sup>	5 960 498 917	7 353 076 196	7 753 430 066	6 219 477 706	8 792 212 871

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) (R'm)</sup>	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3) (R'm)</sup>	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3) (R'm)</sup>	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3) (R'm)</sup>
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(222 762 444)	0.82	(606 824 172)	0.89	1.1%	1 009 777 414	3 913 467 564	4 864 424 220	1.5%	1 232 539 858	4 608 594 537	5 471 248 392
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	2 795 856 054	2.13	7 323 888 630	1.54	5.6%	5 279 048 799	15 960 464 048	20 937 810 390	3.0%	2 483 192 745	9 092 588 265	13 613 921 760
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(369 201 673)	0.38	(2 832 248 821)	0.24	0.2%	224 920 086	859 743 812	893 780 500	0.7%	594 121 759	2 553 816 316	3 726 029 321
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	1 118 996 855	1.51	2 842 697 896	1.25	3.5%	3 314 962 545	11 589 873 680	14 068 145 633	2.6%	2 195 965 690	10 415 113 901	11 225 447 737
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	5 707 631 223	1.54	16 782 680 279	1.30	17.4%	16 372 203 882	78 456 928 360	73 583 948 542	12.8%	10 664 572 659	78 248 299 795	56 801 268 263
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(3 930 586 357)	0.54	(21 182 885 721)	0.51	4.9%	4 620 796 878	22 150 959 154	21 864 077 120	10.3%	8 551 383 235	39 848 998 482	43 046 962 841
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(2 331 960 304)	0.40	(12 383 436 026)	0.36	1.7%	1 574 234 605	6 461 271 522	6 950 431 669	4.7%	3 906 194 909	17 432 163 798	19 333 867 695
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	115 156 450	1.39	231 449 384	1.15	0.4%	409 174 677	1 834 974 096	1 808 060 285	0.4%	294 018 227	1 488 611 586	1 576 610 901
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	56 217 027	1.19	184 278 007	1.10	0.4%	345 903 715	2 006 558 826	2 019 337 093	0.3%	289 686 688	1 686 376 319	1 835 059 086
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	344 606 283	1.24	1 048 154 950	1.15	1.9%	1 758 921 801	6 312 435 793	8 126 707 655	1.7%	1 414 315 518	6 026 003 286	7 078 552 705
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(2 070 372 777)	0.29	(12 623 100 098)	0.24	0.9%	839 261 212	3 390 797 096	4 088 841 977	3.5%	2 909 633 989	13 946 192 968	16 711 942 075
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(880 320 824)	0.07	(5 601 864 805)	0.06	0.1%	68 895 035	308 452 451	339 983 529	1.1%	949 215 859	4 827 582 636	5 941 848 334
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(853 456 352)	0.30	(3 454 324 409)	0.41	0.4%	362 798 406	1 483 652 476	2 427 362 352	1.5%	1 216 254 758	4 997 976 940	5 881 686 761
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	24 206 622 276	55.50	81 858 259 871	29.54	26.2%	24 650 781 579	72 585 809 064	84 726 647 493	0.5%	444 159 303	2 127 068 677	2 868 387 622
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	6 493 647 120	2.37	27 494 647 975	2.07	12.0%	11 243 653 369	47 877 917 045	53 096 052 065	5.7%	4 750 006 249	24 768 029 802	25 601 404 090
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(13 640 799 344)	0.35	(78 565 375 762)	0.31	7.8%	7 287 362 719	30 770 518 097	34 836 032 753	25.1%	20 928 162 063	105 092 369 725	113 401 408 515
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	4 345 829 658	1.52	9 303 257 646	1.21	13.5%	12 663 427 673	43 517 311 200	52 941 100 855	10.0%	8 317 598 015	46 940 438 395	43 637 843 209
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(2 048 109 562)	0.27	(10 278 337 607)	0.21	0.8%	741 484 870	2 799 898 635	2 787 864 413	3.4%	2 789 594 432	11 231 144 967	13 066 202 020
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 043 814 976)	0.31	(5 579 489 112)	0.26	0.5%	459 985 204	1 750 907 171	1 996 508 323	1.8%	1 503 800 180	6 444 163 372	7 575 997 435
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	2 227 427	1.03	302 232 764	2.54	0.1%	69 750 206	211 652 645	498 975 212	0.1%	67 522 779	121 761 309	196 742 448
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	535 569 472	5.45	2 500 945 367	4.27	0.7%	655 995 540	1 839 142 761	3 266 775 894	0.1%	120 426 068	617 576 547	765 830 527
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(7 622 865 640)	0.00	(39 386 114 883)	0.00	0.0%	5 053	8 097 095	1 278 401	9.2%	7 622 870 693	33 285 245 526	39 387 393 284
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>10 708 109 592</b>	<b>1.13</b>	<b>(42 621 508 647)</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93 953 345 268</b>	<b>356 090 832 591</b>	<b>396 124 146 374</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>83 245 235 676</b>	<b>425 800 117 149</b>	<b>438 745 655 021</b>

World Zones	Monthly Trade		Cumulative Trade		Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3) (R'm)</sup>	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3) (R'm)</sup>	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) (R'm)</sup>	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3) (R'm)</sup>	Month % of total	Month Total 2016 (R'm)	Cumulative 2015 <sup>3) (R'm)</sup>	Cumulative 2016 <sup>3) (R'm)</sup>
AFRICA	7 710 929 518	2.16	31 268 276 717	1.87	15.3%	14 375 094 254	64 822 049 658	67 165 148 113	8.0%	6 664 164 736	39 310 161 678	35 896 871 396				
AMERICA	(976 685 629)	0.91	(10 978 039 429)	0.79	10.0%	9 395 895 838	40 371 479 230	42 551 967 893	12.5%	10 372 581 467	47 943 890 449	53 530 007 322				
ASIA	(5 472 189 565)	0.85	(61 841 824 544)	0.68	32.5%	30 575 089 798	120 470 986 517	131 046 357 829	43.3%	36 047 279 363	195 898 377 202	192 888 182 373				
EUROPE	(1 087 151 739)	0.96	(41 077 666 520)	0.73	29.7%	27 945 333 874	93 860 854 953	109 675 007 790	34.9%	29 032 485 613	134 995 938 126	150 752 674 310				
OCEANIA	71 021 718	1.07	407 202 493	1.08	1.2%	1 161 556 410	4 801 656 427	5 346 958 671	1.3%	1 090 534 692	6 755 497 724	4 939 756 178				
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	9 953 671 236	261.64	37 610 368 458	51.95	10.6%	9 991 861 041	27 646 252 387	38 348 531 900	0.0%	38 189 805	896 251 970	738 163 442				
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	508 514 053		1 990 174 178		0.5%	508 514 053	4 117 553 419	1 990 174 178	0.0%	-	-	-				
<b>Total</b>	<b>10 708 109 592</b>	<b>1.13</b>	<b>(42 621 508 647)</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93 953 345 268</b>	<b>356 090 832 591</b>	<b>396 124 146 374</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>83 245 235 676</b>	<b>425 800 117 149</b>	<b>438 745 655 021</b>				

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Gold Imports <sup>4)</sup>	5 960 498 917	7 353 076 196	7 753 430 066	6 219 477 706	8 792 212 871

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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 May 2016 recorded a trade surplus of R8.02 billion.

#### **Summary**

The R8.02 billion surplus for May 2016 is as a result of exports of R10.73 billion and imports of R2.71 billion.

Exports decreased from April 2016 to May 2016 by R1.21 billion (10.1%) and imports increased from April 2016 to May 2016 by R0.32 billion (13.4%).

The cumulative surplus for 2016 is R41.97 billion compared to R42.13 billion in 2015.

#### **Trade Highlights by Category**

The month-on-month export movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Precious Metals & Stones	- R 554	- 91.0%
Mineral Products	- R 345	- 17.0%
Machinery & Electronics	- R 146	- 8.0%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R 107	- 7.7%
Prepared Foodstuff	+ R 91	+ 9.3%

The month-on-month import movements:

R' million	BLNS:	
Section:		
Precious Metals & Stones	+ R 247	+ 1164.3%
Chemical Products	+ R 133	+ 28.6%
Vehicles & Transport Equipment	- R 18	- 39.3%
Machinery & Electronics	- R 23	- 7.7%
Textiles	- R 32	- 7.9%

[\*\*Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics May 2016\*\*](#)

**ENDS.**

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