

STATEMENT

SARS MEDIA RELEASE

UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Tuesday, 31 August 2021

SARS releases the preliminary trade statistics for July 2021

Pretoria, 31 August 2021 – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for July 2021 recording a preliminary trade balance surplus of R36.96 billion. These statistics include trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN). The year-to-date (01 January to 31 July 2021) preliminary trade balance surplus of R289.99 billion is an improvement from the R94.88 billion trade balance surplus for the comparable period in 2020. Exports increased by 18.0% year-on-year whilst imports increased by 27.6% over the same period.

Including trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN)

The R36.96 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for July 2021 is attributable to exports of R145.01 billion and imports of R108.04 billion. Exports decreased by R18.33 billion (11.2%) between June and July 2021 and imports decreased by R0.81 billion (0.7%) over the same period.

Exports for the year-to-date (01 January to 31 July 2021) increased by 45.0% to R1 038.19 billion from R716.13 billion over the same period during 2020. Imports for the year-to-date of R748.20 billion were 20.4% more than the R621.24 billion imports recorded during the same period in 2020. The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2021 is R289.99 billion.

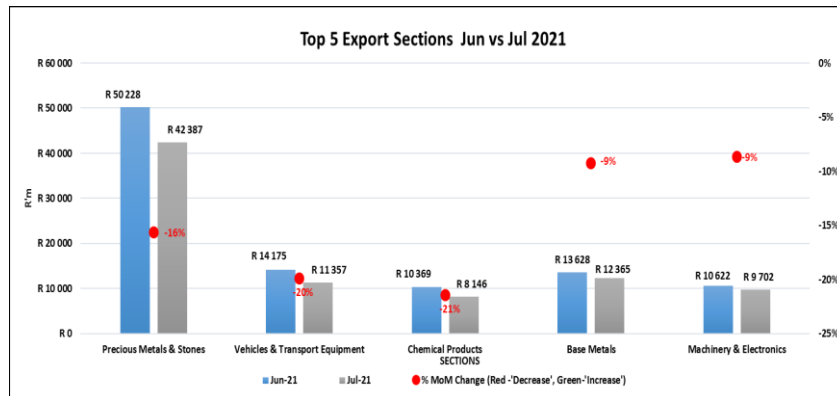
On a year-on-year basis, the R36.96 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for July 2021 was a deterioration from the R38.19 billion trade balance surplus recorded in July 2020. Exports of R145.01 billion were 18.0% more than the R122.87 billion exports recorded in July 2020. Imports of R108.04 billion were 27.6% more than the R84.68 billion imports recorded in July 2020.

June 2021 preliminary trade balance surplus was revised downwards by R3.20 billion due to the ongoing Vouchers of Correction (VOC). The revision was from the preliminary trade balance surplus of R57.68 billion to the revised trade balance surplus of R54.48 billion.

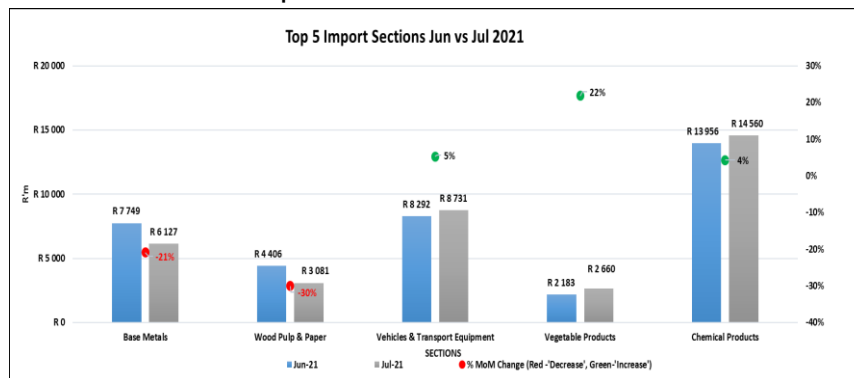
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Trade highlights by category

The main month-on-month export movements:



The main month-on-month import movements:



Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from June (revised) to July (preliminary) 2021 are given below:

World Zones (R' m)	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	June 2021	July 2021	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	31 075	29 275	-1 800	-5.8%
	Imports	8 786	10 049	1 263	14.4%
	Trade Balance	22 288	19 226	-3 062	
America	Exports	18 875	17 261	-1 614	-8.6%
	Imports	12 482	12 321	-160	-1.3%
	Trade Balance	6 393	4 939	-1 454	
Asia	Exports	50 955	51 941	986	1.9%
	Imports	51 489	50 715	-773	-1.5%
	Trade Balance	-534	1 226	1 760	
Europe	Exports	49 614	36 457	-13 157	-26.5%
	Imports	33 529	32 438	-1 091	-3.3%
	Trade Balance	16 085	4 019	-12 066	
Oceania	Exports	1 206	1 022	-184	-15.2%
	Imports	1 490	1 721	231	15.5%
	Trade Balance	-283	-698	-415	
Other Unclassified	Exports	11 004	8 485	-2 519	-22.9%
	Imports	1 078	800	-278	-25.8%
	Trade Balance	9 926	7 686	-2 240	
Ship/Aircraft	Exports	606	567	-39	-6.5%
	Imports	-	-	-	
	Trade Balance	606	567	-39	

Excluding trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN)

The trade data excluding BELN for July 2021 recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R29.31 billion.

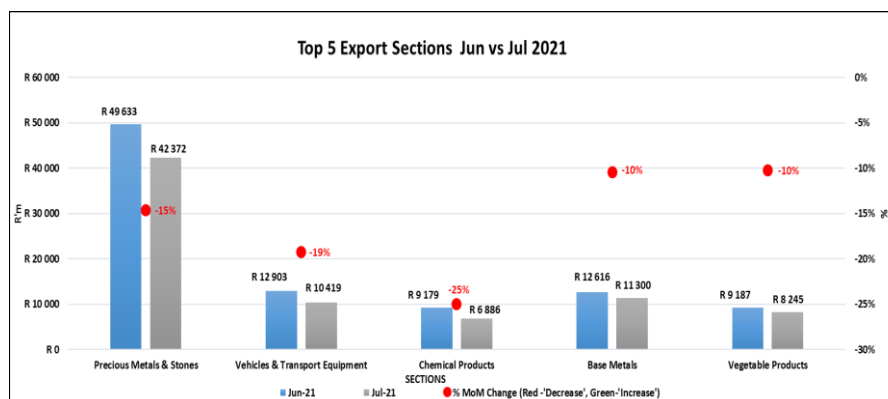
Summary

The R29.31 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for July 2021 was as a result of exports of R133.35 billion and imports of R104.03 billion. Exports decreased by R17.29 billion (11.5%) between June and July 2021 and imports decreased by R0.70 billion (0.7%) over the same period.

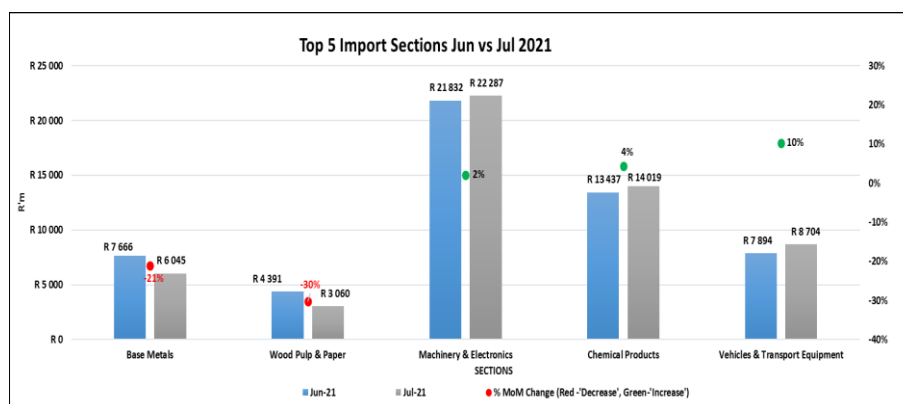
The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2021 was R232.49 billion compared to R48.11 billion trade balance surplus during 2020.

Trade highlights by category

The main month-on-month export movements:



The main month-on-month import movements:



Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results for Africa, excluding BELN, between June (Revised) and July (preliminary) 2021 are given below.

World Zones	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	June 2021	July 2021	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	18 375	17 612	-763 ↓	-4.2%
	Imports	4 666	6 038	1 373 ↑	29.4%
	Trade Balance	13 710	11 574	-2 136	

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SA Trade Release Table (Including BELN)

Harmonised Sections		Cumulative Trade		Monthly Trade		Exports				Imports			
Roman Section	Description	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(1 306 151 696)	0.88	(524 735 894)	0.69	0.82	9 332 760 517	9 894 911 980	1 192 795 078	1.59	9 890 017 301	11 201 063 676	1 717 530 972
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	38 236 105 823	3.33	6 262 376 410	3.35	6.15	54 830 442 149	54 680 463 201	8 922 147 476	2.46	17 374 338 696	16 444 357 378	2 659 771 066
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(3 641 095 457)	0.44	(543 113 034)	0.44	0.29	3 079 280 630	2 888 503 006	419 687 043	0.89	6 430 547 090	6 529 598 463	962 800 077
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	8 560 646 650	1.37	1 056 246 907	1.34	2.86	30 350 106 788	31 752 743 416	4 151 934 635	2.87	21 109 089 711	23 192 096 766	3 095 687 728
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	140 346 268 097	2.18	20 659 990 592	2.17	26.43	175 138 880 035	259 362 547 194	38 318 499 526	16.34	96 644 560 120	119 016 279 097	17 658 508 934
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(27 509 641 452)	0.70	(6 413 778 266)	0.56	5.62	48 680 382 083	64 132 366 105	8 145 961 866	13.48	80 739 233 600	91 642 007 557	14 559 740 132
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(18 199 198 398)	0.48	(2 468 374 427)	0.50	1.73	14 259 181 501	16 542 694 467	2 502 627 122	4.60	26 679 560 282	34 741 892 865	4 971 001 549
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	146 347 294	1.08	(21 973 532)	0.92	0.17	1 469 013 677	1 924 215 280	250 151 127	0.25	1 464 528 492	1 777 867 986	272 124 659
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	1 158 038 571	1.33	295 371 893	1.71	0.49	3 737 231 967	4 636 039 613	709 695 070	0.38	2 672 144 236	3 478 001 042	414 323 177
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(12 295 955 411)	0.48	(1 831 047 139)	0.41	0.86	12 626 832 515	11 459 588 703	1 250 146 331	2.85	17 635 537 909	23 755 544 114	3 081 193 470
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(15 966 223 257)	0.42	(2 889 959 024)	0.27	0.75	9 371 494 542	11 560 873 624	1 082 121 334	3.68	29 223 209 816	27 527 096 881	3 972 080 358
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(6 129 617 771)	0.21	(1 012 541 695)	0.17	0.14	1 254 094 502	1 667 392 870	209 017 787	1.13	6 385 723 327	7 797 010 641	1 221 559 482
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(4 932 993 206)	0.45	(650 803 446)	0.45	0.36	3 082 698 709	4 024 925 200	525 050 043	1.09	6 364 055 054	8 957 918 406	1 175 853 489
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	279 371 063 347	24.79	40 007 193 681	17.81	29.23	152 424 052 945	291 113 268 193	42 387 109 405	2.20	8 879 691 171	11 742 204 846	2 379 915 724
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	42 558 770 593	1.92	6 238 008 810	2.02	8.53	67 873 267 219	88 954 128 591	12 365 247 245	5.67	31 465 174 713	46 395 357 998	6 127 238 435
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(88 281 762 896)	0.44	(12 927 328 934)	0.43	6.69	50 956 299 424	69 027 908 009	9 702 268 635	20.94	142 521 805 033	157 309 670 905	22 629 597 569
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	42 867 609 396	1.71	2 626 759 957	1.30	7.83	66 980 443 552	103 274 405 266	11 357 332 936	8.08	43 617 586 947	60 406 795 870	8 730 572 979
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(13 883 397 268)	0.26	(1 884 024 709)	0.27	0.48	4 923 604 079	4 986 969 872	702 060 274	2.39	18 051 808 477	18 870 367 140	2 586 084 983
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(6 583 184 439)	0.39	(1 078 273 354)	0.35	0.40	3 494 962 596	4 233 865 575	574 685 142	1.53	8 685 372 402	10 817 050 014	1 652 958 496
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	208 058 149	1.62	74 338 384	5.75	0.06	520 707 537	544 111 017	89 996 690	0.01	142 708 347	336 052 868	15 658 306
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	802 039 227	2.13	47 311 143	1.46	0.10	1 738 942 408	1 511 477 277	149 761 770	0.09	688 270 634	709 438 050	102 450 627
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(65 537 937 790)	0.00	(8 057 697 147)	-	-	-	13 839 121	-	7.46	44 577 719 765	65 551 776 911	8 057 697 147
Total	Total SA Rand	289 987 788 106	1.39	36 963 947 176	1.34	100.00	716 127 107 671	1 038 187 237 580	145 008 296 535	100.00	621 242 683 123	748 199 449 474	108 044 349 359

World Zones	Cumulative Trade		Monthly Trade		Exports				Imports				
	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)	
AFRICA	137 342 736 254	3.02	19 225 796 916	2.91	20.19	171 005 191 246	205 300 163 414	29 274 959 519	9.30	72 122 382 364	67 957 427 160	10 049 162 603	
AMERICA	50 817 618 518	1.66	4 939 129 878	1.40	11.90	61 044 296 895	127 573 089 712	17 260 619 473	11.40	62 761 244 441	76 755 471 194	12 321 489 595	
ASIA	(23 491 595 671)	0.93	1 225 734 868	1.02	35.82	228 566 727 955	337 113 871 007	51 940 966 801	46.94	282 768 856 255	360 605 466 678	50 715 231 933	
EUROPE	67 250 368 911	1.29	4 018 887 873	1.12	25.14	185 571 264 095	296 045 573 546	36 457 209 935	30.02	193 640 634 870	228 795 204 635	32 438 322 062	
OCEANIA	(2 530 415 781)	0.76	(698 097 104)	0.59	0.71	6 549 557 614	7 993 454 435	1 022 419 159	1.59	8 566 394 011	10 523 870 216	1 720 516 263	
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	57 319 958 764	17.09	7 685 638 878	10.61	5.85	55 814 688 893	60 881 968 355	8 485 265 781	0.74	1 383 171 182	3 562 009 591	799 626 903	
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	3 279 117 111	-	566 855 867	-	0.39	7 575 380 973	3 279 117 111	566 855 867	-	-	-	-	-
Total	289 987 788 106	1.39	36 963 947 176	1.34	100.00	716 127 107 671	1 038 187 237 580	145 008 296 535	100.00	621 242 683 123	748 199 449 474	108 044 349 359	
Temporary Imports	January 2021	February 2021	March 2021	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021	July 2021						
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	8 243 265 309	7 716 248 141	8 999 426 917	7 777 081 666	7 085 951 810	9 189 631 353	7 555 879 092						

Notes:

- 1) Other Unclassified: Military equipment, unknown countries, ships & aircraft stores & films
- 2) Special Provisions: Automotive Production and Development Programme (APDP)
- 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 BELN)

Harmonised Sections		Cumulative Trade		Monthly Trade		Exports				Imports			
Roman Section	Description	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(1 068 571 665)	0.88	(472 721 273)	0.65	0.65	7 355 451 037	7 732 730 245	873 033 130	1.29	8 100 026 372	8 801 301 910	1 345 754 403
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	33 671 444 006	3.11	5 710 306 437	3.25	6.18	50 001 929 386	49 646 638 182	8 244 644 567	2.44	16 931 034 460	15 975 194 176	2 534 338 130
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(4 858 150 983)	0.25	(735 453 918)	0.23	0.17	2 097 206 466	1 661 342 311	225 085 259	0.92	6 420 468 426	6 519 493 294	960 539 177
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	2 903 850 334	1.15	319 746 077	1.13	2.14	21 750 959 905	22 261 986 764	2 851 396 792	2.43	17 325 186 143	19 358 136 430	2 531 650 715
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	127 857 273 454	2.08	18 715 158 689	2.07	27.21	164 262 258 361	246 229 112 053	36 283 025 028	16.89	96 175 147 868	118 371 838 599	17 567 866 339
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(31 270 915 205)	0.64	(7 132 452 507)	0.49	5.16	41 141 732 188	55 977 214 114	6 886 470 674	13.48	77 167 060 993	87 248 129 319	14 018 923 181
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(21 630 232 405)	0.37	(3 005 856 826)	0.39	1.43	11 272 869 311	12 663 205 540	1 903 365 113	4.72	26 379 626 529	34 293 437 945	4 909 221 939
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(98 042 858)	0.94	(38 858 726)	0.85	0.17	1 280 970 058	1 610 350 583	222 534 990	0.25	1 427 546 543	1 708 393 441	261 393 716
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	1 107 384 097	1.50	277 333 253	2.20	0.38	2 797 814 343	3 336 838 321	507 777 444	0.22	1 782 854 944	2 229 454 224	230 444 191
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(13 836 014 528)	0.41	(2 040 126 483)	0.33	0.77	11 046 651 512	9 796 888 733	1 020 226 193	2.94	17 533 304 991	23 632 903 261	3 060 352 676
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(16 140 575 503)	0.32	(2 705 555 658)	0.18	0.45	6 366 268 791	7 435 797 739	600 615 230	3.18	26 352 547 132	23 576 373 242	3 306 170 888
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(7 108 242 318)	0.08	(1 131 051 016)	0.07	0.06	496 808 002	627 867 046	80 718 943	1.16	6 335 053 397	7 736 109 364	1 211 769 959
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(5 993 938 816)	0.33	(786 284 426)	0.33	0.29	2 264 251 264	2 902 498 194	380 374 102	1.12	6 322 275 401	8 896 437 010	1 166 658 528
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	281 087 285 150	41.15	40 868 638 364	28.18	31.78	150 760 970 288	288 088 503 416	42 372 481 126	1.45	3 915 349 936	7 001 218 266	1 503 842 762
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	36 527 497 597	1.80	5 255 584 610	1.87	8.47	63 583 300 727	82 394 247 805	11 300 391 737	5.81	30 842 051 666	45 866 750 208	6 044 807 127
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(98 213 165 258)	0.37	(14 178 488 465)	0.36	6.08	41 410 802 058	56 640 815 731	8 108 964 890	21.42	140 622 154 895	154 853 980 989	22 287 453 355
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	37 729 575 491	1.65	1 715 151 086	1.20	7.81	61 270 357 256	95 523 652 721	10 418 753 539	8.37	43 270 799 012	57 794 077 230	8 703 602 453
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(15 093 610 079)	0.20	(2 054 042 784)	0.20	0.39	3 826 542 483	3 717 399 467	525 153 601	2.48	18 009 692 003	18 811 009 546	2 579 196 385
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(8 521 151 694)	0.21	(1 331 121 800)	0.19	0.23	1 823 519 428	2 227 771 082	307 105 064	1.57	8 625 495 874	10 748 922 776	1 638 226 864
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	204 869 755	1.61	73 882 808	5.72	0.07	513 800 767	540 758 370	89 534 248	0.02	142 585 737	335 888 615	15 651 440
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	783 072 070	2.13	45 778 507	1.47	0.11	1 718 592 584	1 473 276 110	143 812 237	0.09	678 622 935	690 204 040	98 033 730
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(65 551 038 090)	0.00	(8 057 697 147)	-	-	2 428 071	738 821	-	7.75	44 577 719 765	65 551 776 911	8 057 697 147
Total	Total SA Rand	232 488 602 552	1.32	29 311 868 802	1.28	100.00	647 045 484 286	952 489 633 348	133 345 463 907	100.00	598 936 605 022	720 001 030 796	104 033 595 105

World Zones	Cumulative Trade		Monthly Trade		Exports				Imports				
	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)	
AFRICA	79 843 550 700	3.01	11 573 718 542	2.92	13.21	101 923 567 861	119 602 559 182	17 612 126 891	5.80	49 816 304 263	39 759 008 482	6 038 408 349	
AMERICA	50 817 618 518	1.66	4 939 129 878	1.40	12.94	61 044 296 895	127 573 089 712	17 260 619 473	11.84	62 761 244 441	76 755 471 194	12 321 489 595	
ASIA	(23 491 595 671)	0.93	1 225 734 868	1.02	38.95	228 566 727 955	337 113 871 007	51 940 966 801	48.75	282 768 856 255	360 605 466 678	50 715 231 933	
EUROPE	67 250 368 911	1.29	4 018 887 873	1.12	27.34	185 571 264 095	296 045 573 546	36 457 209 935	31.18	193 640 634 870	228 795 204 635	32 438 322 062	
OCEANIA	(2 530 415 781)	0.76	(698 097 104)	0.59	0.77	6 549 557 614	7 993 454 435	1 022 419 159	1.65	8 566 394 011	10 523 870 216	1 720 516 263	
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	57 319 958 764	17.09	7 685 638 878	10.61	6.36	55 814 688 893	60 881 968 355	8 485 265 781	0.77	1 383 171 182	3 562 009 591	799 626 903	
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	3 279 117 111	-	566 855 867	-	0.43	7 575 380 973	3 279 117 111	566 855 867	-	-	-	-	-
Total	232 488 602 552	1.32	29 311 868 802	1.28	100.00	647 045 484 286	952 489 633 348	133 345 463 907	100.00	598 936 605 022	720 001 030 796	104 033 595 105	

Temporary Imports	January 2021	February 2021	March 2021	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021	July 2021
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	8 243 265 309	7 716 248 141	8 999 426 917	7 777 081 666	7 085 951 810	9 189 631 353	7 555 879 092

Notes:

- 1) Other Unclassified: Military equipment, unknown countries, ships & aircraft stores & films
- 2) Special Provisions: Automotive Production and Development Programme (APDP)
- 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, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (Only)

Trade statistics with the BELN countries for July 2021 recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R7.65 billion.

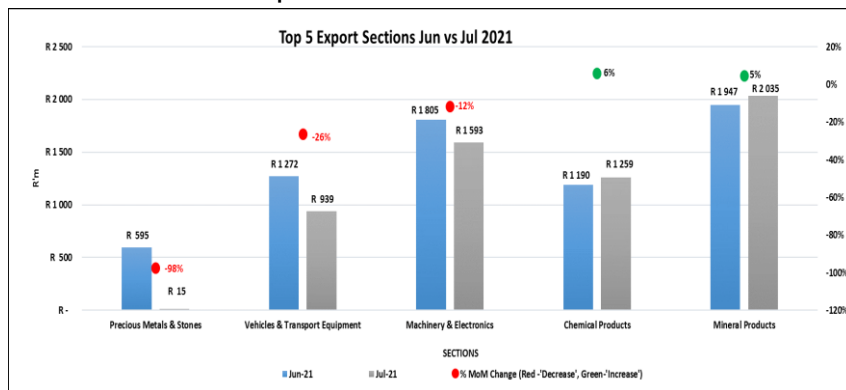
Summary

The R7.65 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for July 2021 was as a result of exports of R11.66 billion and imports of R4.01 billion. Exports decreased by R1.04 billion (8.2%) between June and July 2021 and imports decreased by R0.11 billion (2.7%) over the same period.

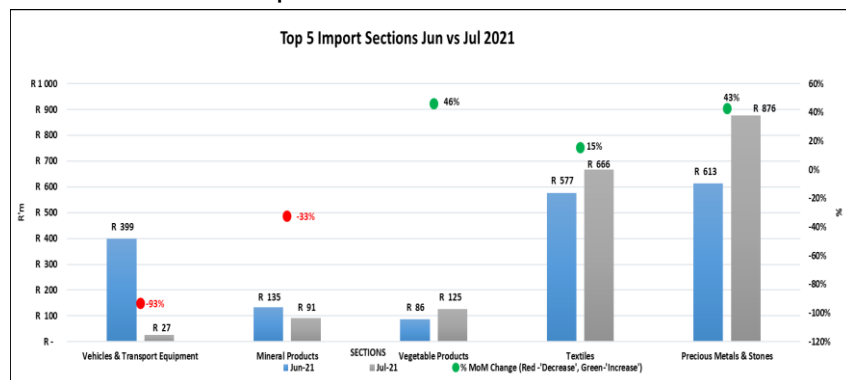
The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2021 was R57.50 billion compared to R46.78 billion in 2020.

Trade Highlights by Category

The main month-on-month export movements:



The main month-on-month import movements:



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ENDS.

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