

## STATEMENT

### SARS MEDIA RELEASE

UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Tuesday, 30 November 2021

## **SARS releases the preliminary trade statistics for October 2021**

**Pretoria, 30 November 2021** – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for October 2021 recording a preliminary trade balance surplus of R19.78 billion. These statistics include trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN). The year-to-date (01 January to 31 October 2021) preliminary trade balance surplus of R369.77 billion is an improvement from the R202.82 billion trade balance surplus for the comparable period in 2020. Exports decreased by 0.1% year-on-year whilst imports increased by 13.5% over the same period.

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

The R19.78 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for October 2021 is attributable to exports of R147.92 billion and imports of R128.14 billion. Exports decreased by R9.01 billion (5.7%) between September and October 2021 and imports decreased by R6.64 billion (4.9%) over the same period.

Exports for the year-to-date (01 January to 31 October 2021) increased by 32.4% to R1 496.45 billion from R1 130.22 billion over the same period during 2020. Imports for the year-to-date of R1 126.68 billion were 21.5% more than the R927.40 billion imports recorded during the same period in 2020. The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2021 is R369.77 billion.

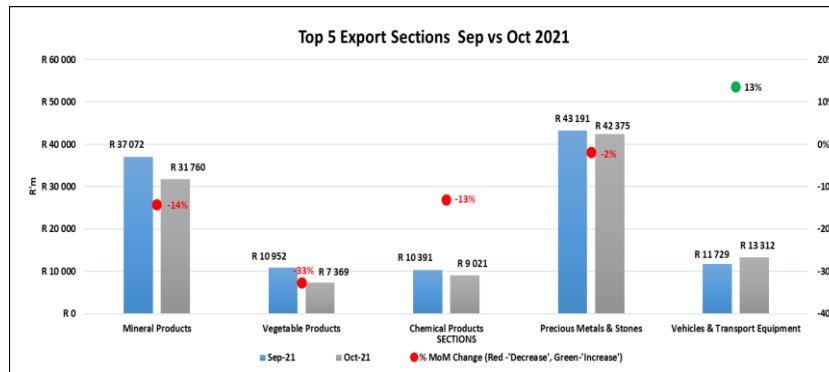
On a year-on-year basis, the R19.78 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for October 2021 was a deterioration from the R35.21 billion trade balance surplus recorded in October 2020. Exports of R147.92 billion were 0.1% less than the R148.11 billion exports recorded in October 2020. Imports of R128.14 billion were 13.5% more than the R112.90 billion imports recorded in October 2020.

September 2021 preliminary trade balance surplus was revised downwards by R0.09 billion due to the ongoing Vouchers of Correction (VOC). The revision was from the preliminary trade balance surplus of R22.23 billion to the revised trade balance surplus of R22.14 billion.

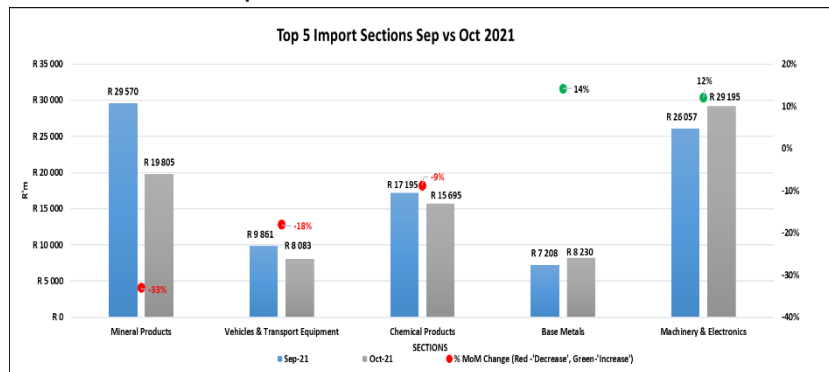
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## Trade highlights by category

The main month-on-month export movements:



The main month-on-month import movements:



## Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from September (revised) to October (preliminary) 2021 are given below:

World Zones (R' m)	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	September 2021	October 2021	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	35 056	35 239	183	0.5%
	Imports	19 270	13 536	-5 733	-29.8%
	Trade Balance	15 787	21 703	5 916	
America	Exports	16 502	18 581	2 079	12.6%
	Imports	13 186	14 322	1 137	8.6%
	Trade Balance	3 317	4 259	943	
Asia	Exports	52 292	46 174	-6 118	-11.7%
	Imports	62 949	65 034	2 086	3.3%
	Trade Balance	-10 657	-18 860	-8 204	
Europe	Exports	40 612	38 976	-1 636	-4.0%
	Imports	36 912	32 791	-4 121	-11.2%
	Trade Balance	3 700	6 185	2 484	
Oceania	Exports	1 349	907	-442	-32.8%
	Imports	1 727	2 092	364	21.1%
	Trade Balance	-378	-1 185	-807	
Other Unclassified	Exports	10 702	7 751	-2 951	-27.6%
	Imports	739	362	-377	-51.1%
	Trade Balance	9 963	7 390	-2 573	
Ship/Aircraft	Exports	415	291	-124	-29.9%
	Imports	-	-	-	
	Trade Balance	415	291	-124	

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

The trade data excluding BELN for October 2021 recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R9.58 billion.

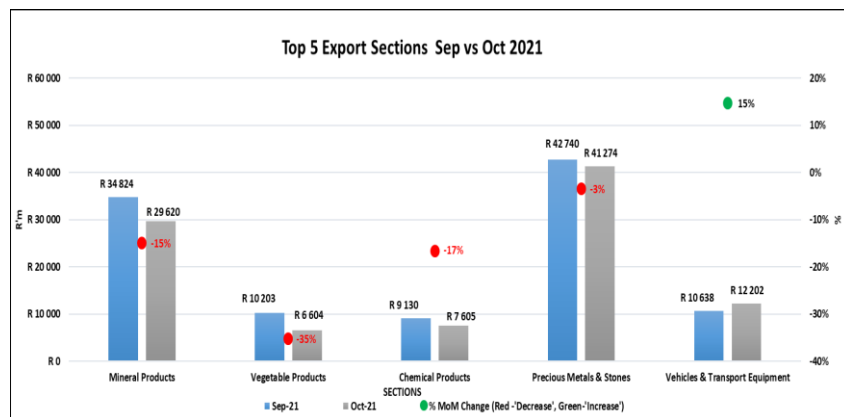
### Summary

The R9.58 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for October 2021 was as a result of exports of R133.20 billion and imports of R123.62 billion. Exports decreased by R9.94 billion (6.9%) between September and October 2021 and imports decreased by R6.21 billion (4.8%) over the same period.

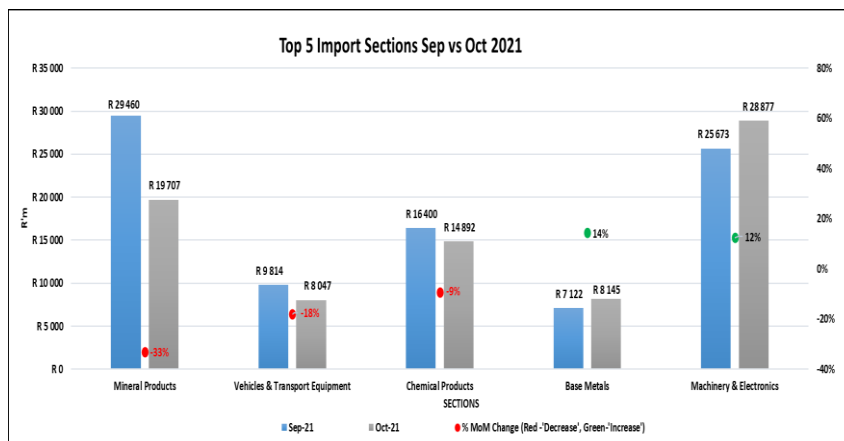
The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2021 was R283.94 billion compared to R131.71 billion trade balance surplus during 2020.

### 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 September (Revised) and October (preliminary) 2021 are given below.

World Zones	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	September 2021	October 2021	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	21 272	20 520	-753	↓ -3.5%
	Imports	14 320	9 022	-5 299	↓ -37.0%
	Trade Balance	6 952	11 498	4 546	

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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 <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(2 417 989 046)	0.85	(265 438 000)	0.84	0.97	13 500 395 424	14 072 760 987	1 441 224 910	1.33	14 459 106 829	16 490 750 033	1 706 662 910
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	60 157 634 952	3.55	5 021 895 293	3.14	4.98	80 105 284 149	83 776 775 163	7 369 034 844	1.83	26 273 553 274	23 619 140 211	2 347 139 551
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(5 635 491 633)	0.44	(639 334 373)	0.45	0.35	4 179 425 918	4 373 055 426	518 339 656	0.90	9 816 510 335	10 008 547 059	1 157 674 029
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	14 279 358 895	1.42	2 358 880 157	1.65	4.04	47 711 712 359	48 378 610 232	5 969 695 691	2.82	31 443 094 314	34 099 251 337	3 610 815 534
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	173 184 513 436	1.93	11 954 629 206	1.60	21.47	264 128 248 133	359 214 728 586	31 760 007 028	15.46	135 638 738 638	186 030 215 150	19 805 377 822
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(48 094 759 699)	0.66	(6 673 699 768)	0.57	6.10	72 960 531 930	93 320 393 327	9 021 236 349	12.25	121 306 757 846	141 415 153 026	15 694 936 117
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(27 727 882 993)	0.47	(3 318 522 615)	0.43	1.69	21 535 301 897	24 306 207 416	2 494 418 441	4.54	39 738 878 748	52 034 090 409	5 812 941 056
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	184 251 062	1.07	(21 327 588)	0.94	0.23	2 380 391 255	2 932 288 514	346 112 185	0.29	2 346 878 207	2 748 037 452	367 439 773
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	2 121 281 889	1.42	247 445 009	1.48	0.52	5 701 507 635	7 140 527 775	766 208 376	0.40	4 028 953 559	5 019 245 886	518 763 367
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(17 441 212 904)	0.50	(2 291 303 173)	0.48	1.44	17 485 078 047	17 672 603 379	2 126 708 817	3.45	27 149 972 351	35 113 816 283	4 418 011 990
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(25 092 580 105)	0.40	(3 153 401 445)	0.38	1.32	14 072 180 367	16 612 404 798	1 950 242 708	3.98	42 347 589 845	41 704 984 903	5 103 644 153
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(9 388 025 854)	0.22	(1 154 965 267)	0.23	0.23	2 067 151 170	2 579 793 529	343 836 825	1.17	10 347 707 958	11 967 819 383	1 498 802 092
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(6 836 553 136)	0.46	(574 178 550)	0.52	0.43	4 945 947 672	5 895 199 841	634 472 135	0.94	9 770 474 839	12 731 752 977	1 208 650 685
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	405 148 337 677	23.93	40 421 519 344	21.69	28.65	262 989 418 189	422 820 565 724	42 375 396 149	1.52	15 275 785 878	17 672 228 047	1 953 876 805
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	66 498 921 672	1.97	7 431 343 797	1.90	10.59	101 826 997 282	135 151 799 554	15 661 719 603	6.42	46 559 237 129	68 652 877 882	8 230 375 806
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(135 350 661 959)	0.43	(19 189 126 264)	0.34	6.76	83 988 372 075	101 316 121 938	10 005 652 027	22.78	214 083 164 002	236 666 783 897	29 194 778 291
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	52 556 699 073	1.60	5 229 145 803	1.65	9.00	113 953 970 268	139 778 222 192	13 312 001 508	6.31	65 135 557 873	87 221 523 119	8 082 855 705
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(20 492 355 965)	0.27	(2 469 266 096)	0.24	0.53	7 419 382 513	7 410 444 654	781 231 264	2.54	26 482 146 323	27 902 800 619	3 250 497 360
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(10 516 574 366)	0.38	(1 566 157 117)	0.34	0.54	5 774 369 657	6 459 853 714	798 631 609	1.85	13 902 188 078	16 976 428 080	2 364 788 726
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	142 063 583	1.20	73 650 500	6.74	0.06	837 617 736	842 325 931	86 489 925	0.01	212 049 936	700 262 348	12 839 425
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	1 369 542 849	2.38	57 645 709	1.58	0.11	2 654 033 760	2 363 439 201	156 611 631	0.08	1 094 016 975	993 896 352	98 965 922
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(96 875 611 205)	0.00	(11 697 390 547)	0.00	0.00	4 547 286	34 270 686	32 000	9.13	69 991 516 416	96 909 881 891	11 697 422 547
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>369 772 906 223</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>19 782 044 015</b>	<b>1.15</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 130 221 864 722</b>	<b>1 496 452 392 567</b>	<b>147 919 303 681</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>927 403 879 353</b>	<b>1 126 679 486 344</b>	<b>128 137 259 666</b>

World Zones	Cumulative Trade		Monthly Trade		Exports				Imports			
	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)
AFRICA	198 560 419 814	2.78	21 702 958 296	2.60	23.82	263 105 557 728	309 848 012 876	35 239 338 559	10.56	103 505 803 587	111 287 593 062	13 536 380 263
AMERICA	60 994 131 307	1.52	4 259 114 254	1.30	12.56	110 381 391 345	178 741 024 215	18 581 495 541	11.18	92 446 446 989	117 746 892 908	14 322 381 287
ASIA	(59 715 176 203)	0.89	(18 860 485 326)	0.71	31.22	351 108 963 753	485 105 437 069	46 173 815 570	50.75	425 135 200 173	544 820 613 272	65 034 300 896
EUROPE	88 176 169 393	1.27	6 184 913 843	1.19	26.35	293 849 990 512	419 952 424 672	38 975 794 909	25.59	291 997 645 649	331 776 255 279	32 790 881 066
OCEANIA	(4 495 515 133)	0.72	(1 185 073 620)	0.43	0.61	11 191 264 530	11 309 985 044	906 735 724	1.63	12 086 591 271	15 805 500 177	2 091 809 344
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	81 630 061 697	16.57	7 389 816 086	21.44	5.24	90 488 038 217	86 872 693 343	7 751 322 896	0.28	2 232 191 684	5 242 631 646	361 506 810
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	4 622 815 348	-	290 800 482	-	0.20	10 096 658 637	4 622 815 348	290 800 482				
<b>Total</b>	<b>369 772 906 223</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>19 782 044 015</b>	<b>1.15</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 130 221 864 722</b>	<b>1 496 452 392 567</b>	<b>147 919 303 681</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>927 403 879 353</b>	<b>1 126 679 486 344</b>	<b>128 137 259 666</b>

Temporary Imports	January 2021	February 2021	March 2021	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	October 2021
Gold Imports <sup>4)</sup>	8 250 748 847	7 449 710 604	8 833 315 542	7 720 363 895	6 989 987 025	8 951 919 048	7 535 116 453	6 943 670 741	8 829 119 241	7 465 107 009

**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 <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(2 172 162 253)	0.83	(304 670 869)	0.78	0.80	10 537 649 356	10 813 981 375	1 060 870 092	1.10	11 910 094 806	12 986 143 628	1 365 540 961
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	53 615 663 294	3.35	4 314 844 341	2.88	4.96	73 139 880 932	76 469 269 708	6 603 961 130	1.85	25 607 999 814	22 853 606 414	2 289 116 789
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(7 488 768 546)	0.25	(847 246 382)	0.26	0.23	2 709 464 592	2 501 244 855	305 363 359	0.93	9 802 914 031	9 990 013 401	1 152 609 741
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	5 912 639 415	1.21	1 236 248 335	1.42	3.14	34 584 444 503	34 039 443 046	4 182 002 079	2.38	25 932 610 539	28 126 803 631	2 945 753 744
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	154 514 118 122	1.83	9 912 469 382	1.50	22.24	248 225 244 935	339 604 055 730	29 619 810 190	15.94	134 896 066 490	185 089 937 608	19 707 340 808
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(53 440 518 871)	0.60	(7 287 396 206)	0.51	5.71	61 834 692 369	81 193 194 278	7 604 990 211	12.05	115 243 078 096	134 633 713 149	14 892 386 417
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(32 909 037 569)	0.36	(3 924 965 280)	0.32	1.37	16 853 016 421	18 494 632 913	1 822 300 996	4.65	39 259 339 948	51 403 670 482	5 747 266 276
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(172 127 377)	0.93	(68 056 898)	0.81	0.21	2 067 097 712	2 469 354 998	285 526 595	0.29	2 276 123 625	2 641 482 375	353 583 493
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	2 035 810 774	1.65	236 644 580	1.76	0.41	4 199 716 446	5 166 932 824	547 400 854	0.25	2 634 799 640	3 131 122 050	310 756 274
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(19 760 531 801)	0.43	(2 583 004 681)	0.41	1.36	15 133 109 135	15 158 700 707	1 808 619 770	3.55	27 002 356 948	34 919 232 508	4 391 624 451
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(25 034 803 698)	0.29	(3 052 723 825)	0.28	0.88	9 251 664 479	10 408 496 717	1 175 994 244	3.42	37 374 846 457	35 443 300 415	4 228 718 069
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(10 948 663 050)	0.08	(1 376 381 528)	0.07	0.08	780 149 889	913 647 021	107 914 544	1.20	10 252 720 919	11 862 310 071	1 484 296 072
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(8 419 753 271)	0.33	(751 639 491)	0.37	0.33	3 561 106 848	4 219 129 641	444 479 568	0.97	9 703 025 045	12 638 882 912	1 196 119 059
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	407 465 502 332	42.42	40 184 879 082	37.88	30.99	259 498 134 989	417 303 964 327	41 274 389 528	0.88	7 246 114 938	9 838 461 995	1 089 510 446
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	57 736 048 759	1.85	6 645 384 060	1.82	11.10	94 924 523 231	125 606 398 931	14 790 405 849	6.59	45 737 181 820	67 870 350 172	8 145 021 789
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(150 064 847 516)	0.36	(20 775 925 467)	0.28	6.08	69 043 747 957	83 123 564 668	8 101 485 675	23.36	211 053 953 401	233 188 412 184	28 877 411 142
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	44 246 147 765	1.52	4 154 532 513	1.52	9.16	105 221 250 718	128 684 830 404	12 201 539 916	6.51	64 551 961 813	84 438 682 639	8 047 007 403
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(22 234 106 789)	0.20	(2 638 626 666)	0.19	0.45	5 707 455 612	5 592 624 211	605 128 893	2.62	26 414 413 468	27 826 731 000	3 243 755 559
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(13 511 646 490)	0.20	(1 926 578 687)	0.18	0.32	2 991 791 460	3 357 774 113	421 161 506	1.90	13 811 703 912	16 869 420 603	2 347 740 193
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	136 819 708	1.20	72 850 778	6.71	0.06	826 609 283	836 777 727	85 600 706	0.01	211 895 050	699 958 019	12 749 928
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	1 341 993 268	2.39	54 042 347	1.56	0.11	2 602 411 408	2 310 029 788	150 695 996	0.08	1 071 033 232	968 036 520	96 653 649
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(96 909 066 205)	0.00	(11 697 422 547)	-	-	4 542 086	815 686	-	9.46	69 991 515 416	96 909 881 891	11 697 422 547
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>283 938 710 001</b>	<b>1.26</b>	<b>9 577 256 891</b>	<b>1.08</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 023 697 704 361</b>	<b>1 368 268 863 668</b>	<b>133 199 641 701</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>891 985 749 408</b>	<b>1 084 330 153 667</b>	<b>123 622 384 810</b>

World Zones	Cumulative Trade		Monthly Trade		Exports				Imports				
	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio <sup>5)</sup> (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2020 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2021 (R'm)	
AFRICA	112 726 223 592	2.64	11 498 171 172	2.27	15.41	156 581 397 367	181 664 483 977	20 519 676 579	7.30	68 087 673 642	68 938 260 385	9 021 505 407	
AMERICA	60 994 131 307	1.52	4 259 114 254	1.30	13.95	110 381 391 345	178 741 024 215	18 581 495 541	11.59	92 446 446 989	117 746 892 908	14 322 381 287	
ASIA	(59 715 176 203)	0.89	(18 860 485 326)	0.71	34.67	351 108 963 753	485 105 437 069	46 173 815 570	52.61	425 135 200 173	544 820 613 272	65 034 300 896	
EUROPE	88 176 169 393	1.27	6 184 913 843	1.19	29.26	293 849 990 512	419 952 424 672	38 975 794 909	26.53	291 997 645 649	331 776 255 279	32 790 881 066	
OCEANIA	(4 495 515 133)	0.72	(1 185 073 620)	0.43	0.68	11 191 264 530	11 309 985 044	906 735 724	1.69	12 086 591 271	15 805 500 177	2 091 809 344	
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	81 630 061 697	16.57	7 389 816 086	21.44	5.82	90 488 038 217	86 872 693 343	7 751 322 896	0.29	2 232 191 684	5 242 631 646	361 506 810	
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	4 622 815 348	-	290 800 482	-	0.22	10 096 658 637	4 622 815 348	290 800 482	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>283 938 710 001</b>	<b>1.26</b>	<b>9 577 256 891</b>	<b>1.08</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 023 697 704 361</b>	<b>1 368 268 863 668</b>	<b>133 199 641 701</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>891 985 749 408</b>	<b>1 084 330 153 667</b>	<b>123 622 384 810</b>	

Temporary Imports	January 2021	February 2021	March 2021	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	October 2021
Gold Imports <sup>4)</sup>	8 250 748 847	7 449 710 604	8 833 315 542	7 720 363 895	6 989 987 025	8 951 919 048	7 535 116 453	6 943 670 741	8 829 119 241	7 465 107 009

- 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 October 2021 recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R10.20 billion.

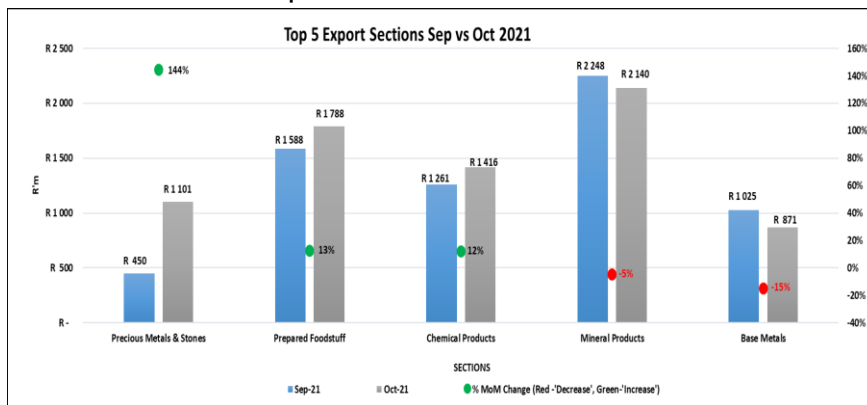
### Summary

The R10.20 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for October 2021 was as a result of exports of R14.71 billion and imports of R4.51 billion. Exports increased by R0.94 billion (6.8%) between September and October 2021 and imports decreased by R0.43 billion (8.8%) over the same period.

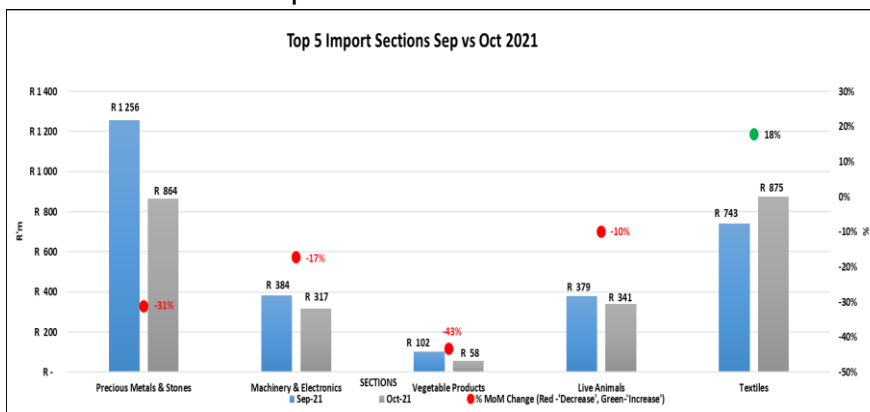
The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2021 was R85.83 billion compared to R71.11 billion in 2020.

### 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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