

## STATEMENT

### SARS MEDIA RELEASE

*UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Friday, 30 December 2022*

## **SARS releases the preliminary trade statistics for November 2022**

**Pretoria, 30 December 2022** – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for November 2022 recording a preliminary trade balance surplus of R7.98 billion. These statistics include trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN). The year-to-date (01 January to 30 November 2022) preliminary trade balance surplus of R187.82 billion is a deterioration from the R401.96 billion trade balance surplus for the comparable period in 2021. Exports increased by 6.2% year-on-year in November 2022 whilst imports increased by 29.8% over the same period.

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

The R7.98 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for November 2022 is attributable to exports of R172.67 billion and imports of R164.69 billion. Exports increased by R13.11 billion (8.2%) between October and November 2022 and imports decreased by R0.18 billion (-0.1%) over the same period.

Exports for the year-to-date (01 January to 30 November 2022) increased by 11.7% to R1 850.18 billion from R1 656.80 billion over the same period during 2021. Imports for the year-to-date of R1 662.36 billion were 32.5% more than the R1 254.84 billion imports recorded during the same period in 2021. The cumulative trade balance surplus for 2022 is R187.82 billion.

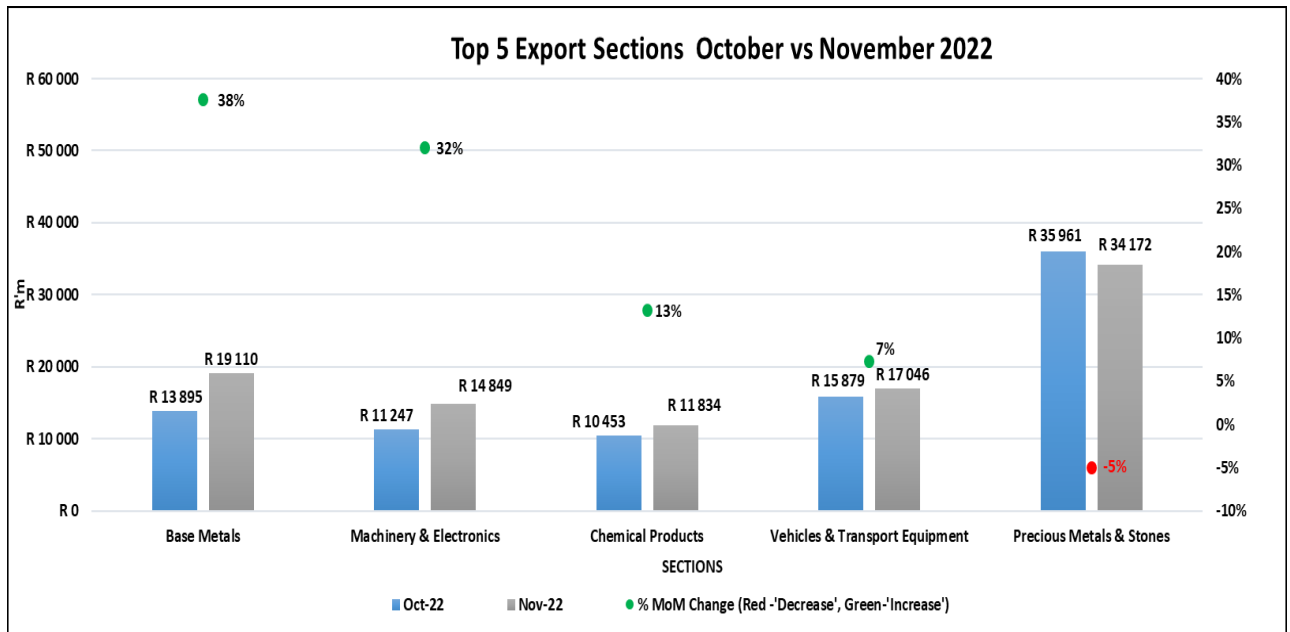
On a year-on-year basis, the R7.98 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for November 2022 was a deterioration from the R35.72 billion trade balance surplus recorded in November 2021. Exports of R172.67 billion were 6.2% more than the R162.62 billion exports recorded in November 2021. Imports of R164.69 billion were 29.8% more than the R126.89 billion imports recorded in November 2021.

October 2022 preliminary trade balance deficit was revised by R1.00 billion due to the ongoing Vouchers of Correction (VOC). The revision was from the preliminary trade balance deficit of R4.31 billion to the revised trade balance deficit of R5.31 billion.

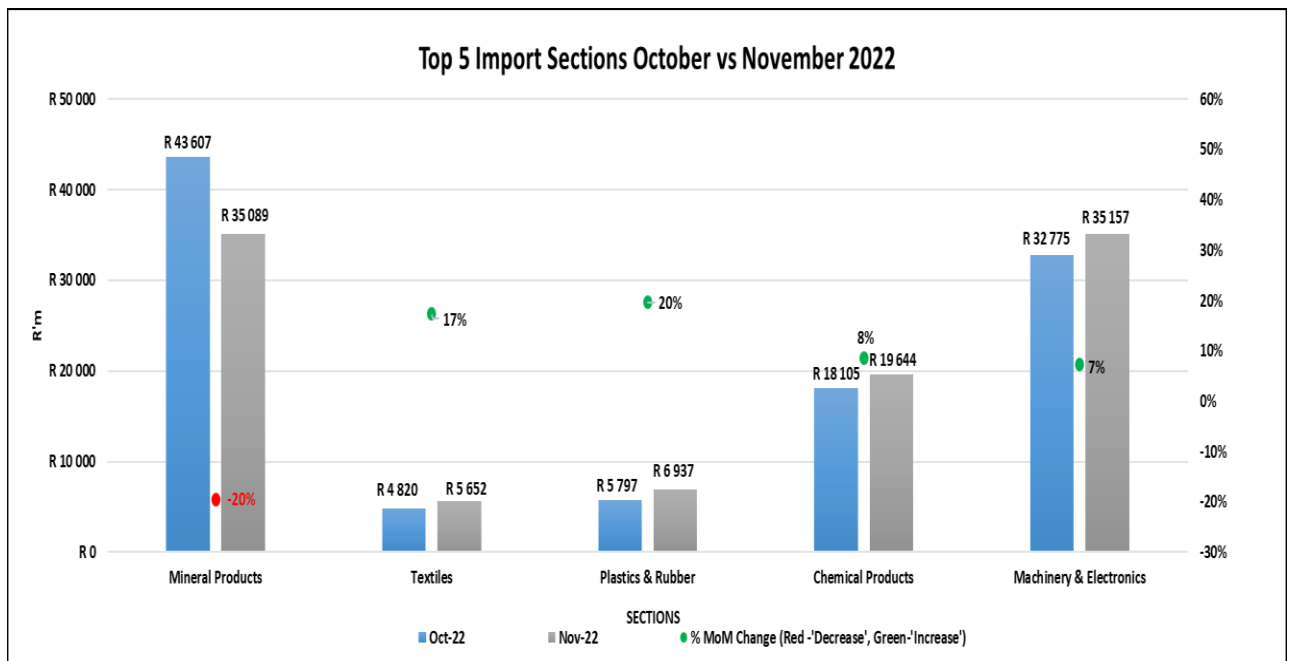
**[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics November 2022](#)**

## 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 October (revised) to November (preliminary) 2022 are given below:

World Zones (R' m)	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	October 2022	November 2022	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	43 084	47 456	4 373	↑ 10.1%
	Imports	22 203	13 207	-8 996	↓ -40.5%
	Trade Balance	20 880	34 249	-	-
America	Exports	17 956	21 013	3 057	↑ 17.0%
	Imports	15 229	15 967	737	↑ 4.8%
	Trade Balance	2 727	5 046	-	-
Asia	Exports	44 363	51 613	7 250	↑ 16.3%
	Imports	85 708	90 995	5 287	↑ 6.2%
	Trade Balance	-41 345	-39 382	-	-
Europe	Exports	43 588	44 194	606	↑ 1.4%
	Imports	39 527	41 697	2 169	↑ 5.5%
	Trade Balance	4 061	2 497	-	-
Oceania	Exports	1 418	1 402	-16	↓ -1.1%
	Imports	1 591	1 782	191	↑ 12.0%
	Trade Balance	-173	-380	-	-
Other Unclassified	Exports	8 421	6 433	-1 988	↓ -23.6%
	Imports	604	1 040	436	↑ 72.2%
	Trade Balance	7 817	5 393	-	-
Ship/Aircraft	Exports	722	553	-169	↓ -23.4%
	Imports	-	-	-	-
	Trade Balance	722	553	-	-

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

The trade data excluding BELN for November 2022 recorded a preliminary trade balance deficit of R4.83 billion.

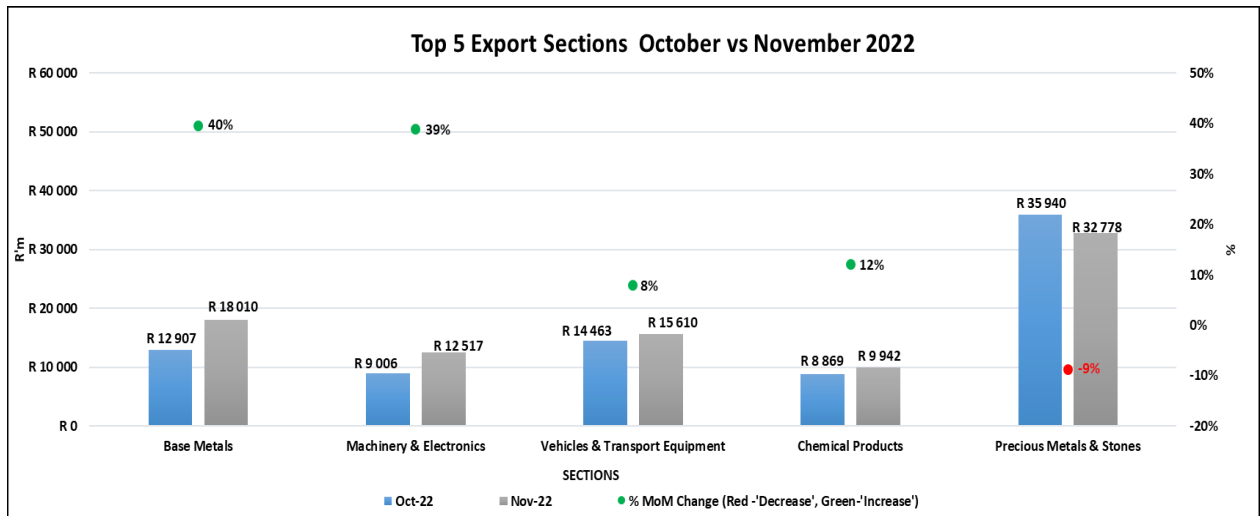
### Summary

The R4.83 billion preliminary trade balance deficit for November 2022 was as a result of exports of R154.14 billion and imports of R158.97 billion. Exports increased by R10.27 billion (7.1%) between October and November 2022 and imports increased by R1.23 billion (0.8%) over the same period.

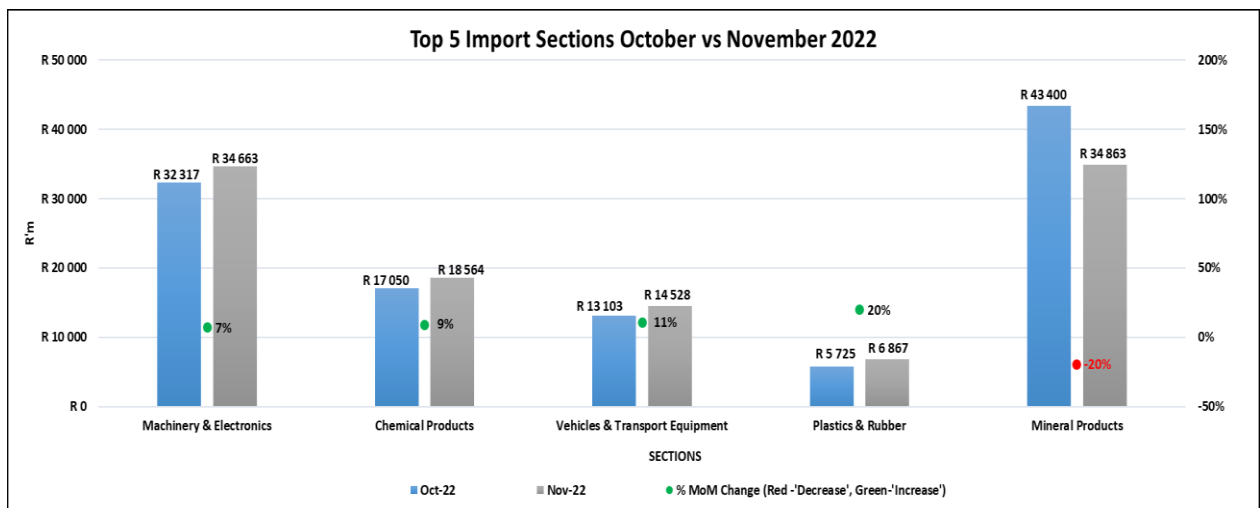
The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2022 was R76.39 billion compared to R305.83 billion trade balance surplus during 2021.

## 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 October (Revised) and November (preliminary) 2022 are given below:

World Zones	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	October 2022	November 2022	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	27 404	28 932	1 528	5.6%
	Imports	15 080	7 485	-7 595	-50.4%
	Trade Balance	12 324	21 446	-	-

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics November 2022](#)

## 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 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(2 784 043 720)	0.86	(95 242 465)	0.95	1.08	15 743 213 703	16 714 212 571	1 867 565 527	1.19	18 440 914 111	19 498 256 291	1 962 807 992
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	76 881 910 589	3.42	4 780 348 660	2.77	4.33	88 941 412 869	108 716 933 373	7 484 462 469	1.64	25 884 210 736	31 835 022 784	2 704 113 809
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(10 661 249 013)	0.43	(906 467 771)	0.47	0.46	4 947 262 615	8 041 209 744	793 761 268	1.03	11 530 784 360	18 702 458 757	1 700 229 039
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	19 448 378 687	1.46	2 020 082 332	1.45	3.75	54 600 001 829	62 092 597 648	6 476 947 397	2.71	38 404 587 706	42 644 218 961	4 456 865 065
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	133 798 399 691	1.35	9 062 029 173	1.26	25.57	391 927 829 083	515 130 660 362	44 151 420 924	21.31	208 209 435 347	381 332 260 671	35 089 391 751
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(74 587 041 412)	0.61	(7 810 240 954)	0.60	6.85	102 629 929 883	117 741 751 170	11 833 570 904	11.93	159 022 269 808	192 328 792 582	19 643 811 858
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(36 876 517 873)	0.47	(3 166 267 737)	0.54	2.18	26 971 597 625	32 983 482 585	3 770 251 789	4.21	57 829 986 914	69 860 000 458	6 936 519 526
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(449 627 827)	0.89	(98 624 266)	0.81	0.24	3 275 845 916	3 795 273 744	413 900 507	0.31	3 123 934 784	4 244 901 571	512 524 773
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	2 840 085 153	1.43	401 092 331	1.62	0.61	7 998 524 941	9 498 128 207	1 052 456 030	0.40	5 647 391 077	6 658 043 054	651 363 699
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(20 369 470 886)	0.61	(1 853 313 372)	0.61	1.67	19 554 330 681	31 259 214 485	2 884 098 263	2.88	38 598 923 749	51 628 685 371	4 737 411 635
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(36 038 456 076)	0.35	(3 385 555 862)	0.40	1.31	18 791 888 005	19 137 072 758	2 266 547 055	3.43	46 643 768 131	55 175 528 834	5 652 102 917
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(13 796 802 250)	0.20	(973 592 329)	0.33	0.27	2 945 982 944	3 539 923 260	471 438 496	0.88	13 286 463 496	17 336 725 510	1 445 030 825
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(9 065 042 818)	0.43	(834 350 875)	0.48	0.44	6 601 932 491	6 749 167 936	755 043 603	0.97	14 025 909 446	15 814 210 754	1 589 394 478
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	376 835 945 941	17.18	31 608 474 061	13.33	19.79	470 907 710 390	400 131 534 390	34 171 610 323	1.56	20 041 418 629	23 295 588 449	2 563 136 262
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	98 262 583 950	2.08	10 477 391 327	2.21	11.07	155 082 892 899	188 938 429 514	19 110 138 838	5.24	76 310 630 308	90 675 845 564	8 632 747 511
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(210 976 568 552)	0.38	(20 308 028 950)	0.42	8.60	112 390 977 353	127 376 096 402	14 848 626 705	21.35	265 942 771 015	338 352 664 954	35 156 655 655
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	40 233 799 502	1.30	2 448 313 475	1.17	9.87	154 381 958 318	173 409 386 917	17 046 452 868	8.86	96 267 013 045	133 175 587 415	14 598 139 393
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(26 408 288 478)	0.27	(2 865 670 665)	0.27	0.61	8 197 140 242	9 642 589 270	1 055 790 633	2.38	31 240 733 634	36 050 877 748	3 921 461 298
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(12 169 162 127)	0.42	(1 031 556 917)	0.50	0.59	7 313 114 713	8 767 457 066	1 014 550 819	1.24	19 067 400 109	20 936 619 193	2 046 107 736
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	724 613 496	2.75	97 875 583	2.06	0.11	1 001 141 919	1 139 239 300	190 572 792	0.06	737 286 540	414 625 804	92 697 209
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	3 928 699 398	3.74	861 483 605	6.96	0.58	2 511 527 233	5 360 050 273	1 006 055 040	0.09	1 118 921 966	1 431 350 875	144 571 435
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(110 951 951 308)	0.00	(10 450 904 729)	0.00	0.00	87 132 032	12 800 613	183 813	6.35	103 466 995 701	110 964 751 921	10 451 088 542
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>187 820 194 067</b>	<b>1.11</b>	<b>7 977 273 655</b>	<b>1.05</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 656 803 347 684</b>	<b>1 850 177 211 588</b>	<b>172 665 446 063</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 254 841 750 612</b>	<b>1 662 357 017 521</b>	<b>164 688 172 408</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 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)
AFRICA	297 979 791 689	2.92	34 249 367 070	3.59	27.48	349 759 218 446	453 553 954 343	47 456 344 197	8.02	125 415 400 201	155 574 162 654	13 206 977 127
AMERICA	17 249 912 576	1.10	5 046 355 574	1.32	12.17	199 032 322 192	190 394 003 869	21 013 264 704	9.70	131 490 649 157	173 144 091 293	15 966 909 130
ASIA	(296 183 227 068)	0.67	(39 381 654 209)	0.57	29.89	533 817 327 336	589 694 878 863	51 613 309 426	55.25	608 216 193 762	885 878 105 931	90 994 963 635
EUROPE	94 999 575 231	1.23	2 497 479 181	1.06	25.60	457 341 634 967	511 919 852 887	44 194 193 921	25.32	365 526 451 569	416 920 277 656	41 696 714 740
OCEANIA	(7 774 849 430)	0.65	(380 384 524)	0.79	0.81	12 553 412 368	14 661 154 050	1 401 951 823	1.08	17 549 598 590	22 436 003 480	1 782 336 347
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	71 373 284 357	9.49	5 392 652 407	6.18	3.73	99 313 323 609	79 777 660 864	6 432 923 836	0.63	6 643 457 333	8 404 376 507	1 040 271 429
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	10 175 706 712	-	553 458 156	-	0.32	4 986 108 766	10 175 706 712	553 458 156				
<b>Total</b>	<b>187 820 194 067</b>	<b>1.11</b>	<b>7 977 273 655</b>	<b>1.05</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 656 803 347 684</b>	<b>1 850 177 211 588</b>	<b>172 665 446 063</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 254 841 750 612</b>	<b>1 662 357 017 521</b>	<b>164 688 172 408</b>

Temporary Imports	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022	November 2022
Gold Imports <sup>4)</sup>	7 518 015 338	7 878 929 226	9 726 399 580	8 283 228 923	8 940 440 482	8 688 068 436	7 289 931 490	11 238 239 010	11 432 947 563	8 575 468 545	9 687 128 124

**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 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(1 828 744 341)	0.88	(97 094 031)	0.94	0.98	12 090 201 902	13 087 315 456	1 507 107 611	1.01	14 611 133 726	14 916 059 797	1 604 201 642
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	68 232 056 013	3.23	3 832 584 188	2.49	4.16	80 734 360 099	98 897 599 481	6 410 946 138	1.62	25 055 388 945	30 665 543 468	2 578 361 950
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(13 273 116 187)	0.29	(1 257 149 498)	0.26	0.29	2 851 713 812	5 408 242 665	440 423 482	1.07	11 510 114 335	18 681 358 852	1 697 572 980
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	8 362 624 892	1.24	762 747 228	1.21	2.85	38 267 980 713	43 587 865 788	4 400 478 874	2.29	31 679 433 631	35 225 240 896	3 637 731 646
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	107 053 970 424	1.28	6 374 694 314	1.18	26.75	370 426 650 852	486 666 170 624	41 237 225 154	21.93	207 161 845 906	379 612 200 200	34 862 530 840
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(81 848 351 692)	0.55	(8 621 361 199)	0.54	6.45	88 922 117 934	101 886 302 214	9 942 211 076	11.68	151 168 032 295	183 734 653 906	18 563 572 275
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(43 589 586 795)	0.37	(3 905 580 667)	0.43	1.92	20 418 349 105	25 611 857 569	2 961 387 174	4.32	57 147 667 500	69 201 444 364	6 866 967 841
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(878 886 862)	0.79	(155 922 693)	0.69	0.22	2 751 443 049	3 249 420 198	343 497 107	0.31	2 998 921 230	4 128 307 060	499 419 800
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	2 925 845 032	1.67	421 053 981	2.03	0.54	5 801 124 166	7 271 764 253	831 055 944	0.26	3 528 848 434	4 345 919 221	410 001 963
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(23 366 543 614)	0.54	(2 228 894 506)	0.52	1.60	16 666 820 754	27 836 721 603	2 460 125 424	2.95	38 372 714 798	51 203 265 217	4 689 019 930
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(36 427 275 590)	0.23	(3 336 684 094)	0.29	0.90	11 631 401 681	10 921 503 381	1 387 961 432	2.97	39 442 416 415	47 348 778 971	4 724 645 526
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(15 862 964 631)	0.08	(1 271 009 679)	0.11	0.10	1 039 318 144	1 324 793 960	152 673 624	0.90	13 166 109 277	17 187 758 591	1 423 683 303
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(10 973 279 484)	0.30	(1 042 507 612)	0.34	0.35	4 716 453 165	4 721 650 982	534 621 369	0.99	13 920 092 227	15 694 930 466	1 577 128 981
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	379 017 894 061	32.25	31 328 073 093	22.61	21.26	464 644 037 403	391 146 467 556	32 777 577 731	0.91	10 890 844 447	12 128 573 495	1 449 504 638
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	88 210 041 453	1.98	9 451 130 947	2.10	11.68	144 369 589 482	177 923 165 182	18 010 200 724	5.38	75 433 713 418	89 713 123 729	8 559 069 777
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(228 786 921 794)	0.31	(22 146 050 098)	0.36	8.12	91 940 028 080	104 485 307 765	12 516 512 217	21.80	262 093 713 888	333 272 229 559	34 662 562 315
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	30 140 765 631	1.23	1 081 440 346	1.07	10.13	142 074 420 085	159 995 568 724	15 609 717 884	9.14	93 397 332 357	129 854 803 093	14 528 277 538
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(28 335 062 646)	0.21	(3 046 213 220)	0.22	0.56	6 169 625 889	7 595 894 734	865 284 719	2.46	31 159 417 593	35 930 957 380	3 911 497 939
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(16 031 777 949)	0.23	(1 471 316 103)	0.28	0.37	3 791 824 761	4 779 719 676	563 405 948	1.28	18 946 175 582	20 811 497 625	2 034 722 051
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	717 213 863	2.73	96 236 108	2.04	0.12	994 927 365	1 131 004 607	188 864 574	0.06	736 914 311	413 790 744	92 628 466
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified <sup>1)</sup>	3 891 805 701	3.76	856 668 898	7.01	0.65	2 450 784 546	5 303 355 760	999 206 205	0.09	1 090 818 877	1 411 550 059	142 537 307
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions <sup>2)</sup>	(110 955 638 971)	0.00	(10 450 862 272)	0.00	0.00	53 677 032	9 070 493	183 813	6.57	103 466 995 701	110 964 709 464	10 451 046 085
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total SA Rand</b>	<b>76 394 066 514</b>	<b>1.05</b>	<b>(4 826 016 569)</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 512 806 850 019</b>	<b>1 682 840 762 671</b>	<b>154 140 668 224</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 206 978 644 893</b>	<b>1 606 446 696 157</b>	<b>158 966 684 793</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 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 <sup>3)</sup> (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)
AFRICA	186 553 664 136	2.87	21 446 076 846	3.87	18.77	205 762 720 781	286 217 505 426	28 931 566 358	4.71	77 552 294 482	99 663 841 290	7 485 489 512
AMERICA	17 249 912 576	1.10	5 046 355 574	1.32	13.63	199 032 322 192	190 394 003 869	21 013 264 704	10.04	131 490 649 157	173 144 091 293	15 966 909 130
ASIA	(296 183 227 068)	0.67	(39 381 654 209)	0.57	33.48	533 817 327 336	589 694 878 863	51 613 309 426	57.24	608 216 193 762	885 878 105 931	90 994 963 635
EUROPE	94 999 575 231	1.23	2 497 479 181	1.06	28.67	457 341 634 967	511 919 852 887	44 194 193 921	26.23	365 526 451 569	416 920 277 656	41 696 714 740
OCEANIA	(7 774 849 430)	0.65	(380 384 524)	0.79	0.91	12 553 412 368	14 661 154 050	1 401 951 823	1.12	17 549 598 590	22 436 003 480	1 782 336 347
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	71 373 284 357	9.49	5 392 652 407	6.18	4.17	99 313 323 609	79 777 660 864	6 432 923 836	0.65	6 643 457 333	8 404 376 507	1 040 271 429
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	10 175 706 712	-	553 458 156	-	0.36	4 986 108 766	10 175 706 712	553 458 156				
<b>Total</b>	<b>76 394 066 514</b>	<b>1.05</b>	<b>(4 826 016 569)</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 512 806 850 019</b>	<b>1 682 840 762 671</b>	<b>154 140 668 224</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 206 978 644 893</b>	<b>1 606 446 696 157</b>	<b>158 966 684 793</b>

Temporary Imports	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022	November 2022
Gold Imports <sup>4)</sup>	7 518 015 338	7 878 929 226	9 726 399 580	8 283 228 923	8 940 440 482	8 688 068 436	7 289 931 490	11 238 239 010	11 432 947 563	8 575 468 545	9 687 128 124

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- 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 November 2022 recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R12.80 billion.

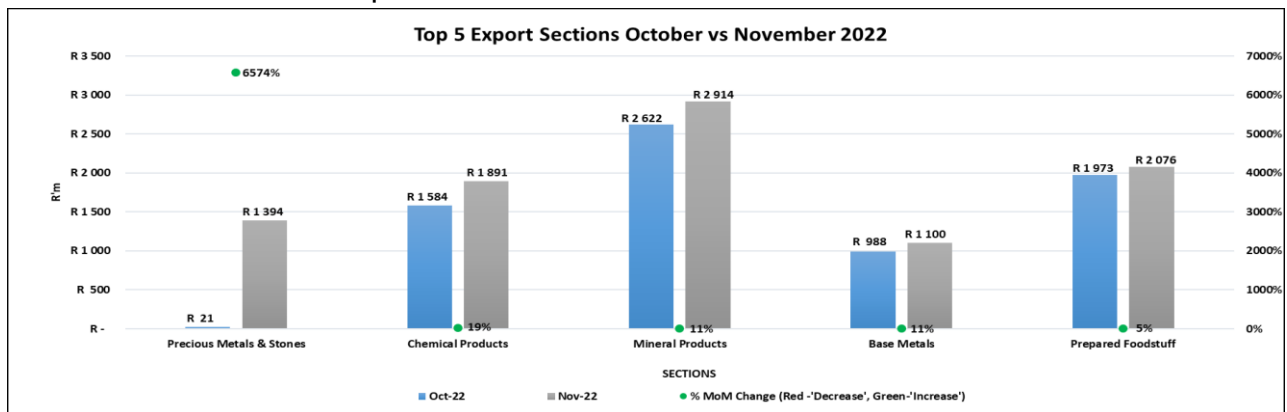
### Summary

The R12.80 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for November 2022 was as a result of exports of R18.52 billion and imports of R5.72 billion. Exports increased by R2.84 billion (18.1%) between October and November 2022 and imports decreased by R1.40 billion (-19.7%) over the same period.

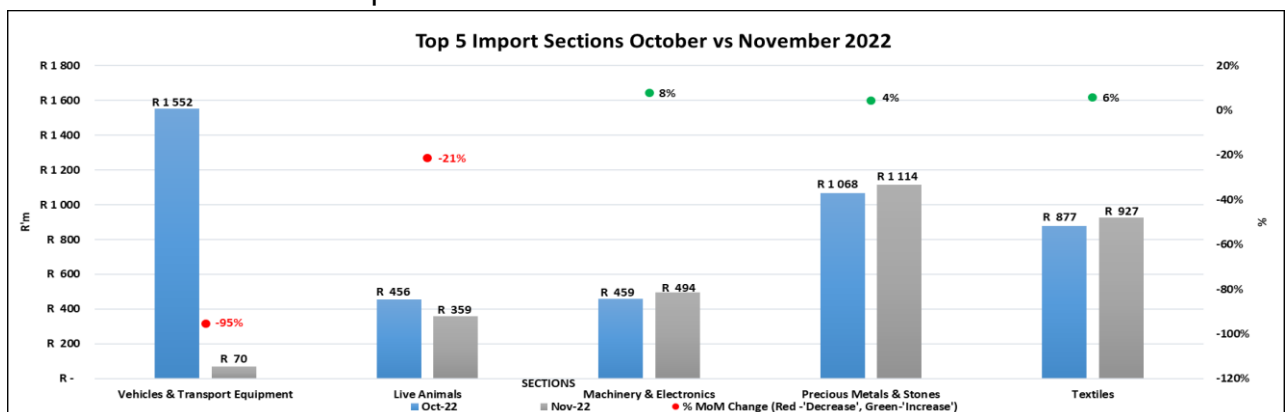
The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2022 was R111.43 billion compared to R96.13 billion in 2021.

### Trade Highlights by Category

The main month-on-month export movements:



The main month-on-month import movements:



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ENDS.

For any enquiries, please send your queries to [SARSMedia@sars.gov.za](mailto:SARSMedia@sars.gov.za) or [TradeStatistics@sars.gov.za](mailto:TradeStatistics@sars.gov.za)