

STATEMENT

SARS MEDIA RELEASE

UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Monday, 31 October 2022

SARS releases the preliminary trade statistics for September 2022

Pretoria, 31 October 2022 – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for September 2022 recording a preliminary trade balance surplus of R19.70 billion. These statistics include trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN). The year-to-date (01 January to 30 September 2022) preliminary trade balance surplus of R175.42 billion is a deterioration from the R346.88 billion trade balance surplus for the comparable period in 2021. Exports increased by 22.0% year-on-year whilst imports increased by 27.1% over the same period.

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

The R19.70 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for September 2022 is attributable to exports of R191.56 billion and imports of R171.86 billion. Exports increased by R17.37 billion (10.0%) between August and September 2022 and imports increased by R3.88 billion (2.3%) over the same period.

Exports for the year-to-date (01 January to 30 September 2022) increased by 12.8% to R1 519.02 billion from R1 346.54 billion over the same period during 2021. Imports for the year-to-date of R1 343.60 billion were 34.4% more than the R999.66 billion imports recorded during the same period in 2021. The cumulative trade balance surplus for 2022 is R175.42 billion.

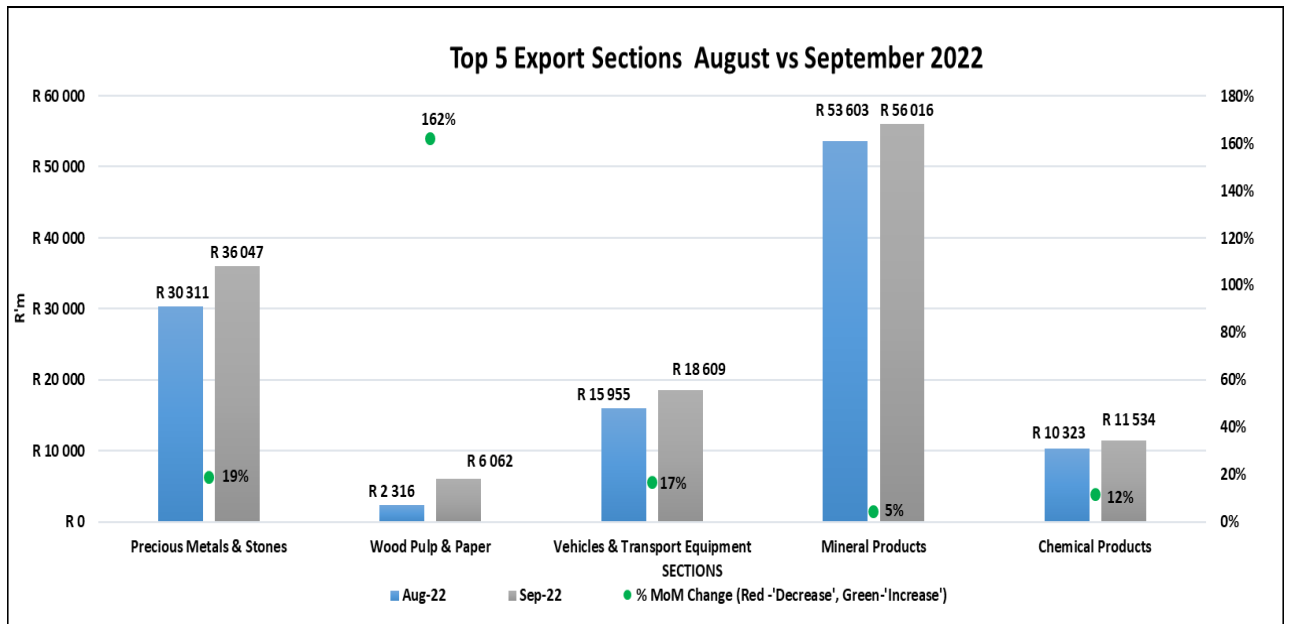
On a year-on-year basis, the R19.70 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for September 2022 was a deterioration from the R21.82 billion trade balance surplus recorded in September 2021. Exports of R191.56 billion were 22.0% more than the R157.03 billion exports recorded in September 2021. Imports of R171.86 billion were 27.1% more than the R135.21 billion imports recorded in September 2021.

August 2022 preliminary trade balance surplus was revised downwards by R0.98 billion due to the ongoing Vouchers of Correction (VOC). The revision was from the preliminary trade balance surplus of R7.18 billion to the revised trade balance surplus of R6.20 billion.

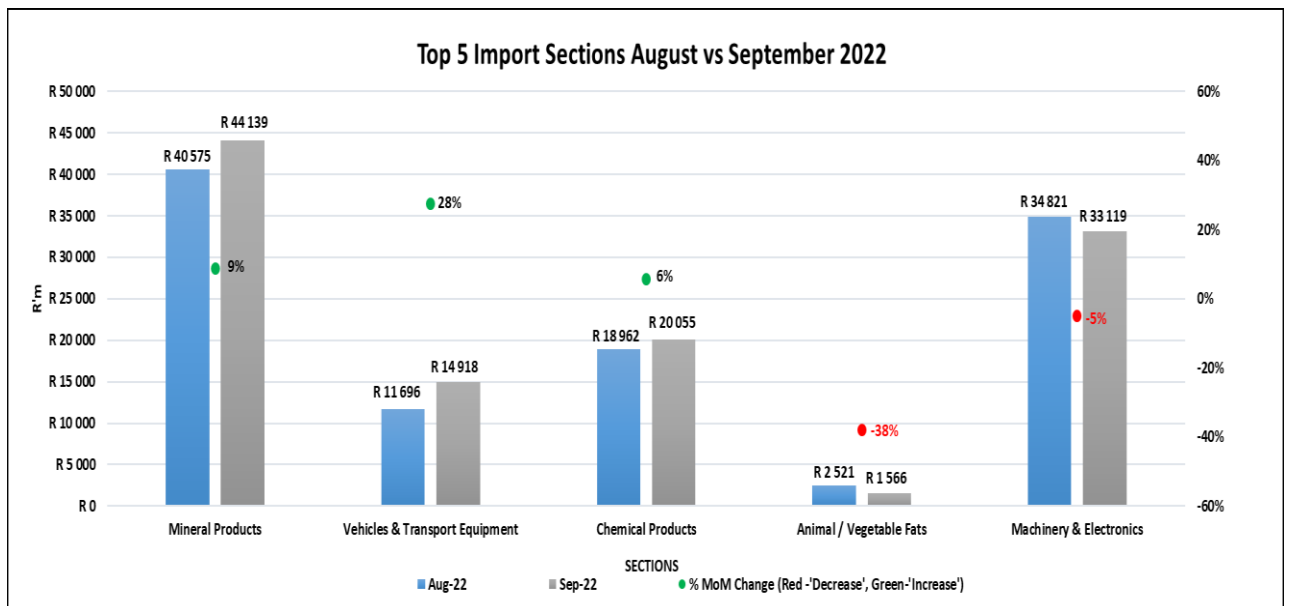
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Trade highlights by category

The main month-on-month export movements:



The main month-on-month import movements:



Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from August (revised) to September (preliminary) 2022 are given below:

World Zones (R' m)	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	August 2022	September 2022	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	42 496	45 410	2 914	↑ 6.9%
	Imports	13 895	13 018	-877	↓ -6.3%
	Trade Balance	28 601	32 392	3 790	
America	Exports	17 344	19 487	2 142	↑ 12.4%
	Imports	16 812	17 660	848	↑ 5.0%
	Trade Balance	532	1 827	1 295	
Asia	Exports	57 762	61 691	3 929	↑ 6.8%
	Imports	95 001	98 526	3 526	↑ 3.7%
	Trade Balance	-37 239	-36 835	404	
Europe	Exports	49 106	54 865	5 760	↑ 11.7%
	Imports	38 760	40 530	1 770	↑ 4.6%
	Trade Balance	10 346	14 336	3 990	
Oceania	Exports	1 330	1 712	382	↑ 28.7%
	Imports	2 403	1 963	-440	↓ -18.3%
	Trade Balance	-1 073	-251	822	
Other Unclassified	Exports	5 308	7 433	2 125	↑ 40.0%
	Imports	1 116	167	-950	↓ -85.1%
	Trade Balance	4 192	7 266	3 074	
Ship/Aircraft	Exports	845	964	119	↑ 14.1%
	Imports	-	-	-	
	Trade Balance	845	964	119	

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

The trade data excluding BELN for September 2022 recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R8.62 billion.

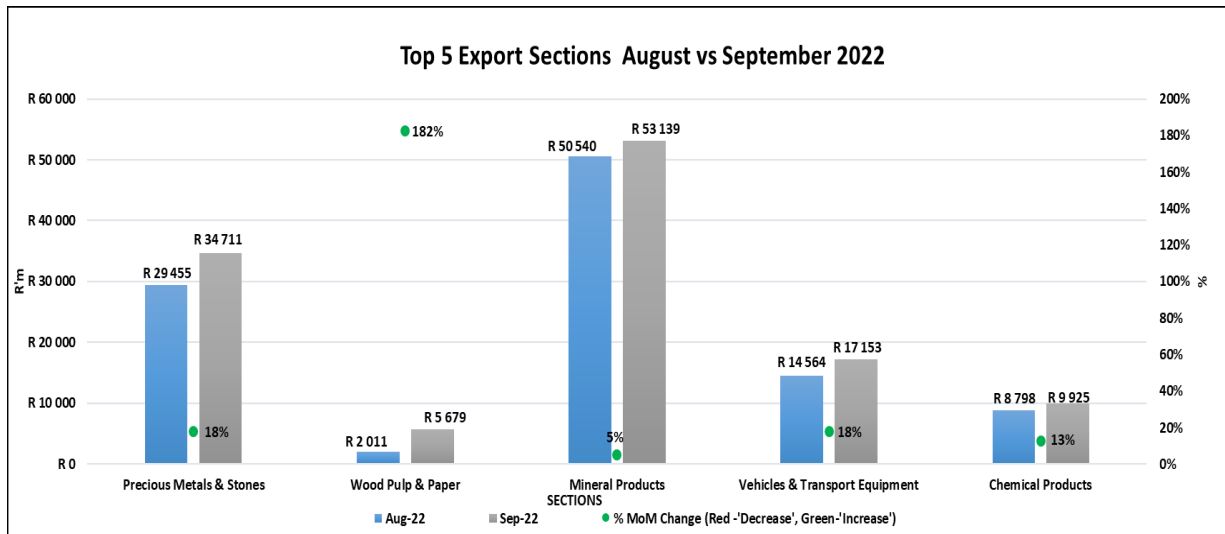
Summary

The R8.62 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for September 2022 was as a result of exports of R174.54 billion and imports of R165.92 billion. Exports increased by R16.76 billion (10.6%) between August and September 2022 and imports increased by R3.02 billion (1.9%) over the same period.

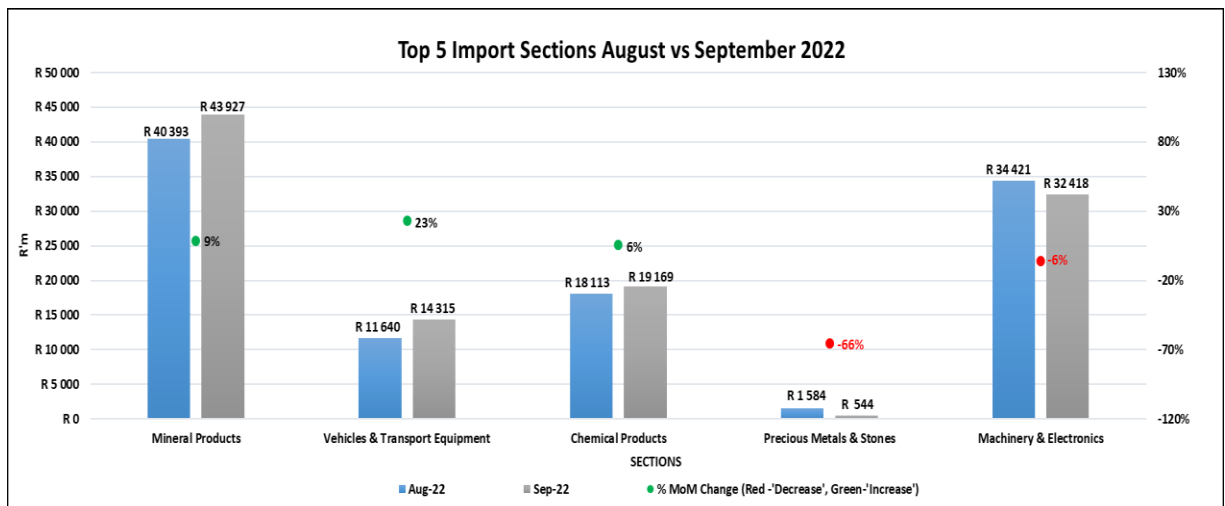
The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2022 was R90.86 billion compared to R271.72 billion trade balance surplus during 2021.

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 August (Revised) and September (preliminary) 2022 are given below:

World Zones	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	August 2022	September 2022	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	26 088	28 390	2 302	↑ 8.8%
	Imports	8 813	7 080	-1 733	↓ -19.7%
	Trade Balance	17 275	21 310	4 035	

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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 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(2 563 251 306)	0.84	(41 893 010)	0.97	0.77	12 634 578 442	13 326 015 776	1 480 375 943	0.89	14 791 824 050	15 889 267 082	1 522 268 953
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	66 897 396 649	3.56	8 961 374 963	3.50	6.55	76 391 231 121	92 998 286 070	12 544 505 850	2.08	21 276 116 510	26 100 889 421	3 583 130 887
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(9 467 755 122)	0.41	(893 661 811)	0.43	0.35	3 857 994 246	6 657 202 514	672 024 692	0.91	8 859 330 882	16 124 957 636	1 565 686 503
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	16 276 925 258	1.48	2 792 264 327	1.68	3.60	42 421 581 973	49 926 036 658	6 901 532 305	2.39	30 513 577 509	33 649 111 400	4 109 267 978
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	121 983 319 380	1.40	11 877 105 647	1.27	29.24	324 498 465 022	430 336 654 397	56 016 446 105	25.68	166 864 254 701	308 353 335 017	44 139 340 458
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(58 980 660 253)	0.62	(8 520 661 921)	0.58	6.02	84 316 757 668	95 475 332 224	11 534 478 335	11.67	125 916 279 008	154 455 992 477	20 055 140 256
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(30 970 225 560)	0.46	(3 541 903 082)	0.50	1.84	21 828 836 658	26 208 925 671	3 518 475 386	4.11	46 236 689 149	57 179 151 231	7 060 378 468
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(269 006 911)	0.92	(133 735 219)	0.74	0.20	2 585 923 188	2 995 238 103	384 925 465	0.30	2 382 077 362	3 264 245 014	518 660 684
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	2 209 846 746	1.41	455 359 438	1.76	0.55	6 373 656 187	7 629 870 445	1 050 891 984	0.35	4 508 804 881	5 420 023 699	595 532 546
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(19 915 050 798)	0.53	1 141 522 633	1.23	3.16	15 497 681 943	22 573 656 472	6 061 550 627	2.86	30 713 901 569	42 488 707 270	4 920 027 994
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(29 591 872 728)	0.34	(3 666 764 352)	0.36	1.10	14 665 370 838	15 083 648 547	2 106 371 753	3.36	36 640 651 329	44 675 521 275	5 773 136 105
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(11 598 725 570)	0.19	(1 775 675 625)	0.18	0.20	2 235 855 478	2 663 748 631	389 986 334	1.26	10 469 712 090	14 262 474 341	2 165 661 959
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(7 356 123 870)	0.43	(845 979 682)	0.46	0.37	5 258 057 319	5 441 259 482	717 503 860	0.91	11 529 312 178	12 797 383 352	1 563 483 542
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	311 844 324 592	18.20	34 335 294 597	21.06	18.82	380 452 848 644	329 971 546 574	36 046 666 296	1.00	15 696 928 588	18 127 221 982	1 711 371 699
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	82 512 421 043	2.12	9 478 556 333	2.11	9.41	120 516 233 952	156 328 448 909	18 018 365 713	4.97	60 374 275 470	73 816 027 866	8 539 809 380
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(169 105 696 514)	0.37	(20 504 409 369)	0.38	6.59	91 303 210 694	101 280 768 251	12 614 469 155	19.27	207 761 824 260	270 386 464 765	33 118 878 524
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	31 482 934 295	1.29	3 690 711 193	1.25	9.71	126 421 436 496	140 638 378 515	18 609 189 236	8.68	79 187 866 719	109 155 444 220	14 918 478 043
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(21 106 584 016)	0.26	(2 650 111 392)	0.28	0.54	6 629 630 038	7 593 787 963	1 029 695 027	2.14	24 677 282 894	28 700 371 979	3 679 806 419
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(9 896 641 946)	0.41	(1 257 359 006)	0.43	0.50	5 655 310 728	6 876 308 790	952 218 710	1.29	14 619 419 243	16 772 950 736	2 209 577 716
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	569 290 627	2.96	80 719 980	2.77	0.07	756 116 168	860 047 274	126 447 266	0.03	692 297 997	290 756 647	45 727 286
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	2 998 743 345	3.63	666 282 789	6.57	0.41	2 207 231 843	4 139 797 846	785 892 035	0.07	895 659 306	1 141 054 501	119 609 246
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(90 532 651 480)	0.00	(9 947 861 521)	0.00	0.00	34 238 686	12 041 018	203 170	5.79	85 056 668 760	90 544 692 498	9 948 064 691
Total	Total SA Rand	175 420 955 721	1.13	19 699 175 910	1.11	100.00	1 346 542 247 332	1 519 017 000 130	191 562 215 247	100.00	999 664 754 455	1 343 596 044 409	171 863 039 337

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 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)
AFRICA	237 458 688 329	2.89	32 391 896 247	3.49	23.71	274 062 351 235	363 145 191 100	45 410 056 881	7.57	97 752 635 888	125 686 502 771	13 018 160 634
AMERICA	9 646 527 170	1.07	1 827 071 060	1.10	10.17	160 618 924 021	151 489 758 727	19 486 741 769	10.28	103 596 383 056	141 843 231 557	17 659 670 709
ASIA	(221 454 824 020)	0.69	(36 834 922 052)	0.63	32.20	436 288 873 223	493 414 153 413	61 691 182 996	57.33	480 473 794 866	714 868 977 433	98 526 105 048
EUROPE	90 260 342 293	1.27	14 335 726 927	1.35	28.64	381 698 391 699	425 349 291 654	54 865 354 077	23.58	299 239 733 125	335 088 949 361	40 529 627 150
OCEANIA	(7 527 903 259)	0.61	(251 073 181)	0.87	0.89	10 410 842 222	11 821 168 179	1 711 826 197	1.14	13 721 089 730	19 349 071 438	1 962 899 378
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	58 138 096 403	9.60	7 266 240 688	44.62	3.88	79 130 643 420	64 897 408 252	7 432 817 106	0.10	4 881 117 790	6 759 311 849	166 576 418
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	8 900 028 805	-	964 236 221	-	0.50	4 332 221 512	8 900 028 805	964 236 221				
Total	175 420 955 721	1.13	19 699 175 910	1.11	100.00	1 346 542 247 332	1 519 017 000 130	191 562 215 247	100.00	999 664 754 455	1 343 596 044 409	171 863 039 337

Temporary Imports	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	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

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 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(1 713 526 088)	0.86	(118 503 214)	0.91	0.65	9 755 792 093	10 411 822 315	1 133 156 422	0.75	11 619 786 085	12 125 348 403	1 251 659 636
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	60 063 881 463	3.39	8 247 282 802	3.39	6.70	69 846 753 238	85 234 691 542	11 696 994 297	2.08	20 568 509 586	25 170 810 079	3 449 711 495
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(11 450 221 670)	0.29	(1 142 415 253)	0.27	0.24	2 199 293 564	4 657 018 686	420 611 936	0.94	8 845 861 512	16 107 240 356	1 563 027 189
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	7 584 936 690	1.27	1 593 094 955	1.46	2.88	29 863 287 069	35 466 768 089	5 025 212 998	2.07	25 204 703 903	27 881 831 399	3 432 118 043
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	100 328 433 360	1.33	9 211 358 965	1.21	30.44	307 542 780 823	407 396 127 295	53 138 539 570	26.47	166 021 890 569	307 067 693 935	43 927 180 605
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(64 902 922 414)	0.56	(9 244 735 870)	0.52	5.69	73 582 031 708	83 094 325 095	9 924 516 678	11.55	119 936 657 811	147 997 247 509	19 169 252 548
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(36 277 195 584)	0.36	(4 192 447 899)	0.40	1.61	16 688 408 508	20 385 416 788	2 807 338 621	4.22	45 671 867 494	56 662 612 372	6 999 786 520
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(588 937 259)	0.81	(172 285 835)	0.66	0.19	2 183 520 130	2 582 607 207	334 258 216	0.31	2 289 378 565	3 171 544 466	506 544 051
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	2 250 409 625	1.63	449 284 341	2.20	0.47	4 618 741 031	5 833 101 683	824 647 145	0.23	2 828 275 628	3 582 692 058	375 362 804
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(22 231 069 350)	0.47	830 013 592	1.17	3.25	13 299 588 937	19 936 735 480	5 679 438 635	2.92	30 545 696 522	42 167 804 830	4 849 425 043
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(30 126 447 204)	0.22	(3 689 459 289)	0.26	0.75	9 234 442 194	8 526 526 441	1 301 184 565	3.01	31 243 512 090	38 652 973 645	4 990 643 854
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(13 128 564 961)	0.07	(2 001 756 669)	0.07	0.08	805 433 640	1 021 012 592	145 140 067	1.29	10 378 649 233	14 149 577 553	2 146 896 736
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(8 865 992 411)	0.30	(1 031 042 893)	0.34	0.30	3 772 816 815	3 834 226 365	522 034 731	0.94	11 448 967 037	12 700 218 776	1 553 077 624
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	313 260 041 017	35.27	34 167 701 767	63.84	19.89	376 037 228 146	322 401 399 917	34 711 451 120	0.33	8 748 893 719	9 141 358 900	543 749 353
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	74 385 604 451	2.02	8 514 435 077	2.01	9.72	111 839 603 454	147 399 386 640	16 968 935 087	5.10	59 674 372 336	73 013 782 189	8 454 500 010
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(183 295 569 210)	0.31	(21 953 330 881)	0.32	6.00	75 016 282 124	82 962 025 113	10 464 545 580	19.54	204 610 236 679	266 257 594 323	32 417 876 461
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	28 149 687 984	1.28	2 838 658 768	1.20	9.83	116 441 103 537	130 076 245 551	17 153 417 651	8.63	76 441 929 639	101 926 557 567	14 314 758 883
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(22 670 009 586)	0.21	(2 847 817 576)	0.22	0.47	4 988 621 943	5 930 103 434	819 987 474	2.21	24 607 989 481	28 600 113 020	3 667 805 050
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(12 913 783 706)	0.23	(1 635 453 119)	0.26	0.32	2 928 342 726	3 756 393 830	563 904 605	1.33	14 529 448 708	16 670 177 536	2 199 357 724
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	564 114 733	2.94	80 177 079	2.75	0.07	751 454 183	854 207 659	125 865 056	0.03	692 083 165	290 092 926	45 687 977
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	2 970 634 966	3.64	662 546 185	6.61	0.45	2 159 697 815	4 095 175 756	780 745 158	0.07	872 111 747	1 124 540 790	118 198 973
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(90 536 381 600)	0.00	(9 947 861 881)	0.00	0.00	815 686	8 310 898	202 810	6.00	85 056 668 760	90 544 692 498	9 948 064 691
Total	Total SA Rand	90 857 123 246	1.07	8 617 443 152	1.05	100.00	1 233 556 039 364	1 385 863 628 376	174 542 128 422	100.00	961 837 490 269	1 295 006 505 130	165 924 685 270

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 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)	
AFRICA	152 894 855 854	2.98	21 310 163 489	4.01	16.27	161 076 143 267	229 991 819 346	28 389 970 056	4.27	59 925 371 702	77 096 963 492	7 079 806 567	
AMERICA	9 646 527 170	1.07	1 827 071 060	1.10	11.16	160 618 924 021	151 489 758 727	19 486 741 769	10.64	103 596 383 056	141 843 231 557	17 659 670 709	
ASIA	(221 454 824 020)	0.69	(36 834 922 052)	0.63	35.34	436 288 873 223	493 414 153 413	61 691 182 996	59.38	480 473 794 866	714 868 977 433	98 526 105 048	
EUROPE	90 260 342 293	1.27	14 335 726 927	1.35	31.43	381 698 391 699	425 349 291 654	54 865 354 077	24.43	299 239 733 125	335 088 949 361	40 529 627 150	
OCEANIA	(7 527 903 259)	0.61	(251 073 181)	0.87	0.98	10 410 842 222	11 821 168 179	1 711 826 197	1.18	13 721 089 730	19 349 071 438	1 962 899 378	
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	58 138 096 403	9.60	7 266 240 688	44.62	4.26	79 130 643 420	64 897 408 252	7 432 817 106	0.10	4 881 117 790	6 759 311 849	166 576 418	
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	8 900 028 805	-	964 236 221	-	0.55	4 332 221 512	8 900 028 805	964 236 221					
Total	90 857 123 246	1.07	8 617 443 152	1.05	100.00	1 233 556 039 364	1 385 863 628 376	174 542 128 422	100.00	961 837 490 269	1 295 006 505 130	165 924 685 270	

Temporary Imports	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	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

Notes:

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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 September 2022 recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R11.08 billion.

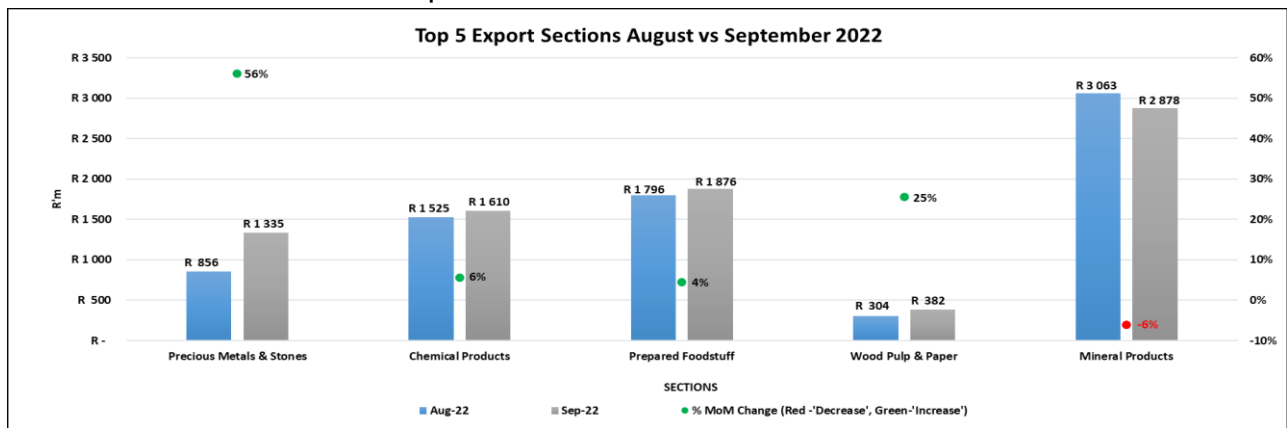
Summary

The R11.08 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for September 2022 was as a result of exports of R17.02 billion and imports of R5.94 billion. Exports increased by R0.61 billion (3.7%) between August and September 2022 and imports increased by R0.86 billion (16.9%) over the same period.

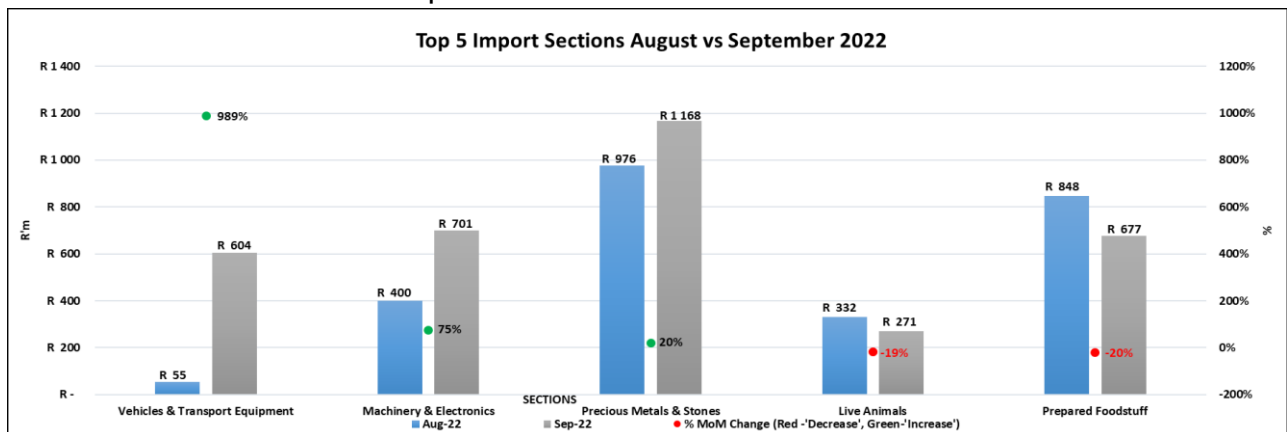
The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2022 was R84.56 billion compared to R75.16 billion in 2021.

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 or TradeStatistics@sars.gov.za