



STATEMENT

SARS MEDIA RELEASE

UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Friday, 30 August 2024

SARS releases the preliminary trade statistics for July 2024

Pretoria, 30 August 2024 – South Africa recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R17.6 billion in July 2024. This surplus was attributable to exports of R175.0 billion and imports of R157.4 billion, inclusive of trade with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN).

The year-to-date (01 January to 31 July 2024) preliminary trade balance surplus of R85.3 billion was an improvement from the R30.3 billion trade balance surplus for the comparable period in 2023. On a year-on-year basis, export flows for July 2024 (R175.0 billion) were 1.9% higher compared to R171.8 billion recorded in July 2023. Import flows were higher by 1.1%, having increased from R155.7 billion in July 2023 to R157.4 billion in the current period.

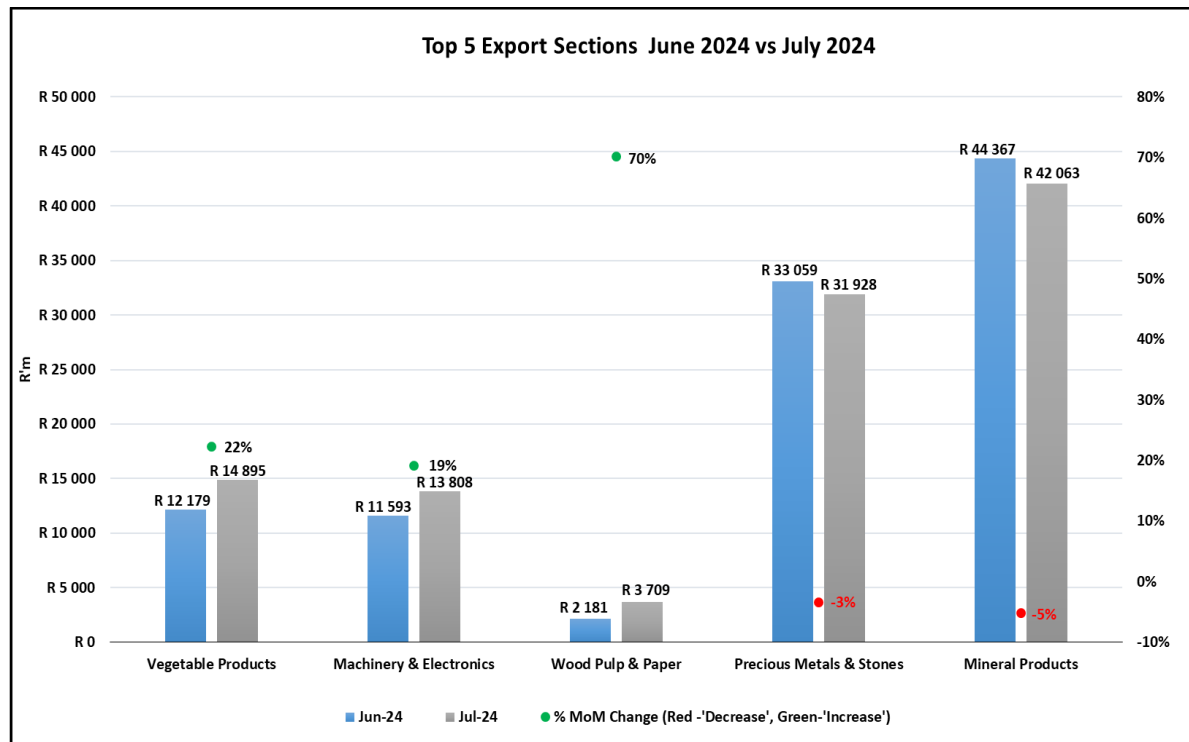
On a month-on-month basis, exports increased by R3.2 billion (1.8%) from R171.9 billion to R175.0 billion between June and July 2024, whilst imports also increased by R9.7 billion (6.6%) from R147.7 billion to R157.4 billion over the same period. Export flows increased in July, driven by Citrus Fruit, Chemical Wood Pulp, and Petroleum Oils (Excl. Crude). Import flows increased on the back of higher importation of Gold, Electric Generating Sets And Rotary Converters, and Mineral Or Chemical Fertilizers.

Due to ongoing Vouchers of Correction (VOCs), the preliminary trade balance surplus of R24.23 billion announced for June 2024 was revised downwards by R0.04 billion, with the final number at R24.19 billion.

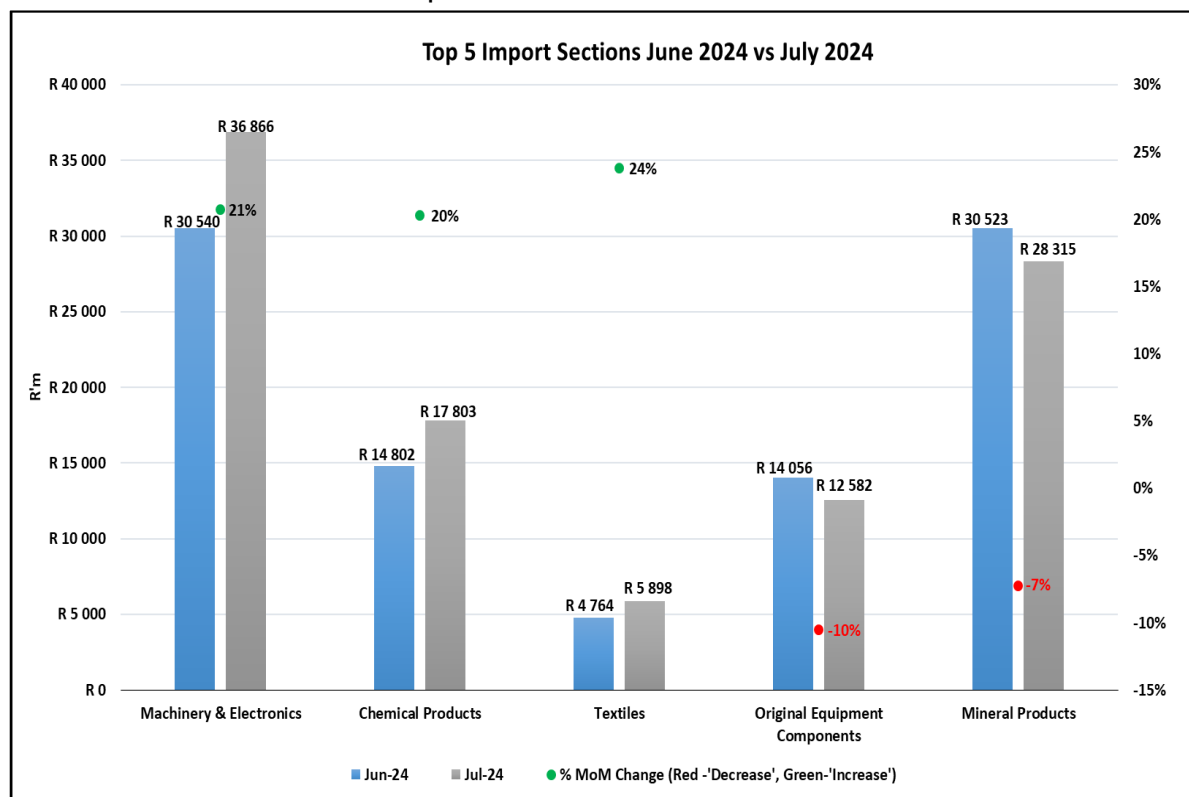
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Trade highlights by category

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) 2024 are given below:

World Zones (R' m)	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	June 2024	July 2024	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	46 209	49 763	3 555	↑ 7.7%
	Imports	18 121	16 398	-1 723	↓ -9.5%
	Trade Balance	28 087	33 365	-	-
America	Exports	16 946	16 530	-415	↓ -2.5%
	Imports	14 453	13 377	-1 076	↓ -7.4%
	Trade Balance	2 493	3 153	-	-
Asia	Exports	52 794	51 913	-881	↓ -1.7%
	Imports	74 178	82 356	8 178	↑ 11.0%
	Trade Balance	-21 384	-30 443	-	-
Europe	Exports	38 374	38 913	539	↑ 1.4%
	Imports	38 150	42 174	4 023	↑ 10.5%
	Trade Balance	224	-3 261	-	-
Oceania	Exports	1 650	2 150	500	↑ 30.3%
	Imports	1 899	2 023	124	↑ 6.5%
	Trade Balance	-249	126	-	-
Other Unclassified	Exports	14 678	14 317	-361	↓ -2.5%
	Imports	887	1 093	207	↑ 23.3%
	Trade Balance	13 791	13 223	-	-
Ship/Aircraft	Exports	1 229	1 443	214	↑ 17.4%
	Imports	-	-	-	-
	Trade Balance	1 229	1 443	-	-

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

South Africa's trade with the rest of the world (excl. BELN) for July 2024 indicates a preliminary trade balance surplus of R6.2 billion.

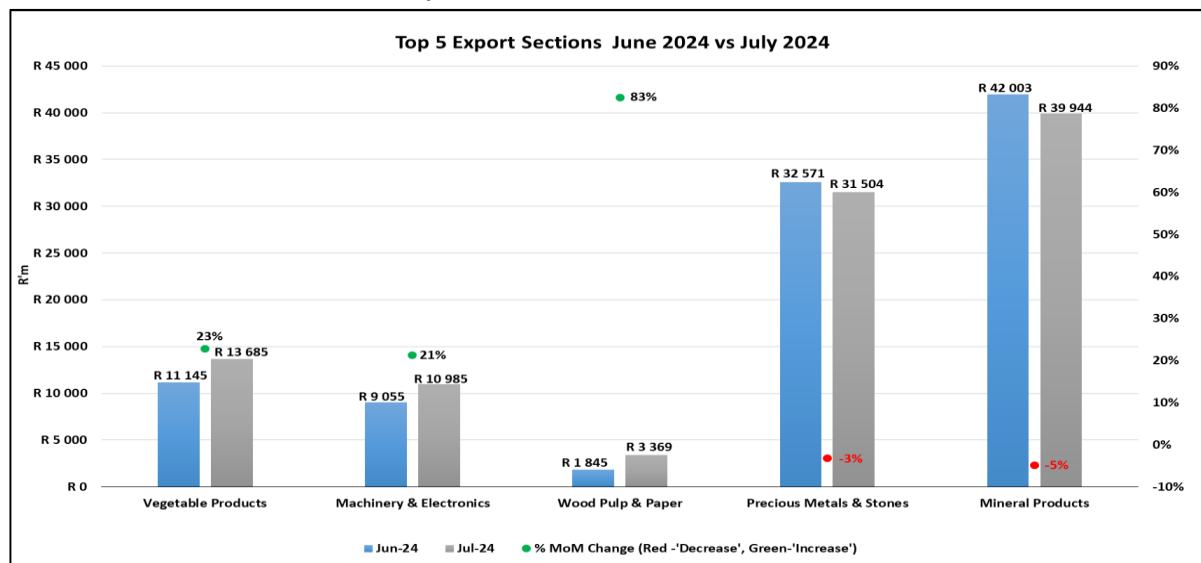
Summary

The R6.2 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for July 2024 was as a result of exports of R157.7 billion and imports of R151.5 billion. Exports increased by R2.0 billion (1.3%) between June and July 2024 whilst imports increased by R9.0 billion (6.3%) over the same period.

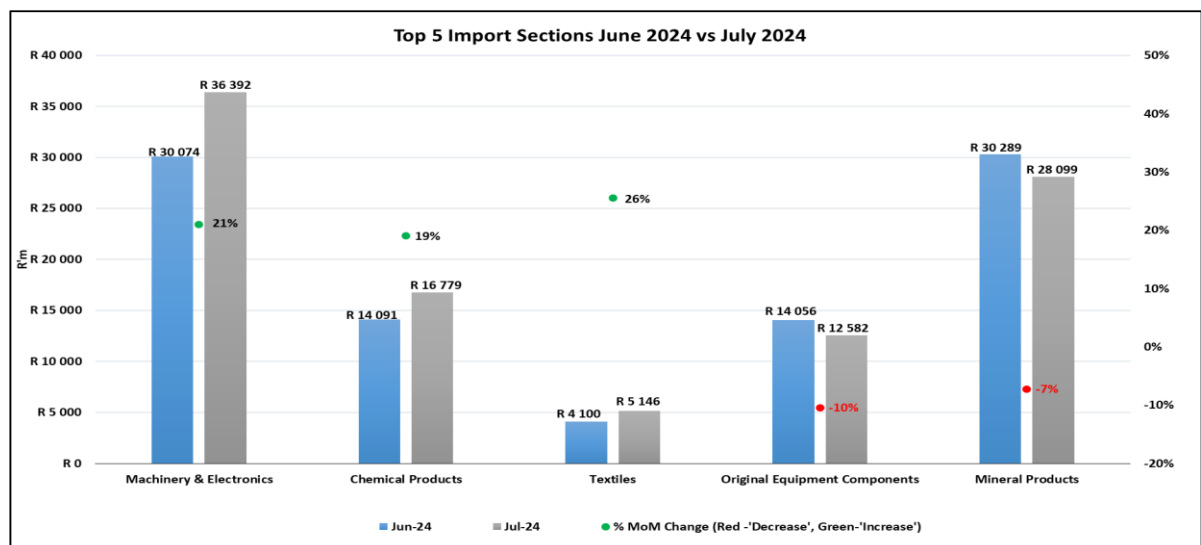
The preliminary cumulative trade balance for 2024 was a surplus of R8.8 billion, compared to R39.4 billion trade balance deficit for the corresponding period in 2023.

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 2024 (revised) and July (preliminary) 2024 are given below:

World Zones	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	June 2024	July 2024	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	29 990	32 403	2 413	8.0%
	Imports	12 936	10 452	-2 484	-19.2%
	Trade Balance	17 054	21 951	-	-

[Click here for Merchandise Trade Statistics July 2024](#)

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 2023 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2024 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2024 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2023 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2024 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2024 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	51 129 025	1.00	123 378 006	1.07	1.10	11 844 793 396	13 034 329 590	1 920 094 824	1.14	12 740 383 607	12 983 200 565	1 796 716 818
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	55 601 646 192	3.27	11 755 105 049	4.74	8.51	77 977 207 822	80 100 397 904	14 895 299 058	1.99	22 987 573 875	24 498 751 712	3 140 194 009
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(3 236 000 810)	0.60	(593 941 365)	0.56	0.42	4 561 183 451	4 823 801 786	741 162 009	0.85	7 285 166 512	8 059 802 596	1 335 103 374
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	16 638 854 522	1.52	3 072 885 653	1.67	4.39	44 090 562 770	48 403 788 051	7 688 966 706	2.93	32 043 841 161	31 764 933 529	4 616 081 053
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	81 078 898 629	1.37	13 748 855 609	1.49	24.03	304 426 414 145	302 918 479 779	42 063 433 065	17.99	235 152 210 059	221 839 581 150	28 314 577 456
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(46 190 088 622)	0.60	(7 766 505 838)	0.56	5.73	68 857 962 880	67 926 165 071	10 036 781 752	11.31	108 745 435 620	114 116 253 693	17 803 287 590
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(25 478 019 174)	0.44	(3 401 365 399)	0.49	1.87	20 712 108 444	20 034 441 597	3 266 073 332	4.24	42 372 098 161	45 512 460 771	6 667 438 731
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(246 869 246)	0.91	(59 758 415)	0.87	0.23	2 482 854 541	2 563 238 729	410 799 073	0.30	2 611 349 338	2 810 107 975	470 557 488
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	1 705 388 495	1.40	112 256 618	1.16	0.45	5 954 014 314	6 001 828 756	793 953 100	0.43	4 070 659 270	4 296 440 261	681 696 482
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	5 797 948 277	1.42	1 680 313 606	1.83	2.12	19 950 258 061	19 617 325 458	3 709 058 745	1.29	14 013 711 462	13 819 377 181	2 028 745 139
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(23 352 524 437)	0.36	(4 137 063 588)	0.30	1.01	13 644 007 575	13 285 794 200	1 761 277 857	3.75	34 090 172 857	36 638 318 637	5 898 341 445
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(8 737 775 083)	0.21	(1 743 482 516)	0.17	0.20	2 182 262 004	2 279 877 518	344 819 027	1.33	10 286 993 714	11 017 652 601	2 088 301 543
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(5 107 309 812)	0.46	(856 246 144)	0.45	0.40	4 565 378 040	4 401 853 461	704 958 692	0.99	10 185 877 788	9 509 163 273	1 561 204 836
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	191 999 088 230	11.99	28 185 651 525	8.53	18.24	220 917 963 819	209 467 796 882	31 928 405 153	2.38	15 924 478 977	17 468 708 652	3 742 753 628
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	65 638 885 076	2.12	8 570 534 164	1.96	10.02	132 710 879 876	124 199 421 634	17 536 800 456	5.70	58 960 715 094	58 560 536 558	8 966 266 292
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(155 746 783 506)	0.35	(23 058 325 079)	0.37	7.89	86 475 629 049	83 410 228 960	13 807 643 800	23.42	284 518 891 769	239 157 012 466	36 865 968 879
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	55 981 830 470	1.68	8 795 177 818	1.72	12.05	126 650 768 279	138 070 991 049	21 083 963 314	7.81	104 257 726 615	82 089 160 579	12 288 785 496
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(20 797 392 884)	0.22	(3 108 665 561)	0.23	0.53	6 357 964 176	5 890 734 478	933 914 826	2.57	25 355 149 028	26 688 127 362	4 042 580 387
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(7 107 491 295)	0.47	(1 222 909 637)	0.45	0.58	5 685 375 456	6 243 314 116	1 014 714 240	1.42	12 369 485 138	13 350 805 411	2 237 623 877
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	605 772 157	2.46	58 130 933	1.87	0.07	889 847 963	1 021 204 889	124 972 731	0.04	698 765 745	415 432 732	66 841 798
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	1 937 857 605	2.40	34 353 089	1.15	0.15	2 100 445 554	3 326 109 901	261 092 939	0.14	875 850 512	1 388 252 296	226 739 850
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(95 779 695 514)	0.00	(12 581 295 672)	0.00	0.00	2 045 248	1 930 095	469 422	7.99	93 205 176 956	95 781 625 609	12 581 765 094
Total	Total SA Rand	85 257 348 295	1.08	17 607 082 856	1.11	100.00	1 163 039 926 863	1 157 023 053 904	175 028 654 121	100.00	1 132 751 713 258	1 071 765 705 609	157 421 571 265

		Cumulative Trade		Monthly Trade		Exports				Imports			
World Zones		Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ⁵⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Month % of total	Cumulative 2023 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2024 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2024 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2023 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2024 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2024 (R'm)
AFRICA		210 511 087 574	2.87	33 365 004 069	3.03	28.43	304 877 218 290	323 346 964 244	49 763 196 525	10.42	105 338 207 080	112 835 876 670	16 398 192 456
AMERICA		3 876 150 525	1.04	3 153 487 727	1.24	9.44	112 113 733 906	107 496 815 368	16 530 333 630	8.50	113 333 365 485	103 620 664 843	13 376 845 903
ASIA		(187 232 624 258)	0.65	(30 443 258 591)	0.63	29.66	368 692 613 104	350 747 199 792	51 913 091 219	52.32	589 616 798 012	537 979 824 050	82 356 349 810
EUROPE		(26 896 802 002)	0.91	(3 261 045 932)	0.92	22.23	292 296 369 108	272 513 879 377	38 912 562 990	26.79	305 921 214 344	299 410 681 379	42 173 608 922
OCEANIA		(385 430 618)	0.97	126 375 551	1.06	1.23	11 615 814 864	12 818 158 714	2 149 770 545	1.29	13 320 935 424	13 203 589 332	2 023 394 994
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED		76 938 018 927	17.32	13 223 402 278	13.10	8.18	67 083 899 543	81 653 088 262	14 316 581 458	0.69	5 221 192 913	4 715 069 335	1 093 179 180
SHIP/AIRCRAFT		8 446 948 147	-	1 443 117 754	-	0.82	6 360 278 048	8 446 948 147	1 443 117 754				
Total		85 257 348 295	1.08	17 607 082 856	1.11	100.00	1 163 039 926 863	1 157 023 053 904	175 028 654 121	100.00	1 132 751 713 258	1 071 765 705 609	157 421 571 265

Temporary Imports	January 2024	February 2024	March 2024	April 2024	May 2024	June 2024	July 2024
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	14 587 876 314	13 046 045 554	13 841 360 394	17 201 568 936	16 523 213 266	16 850 871 001	18 381 500 715

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 2023 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2024 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2024 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2023 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2024 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2024 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	263 581 898	1.03	145 658 886	1.11	0.96	9 532 889 336	10 472 082 296	1 512 226 604	0.90	9 961 877 916	10 208 500 398	1 366 567 718
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	48 189 168 364	3.03	10 683 570 851	4.56	8.68	70 906 344 681	71 960 602 803	13 685 111 351	1.98	22 220 372 572	23 771 434 439	3 001 540 500
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(4 643 985 168)	0.42	(842 202 601)	0.37	0.31	3 252 046 332	3 401 753 641	489 357 659	0.88	7 277 648 844	8 045 738 809	1 331 560 260
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	7 787 866 653	1.29	1 824 788 326	1.49	3.51	31 685 361 741	34 388 483 937	5 527 005 311	2.44	27 284 334 425	26 600 617 284	3 702 216 985
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	64 802 629 483	1.29	11 844 306 373	1.42	25.33	286 890 104 648	285 123 835 682	39 943 614 410	18.55	233 403 606 760	220 321 206 199	28 099 308 037
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(50 388 096 684)	0.53	(8 357 037 849)	0.50	5.34	58 948 205 379	57 114 542 751	8 422 443 245	11.08	103 375 661 808	107 502 639 435	16 779 481 094
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(30 099 439 591)	0.33	(4 080 926 432)	0.38	1.58	15 966 098 130	14 855 313 818	2 498 367 084	4.34	41 896 479 988	44 954 753 409	6 579 293 516
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(493 240 727)	0.82	(100 572 494)	0.78	0.23	2 171 084 053	2 242 510 874	361 850 305	0.31	2 555 087 641	2 735 751 601	462 422 799
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	1 835 847 417	1.68	134 054 683	1.31	0.36	4 658 466 995	4 517 021 805	561 375 069	0.28	2 539 922 351	2 681 174 388	427 320 386
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	3 740 157 582	1.28	1 384 237 464	1.70	2.14	17 557 924 749	17 240 010 829	3 368 846 677	1.31	13 748 842 209	13 499 853 247	1 984 609 213
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(24 182 321 658)	0.24	(4 258 889 113)	0.17	0.56	8 634 147 710	7 835 973 322	887 498 163	3.40	29 370 149 418	32 018 294 980	5 146 387 276
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(9 941 958 115)	0.09	(1 942 400 368)	0.06	0.08	925 158 914	949 872 117	122 047 252	1.36	10 162 843 538	10 891 830 232	2 064 447 620
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(6 361 936 157)	0.33	(1 083 990 816)	0.30	0.30	3 331 749 561	3 067 349 680	467 222 556	1.02	10 109 245 851	9 429 285 837	1 551 213 372
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	199 456 001 021	27.19	29 178 442 826	13.55	19.98	218 323 809 170	207 071 467 861	31 503 968 512	1.54	7 397 696 359	7 615 466 840	2 325 525 686
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	58 632 540 181	2.01	7 467 171 697	1.84	10.36	125 881 838 701	116 584 544 346	16 340 935 349	5.86	58 359 355 075	57 952 004 165	8 873 763 652
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(169 979 887 255)	0.28	(25 407 468 436)	0.30	6.97	71 422 139 288	65 723 717 650	10 984 860 580	24.03	280 994 281 156	235 703 604 905	36 392 329 016
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	45 473 703 776	1.56	7 090 375 899	1.58	12.27	116 185 936 899	127 260 979 161	19 347 882 182	8.09	103 979 146 980	81 787 275 385	12 257 506 283
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(22 281 661 250)	0.16	(3 363 522 389)	0.17	0.42	4 995 290 401	4 339 237 644	669 777 497	2.66	25 283 227 367	26 620 898 894	4 033 299 886
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(9 742 636 603)	0.27	(1 632 136 530)	0.27	0.37	3 351 462 453	3 530 938 833	591 000 285	1.47	12 294 602 235	13 273 575 436	2 223 136 815
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	595 840 189	2.44	57 742 428	1.87	0.08	884 879 476	1 010 680 386	124 491 087	0.04	698 302 927	414 840 197	66 748 659
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	1 921 374 423	2.40	32 873 570	1.15	0.16	2 063 857 453	3 297 894 565	257 663 680	0.15	862 561 649	1 376 520 142	224 790 110
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(95 780 069 783)	0.00	(12 581 295 752)	0.00	0.00	2 042 782	1 535 826	469 342	8.31	93 204 817 191	95 781 605 609	12 581 765 094
Total	Total SA Rand	8 803 477 996	1.01	6 192 780 223	1.04	100.00	1 057 570 838 852	1 041 990 349 827	157 668 014 200	100.00	1 096 980 064 260	1 033 186 871 831	151 475 233 977

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 2023 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2024 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2024 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2023 ³⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2024 ³⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2024 (R'm)
AFRICA	134 057 217 275	2.81	21 950 701 436	3.10	20.55	199 408 130 279	208 314 260 167	32 402 556 604	6.90	69 566 558 082	74 257 042 892	10 451 855 168
AMERICA	3 876 150 525	1.04	3 153 487 727	1.24	10.48	112 113 733 906	107 496 815 368	16 530 333 630	8.83	113 333 365 485	103 620 664 843	13 376 845 903
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OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	76 938 018 927	17.32	13 223 402 278	13.10	9.08	67 083 899 543	81 653 088 262	14 316 581 458	0.72	5 221 192 913	4 715 069 335	1 093 179 180
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	8 446 948 147	-	1 443 117 754	-	0.92	6 360 278 048	8 446 948 147	1 443 117 754				
Total	8 803 477 996	1.01	6 192 780 223	1.04	100.00	1 057 570 838 852	1 041 990 349 827	157 668 014 200	100.00	1 096 980 064 260	1 033 186 871 831	151 475 233 977

Temporary Imports	January 2024	February 2024	March 2024	April 2024	May 2024	June 2024	July 2024
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	14 587 876 314	13 046 045 554	13 841 360 394	17 201 568 936	16 523 213 266	16 850 871 001	18 381 500 715

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)

South Africa's trade with the BELN countries for July 2024 show a preliminary trade balance surplus of R11.4 billion.

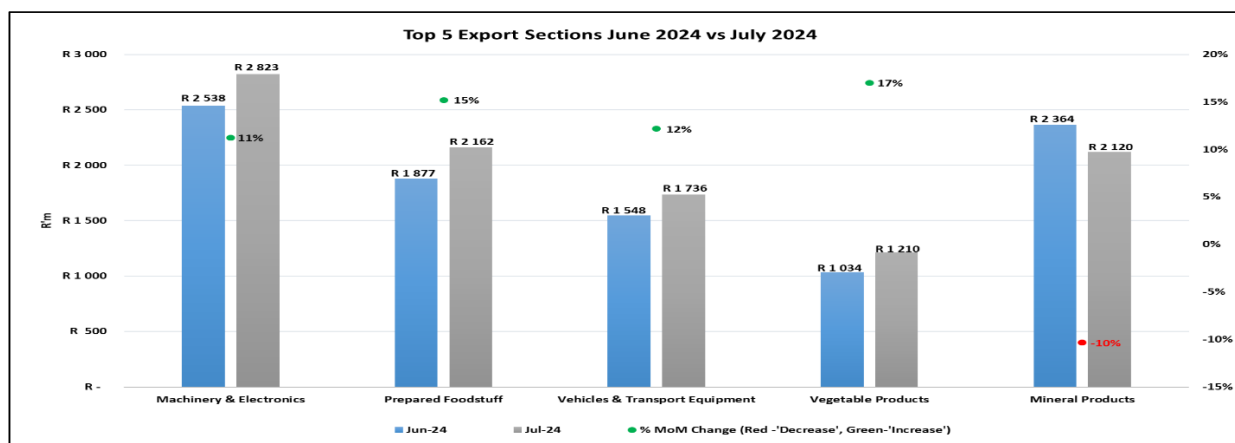
Summary

The R11.4 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for July 2024 was as a result of exports of R17.4 billion and imports of R5.9 billion. Exports increased by R1.1 billion (7.0%) between June and July 2024 and imports increased by R0.8 billion (14.7%) over the same period.

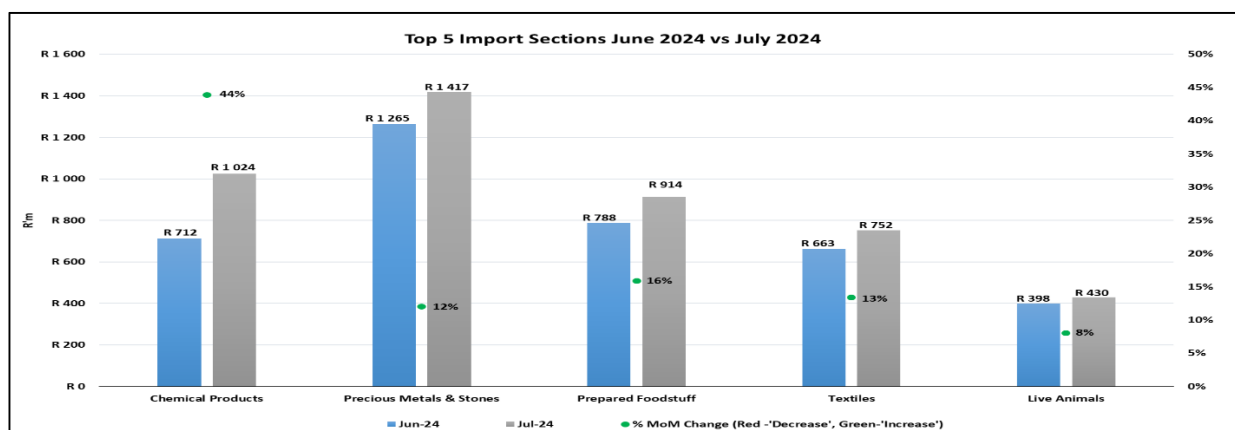
The preliminary cumulative trade balance for 2024 was a surplus of R76.5 billion, compared to R69.7 billion in 2023.

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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