

STATEMENT

SARS MEDIA RELEASE

UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Thursday, 31 March 2022

SARS releases the preliminary trade statistics for February 2022

Pretoria, 31 March 2022 – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for February 2022 recording a preliminary trade balance surplus of R10.60 billion. These statistics include trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN). The year-to-date (01 January to 28 February 2022) preliminary trade balance surplus of R14.67 billion is a deterioration from the R45.21 billion trade balance surplus for the comparable period in 2021. Exports increased by 7.3% year-on-year whilst imports increased by 31.4% over the same period.

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

The R10.60 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for February 2022 is attributable to exports of R141.15 billion and imports of R130.55 billion. Exports increased by R10.51 billion (8.0%) between January and February 2022 and imports increased by R3.98 billion (3.1%) over the same period.

Exports for the year-to-date (01 January to 28 February 2022) increased by 12.2% to R271.78 billion from R242.24 billion over the same period during 2021. Imports for the year-to-date of R257.11 billion were 30.5% more than the R197.02 billion imports recorded during the same period in 2021. The cumulative trade balance surplus for 2022 is R14.67 billion.

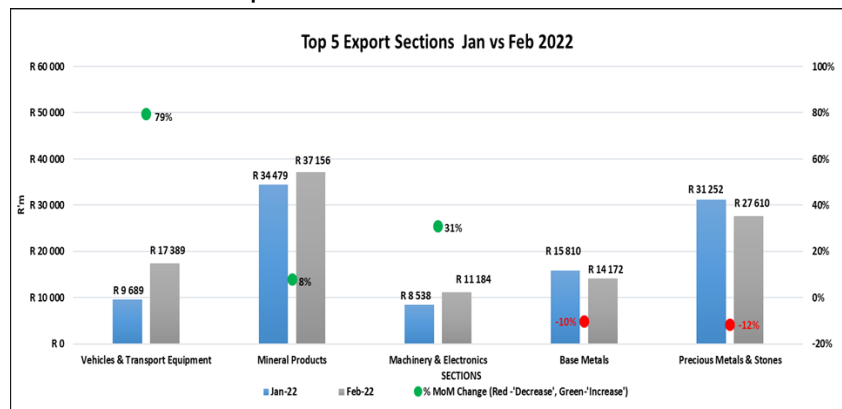
On a year-on-year basis, the R10.60 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for February 2022 was a deterioration from the R32.21 billion trade balance surplus recorded in February 2021. Exports of R141.15 billion were 7.3% more than the R131.57 billion exports recorded in February 2021. Imports of R130.55 billion were 31.4% more than the R99.36 billion imports recorded in February 2021.

January 2022 preliminary trade balance surplus was revised upwards by R0.51 billion due to the ongoing Vouchers of Correction (VOC). The revision was from the preliminary trade balance surplus of R3.55 billion to the revised trade balance surplus of R4.06 billion.

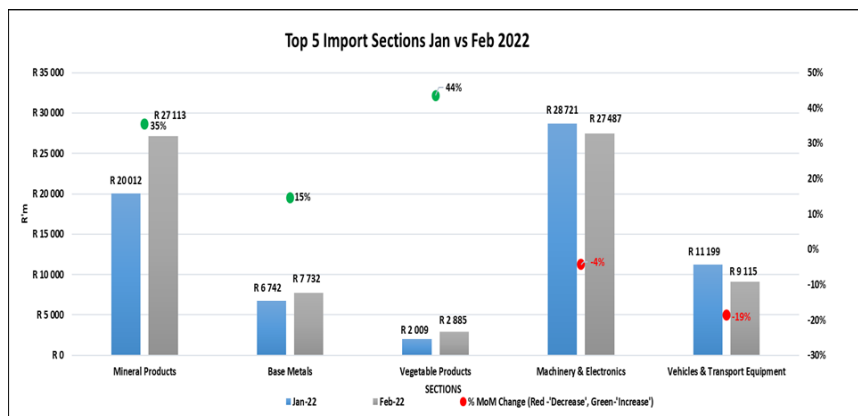
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Trade highlights by category

The main month-on-month export movements:



The main month-on-month import movements:



Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from January (revised) to February (preliminary) 2022 are given below:

World Zones (R' m)	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)					
	Trade Type	January 2022	February 2022	Variance	% M-o-M	
Africa	Exports	31 575	33 875	2 301	↑	7.3%
	Imports	12 380	16 498	4 118	↑	33.3%
	Trade Balance	19 195	17 378	-1 817		
America	Exports	11 725	15 156	3 431	↑	29.3%
	Imports	14 028	14 124	96	↑	0.7%
	Trade Balance	-2 303	1 032	3 335		
Asia	Exports	42 984	43 909	925	↑	2.2%
	Imports	64 702	64 352	-350	↓	-0.5%
	Trade Balance	-21 719	-20 443	1 276		
Europe	Exports	35 174	41 222	6 048	↑	17.2%
	Imports	32 386	33 362	976	↑	3.0%
	Trade Balance	2 788	7 859	5 072		
Oceania	Exports	942	1 138	196	↑	20.8%
	Imports	1 761	1 835	74	↑	4.2%
	Trade Balance	-818	-697	121		
Other Unclassified	Exports	7 790	5 161	-2 630	↓	-33.8%
	Imports	1 311	374	-937	↓	-71.4%
	Trade Balance	6 479	4 786	-1 693		
Ship/Aircraft	Exports	445	687	242	↑	54.5%
	Imports	-	-	-		
	Trade Balance	445	687	242		

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

The trade data excluding BELN for February 2022 recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R1.49 billion.

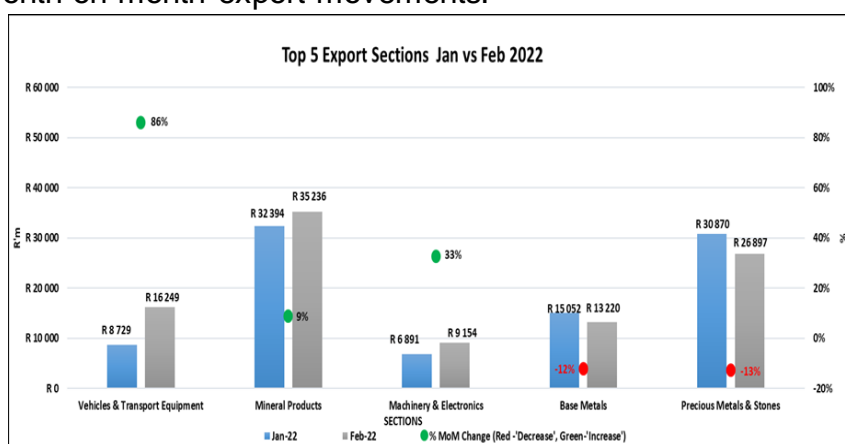
Summary

The R1.49 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for February 2022 was as a result of exports of R127.63 billion and imports of R126.14 billion. Exports increased by R9.14 billion (7.7%) between January and February 2022 and imports increased by R4.44 billion (3.7%) over the same period.

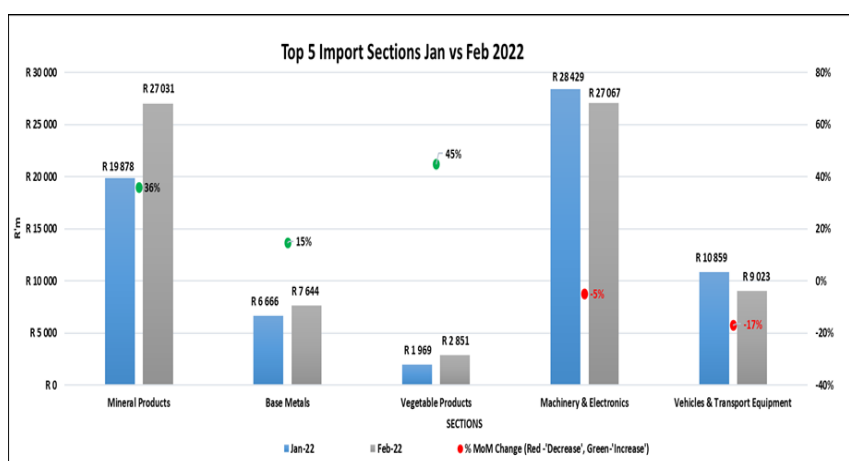
The preliminary cumulative trade balance deficit for 2022 was R1.72 billion compared to R31.02 billion trade balance surplus during 2021.

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 January (Revised) and February (preliminary) 2022 are given below:

World Zones	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	January 2022	February 2022	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	19 430	20 361	931	↑ 4.8%
	Imports	7 512	12 096	4 584	↑ 61.0%
	Trade Balance	11 918	8 266	-3 653	

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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 ¹⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(735 708 262)	0.79	(254 533 953)	0.85	1.01	2 618 002 114	2 798 006 505	1 426 011 409	1.29	2 517 401 718	3 533 714 767	1 680 545 362
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	10 891 986 394	3.23	5 149 207 252	2.79	5.69	11 762 731 801	15 785 504 849	8 033 760 640	2.21	4 040 227 427	4 893 518 455	2 884 553 388
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(3 059 432 735)	0.27	(1 170 709 290)	0.37	0.48	640 505 840	1 148 025 544	674 681 928	1.41	1 394 184 283	4 207 458 279	1 845 391 218
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	2 014 521 171	1.30	1 275 242 760	1.38	3.26	7 548 234 421	8 791 591 142	4 602 826 281	2.55	6 493 854 594	6 777 069 971	3 327 583 521
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	24 510 150 521	1.52	10 043 015 861	1.37	26.32	66 305 583 434	71 634 896 085	37 156 021 934	20.77	31 321 444 274	47 124 745 564	27 113 006 073
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(11 173 624 452)	0.62	(5 504 003 475)	0.62	6.30	15 425 487 779	17 963 294 379	8 896 542 912	11.03	22 430 087 998	29 136 918 831	14 400 546 387
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(6 290 465 090)	0.43	(2 896 232 345)	0.46	1.76	3 990 759 720	4 699 798 229	2 490 733 936	4.13	8 747 793 918	10 990 263 319	5 386 966 281
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(9 531 504)	0.99	35 518	1.00	0.24	540 921 292	634 851 899	344 672 683	0.26	524 697 200	644 383 403	344 637 165
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	222 359 634	1.18	205 925 060	1.35	0.56	1 044 462 255	1 437 310 774	788 286 767	0.45	1 032 560 846	1 214 951 140	582 361 707
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(5 637 049 869)	0.41	(2 450 813 321)	0.46	1.50	2 989 004 572	3 967 097 142	2 121 992 297	3.50	5 831 675 225	9 604 147 011	4 572 805 618
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(7 245 725 938)	0.28	(3 528 843 538)	0.33	1.24	2 905 236 474	2 883 775 407	1 754 716 819	4.05	8 137 360 365	10 129 501 345	5 283 560 357
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(2 474 352 614)	0.15	(1 316 219 329)	0.17	0.18	421 350 676	437 915 734	260 882 756	1.21	2 475 182 951	2 912 268 348	1 577 102 085
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(1 603 030 009)	0.38	(625 136 437)	0.47	0.39	995 643 109	982 116 399	550 596 058	0.90	2 488 098 193	2 585 146 408	1 175 732 495
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	54 486 648 371	13.45	25 707 922 230	14.52	19.56	59 799 812 239	58 861 687 371	27 609 739 012	1.46	2 827 309 031	4 375 039 000	1 901 816 782
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	15 507 984 238	2.07	6 439 973 640	1.83	10.04	22 797 555 319	29 982 330 696	14 172 069 599	5.92	11 820 583 045	14 474 346 458	7 732 095 959
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(36 486 217 303)	0.35	(16 303 052 832)	0.41	7.92	17 246 222 142	19 721 961 100	11 184 390 646	21.06	42 935 726 578	56 208 178 403	27 487 443 478
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	6 763 838 804	1.33	8 274 359 593	1.91	12.32	22 365 221 344	27 077 978 126	17 389 061 819	6.98	14 659 627 059	20 314 139 322	9 114 702 226
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(4 484 756 692)	0.23	(2 395 124 601)	0.23	0.50	1 400 666 121	1 340 914 404	712 673 855	2.38	4 910 245 113	5 825 671 096	3 107 798 456
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(2 124 506 438)	0.37	(960 655 776)	0.44	0.54	1 012 681 703	1 234 765 929	760 511 435	1.32	2 949 621 028	3 359 272 367	1 721 167 211
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	5 308 991	1.05	57 850 299	3.63	0.06	129 984 899	121 875 581	79 828 486	0.02	217 822 779	116 566 590	21 978 187
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	122 728 112	1.81	66 680 933	1.97	0.10	283 272 721	274 145 713	135 351 991	0.05	192 219 884	151 417 601	68 671 058
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(18 533 132 154)	0.00	(9 212 785 437)	0.00	0.00	13 724 101	2 316 999	2 244 657	7.06	19 074 445 668	18 535 449 153	9 215 030 094
Total	Total SA Rand	14 667 993 176	1.06	10 602 102 812	1.08	100.00	242 237 064 076	271 782 160 007	141 147 597 920	100.00	197 022 168 277	257 114 166 831	130 545 495 108

World Zones	Cumulative Trade		Monthly Trade		Exports				Imports			
	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ¹⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)
AFRICA	36 572 312 688	2.27	17 377 618 202	2.05	24.00	50 376 316 350	65 449 879 351	33 875 205 577	12.64	18 748 028 152	28 877 566 663	16 497 587 375
AMERICA	(1 271 743 583)	0.95	1 031 538 723	1.07	10.74	25 570 511 484	26 880 717 826	15 155 816 714	10.82	18 558 035 663	28 152 461 409	14 124 277 991
ASIA	(42 161 297 640)	0.67	(20 442 795 310)	0.68	31.11	82 538 430 975	86 892 457 245	43 908 892 413	49.29	97 061 401 545	129 053 754 885	64 351 687 723
EUROPE	10 647 244 001	1.16	7 859 423 045	1.24	29.20	64 011 163 616	76 395 582 252	41 221 546 629	25.56	59 984 087 777	65 748 338 251	33 362 123 584
OCEANIA	(1 515 615 123)	0.58	(697 119 760)	0.62	0.81	1 663 066 549	2 080 734 958	1 138 289 677	1.41	2 085 174 372	3 596 350 081	1 835 409 437
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	11 265 529 496	7.68	4 786 449 072	13.78	3.66	17 169 165 577	12 951 225 038	5 160 858 070	0.29	585 440 768	1 685 695 542	374 408 998
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	1 131 563 337	-	686 988 840	-	0.49	908 409 525	1 131 563 337	686 988 840				
Total	14 667 993 176	1.06	10 602 102 812	1.08	100.00	242 237 064 076	271 782 160 007	141 147 597 920	100.00	197 022 168 277	257 114 166 831	130 545 495 108
Temporary Imports	January 2022	February 2022										
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	7 517 354 453	7 876 530 173										

Notes:

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- 2) Special Provisions: Automotive Production and Development Programme (APDP)
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- 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 ¹⁾ (Exports/Imports)	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio Exports/Imports	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)	Month % of total	Cumulative 2021 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Cumulative 2022 ¹⁾ (R'm)	Month Total 2022 (R'm)
I, Ch 1-5	Animals/Animal Products	(579 340 332)	0.79	(159 419 967)	0.88	0.90	2 069 655 249	2 206 809 626	1 143 696 642	1.03	1 984 092 443	2 786 149 958	1 303 116 609
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	9 203 237 387	2.91	4 344 472 978	2.52	5.64	10 374 425 551	14 023 152 331	7 195 378 167	2.26	3 959 159 406	4 819 914 944	2 850 905 259
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(3 402 320 963)	0.19	(1 359 086 275)	0.26	0.38	370 222 384	800 308 389	482 973 204	1.46	1 392 519 334	4 202 629 352	1 842 059 479
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	278 613 283	1.05	365 291 390	1.13	2.44	5 019 220 870	5 868 128 295	3 111 906 849	2.18	5 547 169 734	5 589 515 012	2 746 615 459
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	20721 402 360	1.44	8 205 112 017	1.30	27.61	63 323 683 402	67 629 920 177	35 235 688 992	21.43	31 179 194 696	46 908 517 817	27 030 576 975
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(12 082 695 352)	0.56	(6 032 392 841)	0.56	6.00	13 260 188 645	15 520 400 975	7 664 240 533	10.86	21 195 535 171	27 603 096 327	13 696 633 374
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(7 389 595 250)	0.32	(3 492 009 699)	0.35	1.45	3 050 653 078	3 506 322 326	1 845 235 410	4.23	8 642 120 294	10 895 917 576	5 337 245 109
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(80969 469)	0.87	(35 064 545)	0.90	0.24	449 976 281	549 002 192	302 408 050	0.27	508 674 949	6 29 971 661	337 472 595
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	228 369 770	1.27	186 296 344	1.47	0.46	740 832 417	1 077 877 193	584 289 837	0.32	733 482 520	849 507 423	397 993 493
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(6 135 772 831)	0.36	(2 697 902 300)	0.41	1.45	2 538 839 737	3 419 095 590	1 851 463 142	3.61	5 792 633 935	9 554 868 421	4 549 365 442
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(7 293 110 354)	0.18	(3 561 738 418)	0.23	0.84	1 790 458 411	1 622 776 699	1 077 525 977	3.68	7 061 889 646	8 915 887 053	4 639 264 395
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(2 755 534 633)	0.05	(1 474 808 262)	0.06	0.07	147 916 741	135 079 670	89 032 615	1.24	2 463 579 788	2 890 614 303	1 563 840 877
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(1 891 062 591)	0.26	(776 785 526)	0.33	0.30	702 019 034	672 626 781	387 365 420	0.92	2 472 385 339	2 563 689 372	1 164 150 946
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	55 755 269 234	28.72	26 056 517 849	32.02	21.07	59 319 983 067	57 766 401 937	26 896 596 559	0.67	1 312 343 330	2 011 132 703	840 078 710
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	13 962 218 892	1.98	5 576 240 535	1.73	10.36	21 262 188 922	28 271 955 654	13 220 228 453	6.06	11 709 619 126	14 309 736 762	7 643 987 918
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(39 449 829 871)	0.29	(17 912 750 377)	0.34	7.17	14 106 878 471	16 045 362 175	9 153 867 283	21.46	42 226 969 173	55 495 192 046	27 066 617 660
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	5 095 504 194	1.26	7 225 191 643	1.80	12.73	20 383 662 712	24 977 982 031	16 248 675 293	7.15	14 374 431 501	19 882 477 837	9 023 483 650
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(4 795 369 704)	0.17	(2 558 056 843)	0.18	0.43	1 047 190 949	1 016 331 614	542 868 042	2.46	4 891 498 068	5 811 701 318	3 100 924 885
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(2 695 412 981)	0.19	(1 315 450 842)	0.23	0.31	511 729 243	629 789 243	390 006 076	1.35	2 933 853 042	3 325 202 224	1 705 456 918
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	4 546 723	1.04	57 469 468	3.62	0.06	129 347 910	120 957 684	79 389 884	0.02	217 769 377	116 410 961	21 920 416
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	116 692 219	1.79	63 879 606	1.95	0.10	275 588 089	263 709 880	130 871 978	0.05	186 578 621	147 017 661	66 992 372
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(18 535 386 381)	0.00	(9 215 017 306)	0.00	0.00	624 101	62 772	12 788	7.31	19 074 445 668	18 535 449 153	9 215 030 094
Total	Total SA Rand	(1 720 546 650)	0.99	1 489 988 559	1.01	100.00	220 875 285 264	246 124 053 234	127 633 721 194	100.00	189 859 945 161	247 844 599 884	126 143 732 635

World Zones	Cumulative Trade		Monthly Trade		Exports				Imports			
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AFRICA	20 183 772 862	2.03	8 265 503 949	1.68	15.95	29 014 537 538	39 791 772 578	20 361 328 851	9.59	11 585 805 036	19 607 999 716	12 095 824 902
AMERICA	(1 271 743 583)	0.95	1 031 538 723	1.07	11.87	25 570 511 484	26 880 717 826	15 155 816 714	11.20	18 558 035 663	28 152 461 409	14 124 277 991
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OCEANIA	(1 515 615 123)	0.58	(697 119 760)	0.62	0.89	1 663 066 549	2 080 734 958	1 138 289 677	1.46	2 085 174 372	3 596 350 081	1 835 409 437
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SHIP/AIRCRAFT	1 131 563 337	-	686 988 840	-	0.54	908 409 525	1 131 563 337	686 988 840				
Total	(1 720 546 650)	0.99	1 489 988 559	1.01	100.00	220 875 285 264	246 124 053 234	127 633 721 194	100.00	189 859 945 161	247 844 599 884	126 143 732 635
Temporary Imports	January 2022	February 2022										
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	7 517 354 453	7 876 530 173										

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 February 2022 recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R9.11 billion.

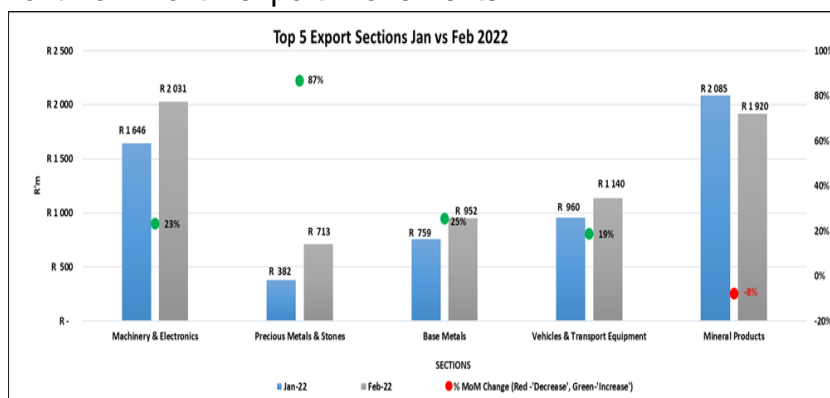
Summary

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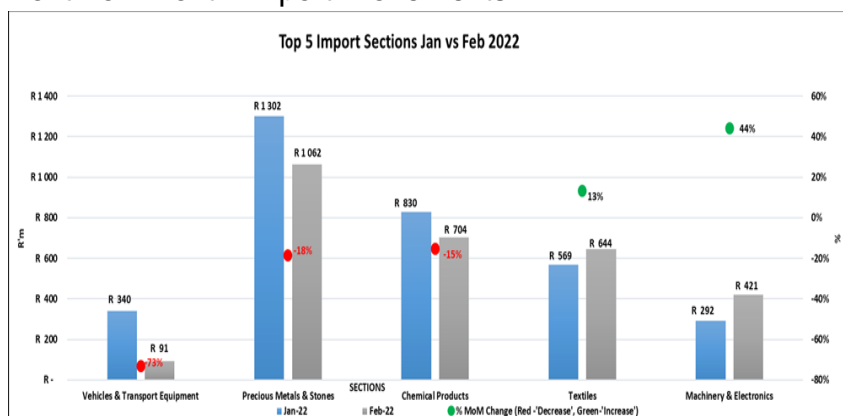
The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2022 was R16.39 billion compared to R14.20 billion in 2021.

Trade Highlights by Category

The main month-on-month export movements:



The main month-on-month import movements:



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ENDS.

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