

STATEMENT

SARS MEDIA RELEASE

UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Monday, 28 February 2022

SARS releases the preliminary trade statistics for January 2022

Pretoria, 28 February 2022 – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for January 2022 recording a preliminary trade balance surplus of R3.55 billion. These statistics include trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN). The year-to-date (01 January to 31 January 2022) preliminary trade balance surplus of R3.55 billion is a deterioration from the R12.98 billion trade balance surplus for the comparable period in 2021. Exports increased by 17.6% year-on-year whilst imports increased by 29.6% over the same period.

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

The R3.55 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for January 2022 is attributable to exports of R130.12 billion and imports of R126.57 billion. Exports decreased by R25.04 billion (16.1%) between December 2021 and January 2022 and imports increased by R0.43 billion (0.3%) over the same period.

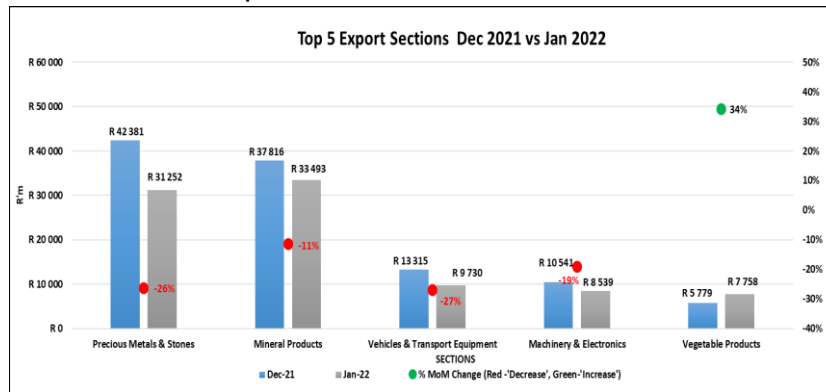
On a year-on-year basis, the R3.55 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for January 2022 was a deterioration from the R12.98 billion trade balance surplus recorded in January 2021. Exports of R130.12 billion were 17.6% more than the R110.64 billion exports recorded in January 2021. Imports of R126.57 billion were 29.6% more than the R97.66 billion imports recorded in January 2021.

December 2021 preliminary trade balance surplus was revised downwards by R1.12 billion due to the ongoing Vouchers of Correction (VOC). The revision was from the preliminary trade balance surplus of R30.14 billion to the revised trade balance surplus of R29.02 billion.

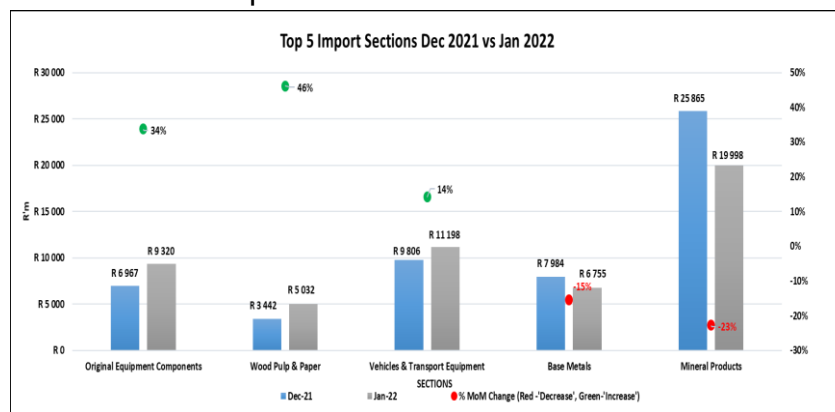
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Trade highlights by category

The main month-on-month export movements:



The main month-on-month import movements:



Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from December 2021 (revised) to January (preliminary) 2022 are given below:

World Zones (R' m)	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	December 2021	January 2022	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	36 572	31 005	-5 567	-15.2%
	Imports	13 450	12 381	-1 069	-7.9%
	Trade Balance	23 122	18 624	-4 497	
America	Exports	19 066	11 668	-7 399	-38.8%
	Imports	12 589	14 014	1 425	11.3%
	Trade Balance	6 477	-2 346	-8 823	
Asia	Exports	49 071	43 116	-5 955	-12.1%
	Imports	69 399	64 732	-4 666	-6.7%
	Trade Balance	-20 328	-21 617	-1 289	
Europe	Exports	38 452	35 158	-3 294	-8.6%
	Imports	28 776	32 381	3 606	12.5%
	Trade Balance	9 677	2 777	-6 900	
Oceania	Exports	1 284	943	-342	-26.6%
	Imports	1 398	1 751	353	25.3%
	Trade Balance	-114	-809	-695	
Other Unclassified	Exports	10 058	7 790	-2 267	-22.5%
	Imports	528	1 311	784	148.5%
	Trade Balance	9 530	6 479	-3 051	
Ship/Aircraft	Exports	658	445	-213	-32.4%
	Imports	-	-	-	
	Trade Balance	658	445	-213	

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

The trade data excluding BELN for January 2022 recorded a preliminary trade balance deficit of R3.72 billion.

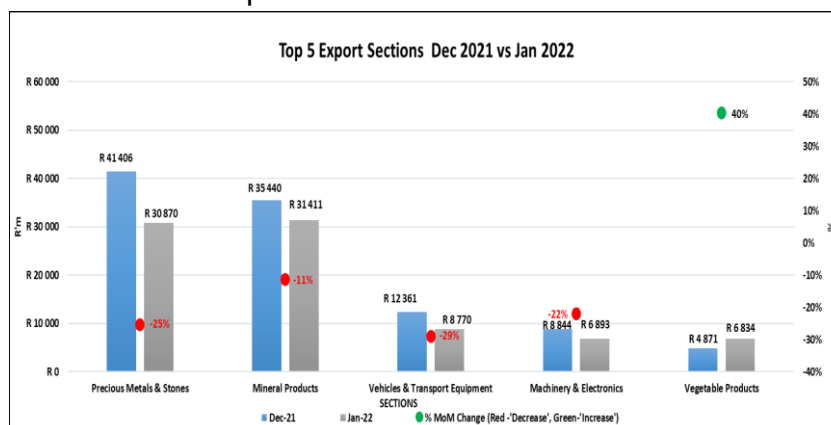
Summary

The R3.72 billion preliminary trade balance deficit for January 2022 was as a result of exports of R117.98 billion and imports of R121.70 billion. Exports decreased by R23.07 billion (16.4%) between December 2021 and January 2022 and imports decreased by R0.57 billion (0.5%) over the same period.

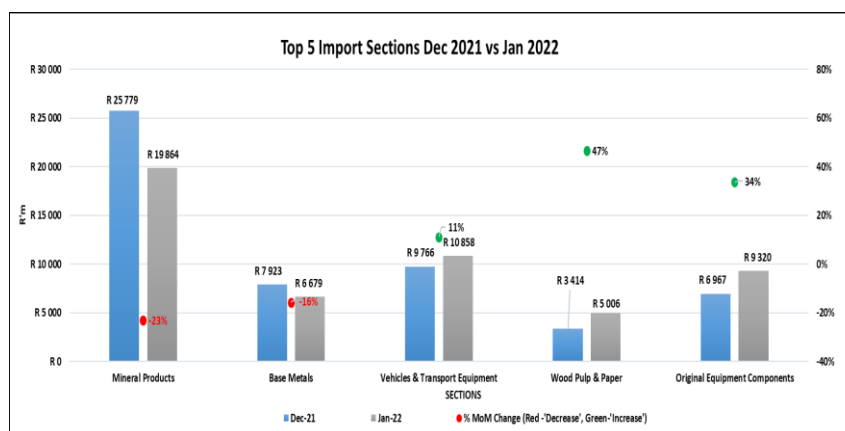
The preliminary cumulative trade balance deficit for 2022 was R3.72 billion compared to R6.53 billion trade balance surplus during 2021.

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 December 2021 (Revised) and January (preliminary) 2022 are given below.

World Zones	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	December 2021	January 2022	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	22 464	18 861	-3 603 ↓	-16.0%
	Imports	9 581	7 511	-2 069 ↓	-21.6%
	Trade Balance	12 883	11 350	-1 533	

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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 ³⁾ (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	(471 361 918)	0.75	(471 361 918)	0.75	1.06	1 240 647 953	1 378 415 706	1 378 415 706	1.46	1 208 541 985	1 849 777 624	1 849 777 624
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	5 748 529 877	3.86	5 748 529 877	3.86	5.96	5 750 599 544	7 757 574 020	7 757 574 020	1.59	2 047 183 763	2 009 044 143	2 009 044 143
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(1 888 644 772)	0.20	(1 888 644 772)	0.20	0.36	355 274 851	473 422 289	473 422 289	1.87	683 029 570	2 362 067 061	2 362 067 061
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	740 476 193	1.21	740 476 193	1.21	3.22	3 566 993 036	4 189 944 814	4 189 944 814	2.73	3 351 108 587	3 449 468 621	3 449 468 621
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	13 494 349 300	1.67	13 494 349 300	1.67	25.74	31 777 644 800	33 492 635 480	33 492 635 480	15.80	13 442 434 124	19 998 286 180	19 998 286 180
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(5 670 205 538)	0.62	(5 670 205 538)	0.62	6.97	7 296 434 258	9 070 269 296	9 070 269 296	11.65	11 952 396 754	14 740 474 834	14 740 474 834
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(3 385 253 561)	0.40	(3 385 253 561)	0.40	1.70	1 623 175 285	2 216 641 714	2 216 641 714	4.43	4 424 823 449	5 601 895 275	5 601 895 275
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(8 791 884)	0.97	(8 791 884)	0.97	0.22	237 041 838	290 179 161	290 179 161	0.24	278 764 317	298 971 045	298 971 045
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	13 443 433	1.02	13 443 433	1.02	0.50	501 174 429	646 227 185	646 227 185	0.50	549 426 600	632 783 752	632 783 752
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(3 167 207 680)	0.37	(3 167 207 680)	0.37	1.43	1 567 068 117	1 864 436 893	1 864 436 893	3.98	2 792 372 273	5 031 644 573	5 031 644 573
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(3 718 783 429)	0.23	(3 718 783 429)	0.23	0.87	1 023 249 940	1 128 951 550	1 128 951 550	3.83	3 830 035 081	4 847 734 979	4 847 734 979
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(1 158 104 572)	0.13	(1 158 104 572)	0.13	0.14	171 168 464	177 041 376	177 041 376	1.05	1 158 997 669	1 335 145 948	1 335 145 948
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(980 261 547)	0.31	(980 261 547)	0.31	0.33	444 252 932	431 031 845	431 031 845	1.12	1 291 794 593	1 411 293 392	1 411 293 392
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	28 778 660 072	12.64	28 778 660 072	12.64	24.02	28 038 367 046	31 251 948 359	31 251 948 359	1.95	1 377 913 175	2 473 288 287	2 473 288 287
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	9 444 779 797	2.40	9 444 779 797	2.40	12.45	9 981 063 526	16 199 990 618	16 199 990 618	5.34	5 801 452 021	6 755 210 821	6 755 210 821
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(20 182 554 718)	0.30	(20 182 554 718)	0.30	6.56	7 623 804 815	8 538 989 904	8 538 989 904	22.69	22 470 774 523	28 721 544 622	28 721 544 622
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	(1 467 800 995)	0.87	(1 467 800 995)	0.87	7.48	8 202 061 659	9 730 267 564	9 730 267 564	8.85	7 880 846 788	11 198 068 559	11 198 068 559
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(2 086 503 857)	0.23	(2 086 503 857)	0.23	0.48	633 942 455	630 100 860	630 100 860	2.15	2 483 475 134	2 716 604 717	2 716 604 717
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 164 210 132)	0.29	(1 164 210 132)	0.29	0.37	432 559 795	475 374 940	475 374 940	1.30	1 516 444 909	1 639 585 072	1 639 585 072
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	(52 617 030)	0.44	(52 617 030)	0.44	0.03	47 557 795	42 047 074	42 047 074	0.07	203 402 913	94 664 104	94 664 104
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	56 069 648	1.68	56 069 648	1.68	0.11	117 122 070	138 793 722	138 793 722	0.07	99 521 426	82 724 074	82 724 074
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(9 320 346 717)	0.00	(9 320 346 717)	0.00	0.00	13 193 001	72 342	72 342	7.36	8 818 876 874	9 320 419 059	9 320 419 059
Total	Total SA Rand	3 553 659 970	1.03	3 553 659 970	1.03	100.00	110 644 397 609	130 124 356 712	130 124 356 712	100.00	97 663 616 528	126 570 696 742	126 570 696 742

World Zones	Cumulative Trade		Monthly Trade		Exports				Imports			
	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ³⁾ (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	18 624 347 855	2.50	18 624 347 855	2.50	23.83	23 129 634 174	31 005 022 883	31 005 022 883	9.78	8 307 425 833	12 380 675 028	12 380 675 028
AMERICA	(2 346 384 531)	0.83	(2 346 384 531)	0.83	8.97	12 123 667 818	11 667 588 230	11 667 588 230	11.07	10 394 062 125	14 013 972 761	14 013 972 761
ASIA	(21 616 594 206)	0.67	(21 616 594 206)	0.67	33.13	39 181 146 409	43 115 731 100	43 115 731 100	51.14	47 528 348 257	64 732 325 306	64 732 325 306
EUROPE	2 777 213 715	1.09	2 777 213 715	1.09	27.02	29 108 822 250	35 158 318 041	35 158 318 041	25.58	30 162 295 289	32 381 104 326	32 381 104 326
OCEANIA	(808 577 360)	0.54	(808 577 360)	0.54	0.72	594 306 329	942 754 993	942 754 993	1.38	1 112 952 054	1 751 332 353	1 751 332 353
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	6 479 080 000	5.94	6 479 080 000	5.94	5.99	6 032 933 933	7 790 366 968	7 790 366 968	1.04	158 532 970	1 311 286 968	1 311 286 968
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	444 574 497	-	444 574 497	-	0.34	473 886 696	444 574 497	444 574 497				
Total	3 553 659 970	1.03	3 553 659 970	1.03	100.00	110 644 397 609	130 124 356 712	130 124 356 712	100.00	97 663 616 528	126 570 696 742	126 570 696 742

Temporary Imports	January 2022
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	7 517 354 453

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 ³⁾ (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	(410 375 808)	0.72	(410 375 808)	0.72	0.91	964 487 423	1 069 533 594	1 069 533 594	1.22	956 779 368	1 479 909 402	1 479 909 402
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	4 864 812 464	3.47	4 864 812 464	3.47	5.79	5 073 110 561	6 833 901 225	6 833 901 225	1.62	2 001 912 242	1 969 088 761	1 969 088 761
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(2 043 156 015)	0.13	(2 043 156 015)	0.13	0.27	226 141 911	317 413 858	317 413 858	1.94	681 942 398	2 360 569 873	2 360 569 873
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	(86 008 663)	0.97	(86 008 663)	0.97	2.34	2 331 765 874	2 756 920 204	2 756 920 204	2.34	2 942 146 131	2 842 928 867	2 842 928 867
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	11 546 461 497	1.58	11 546 461 497	1.58	26.62	30 303 338 299	31 410 883 014	31 410 883 014	16.32	13 387 801 969	19 864 421 517	19 864 421 517
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(6 050 870 009)	0.57	(6 050 870 009)	0.57	6.66	6 264 153 607	7 859 693 290	7 859 693 290	11.43	11 375 860 862	13 910 563 299	13 910 563 299
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(3 888 618 264)	0.30	(3 888 618 264)	0.30	1.41	1 203 648 341	1 668 652 440	1 668 652 440	4.57	4 381 752 837	5 557 270 704	5 557 270 704
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(45 129 786)	0.85	(45 129 786)	0.85	0.21	191 638 033	246 594 087	246 594 087	0.24	272 905 414	291 723 873	291 723 873
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	39 080 785	1.09	39 080 785	1.09	0.42	368 292 517	490 789 034	490 789 034	0.37	396 819 436	451 708 249	451 708 249
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(3 419 298 100)	0.32	(3 419 298 100)	0.32	1.34	1 359 201 145	1 586 549 371	1 586 549 371	4.11	2 771 704 835	5 005 847 471	5 005 847 471
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(3 733 272 585)	0.13	(3 733 272 585)	0.13	0.46	565 949 830	545 144 064	545 144 064	3.52	3 329 626 286	4 278 416 649	4 278 416 649
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(1 280 697 658)	0.03	(1 280 697 658)	0.03	0.04	63 283 014	46 055 453	46 055 453	1.09	1 154 781 126	1 326 753 111	1 326 753 111
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(1 116 702 441)	0.20	(1 116 702 441)	0.20	0.24	320 863 156	284 715 464	284 715 464	1.15	1 283 641 297	1 401 417 905	1 401 417 905
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	29 698 685 316	26.36	29 698 685 316	26.36	26.17	27 566 066 510	30 869 805 378	30 869 805 378	0.96	509 282 431	1 171 120 062	1 171 120 062
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	8 762 444 915	2.31	8 762 444 915	2.31	13.09	9 348 287 418	15 441 640 115	15 441 640 115	5.49	5 751 755 466	6 679 195 200	6 679 195 200
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(21 533 819 746)	0.24	(21 533 819 746)	0.24	5.84	6 271 350 441	6 892 964 194	6 892 964 194	23.36	22 125 874 485	28 426 783 940	28 426 783 940
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	(2 087 227 756)	0.81	(2 087 227 756)	0.81	7.43	7 288 953 685	8 770 397 894	8 770 397 894	8.92	7 621 872 542	10 857 625 650	10 857 625 650
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(2 235 446 310)	0.17	(2 235 446 310)	0.17	0.40	485 710 252	474 062 200	474 062 200	2.23	2 474 794 637	2 709 508 510	2 709 508 510
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(1 380 812 312)	0.15	(1 380 812 312)	0.15	0.20	224 293 826	240 412 910	240 412 910	1.33	1 510 046 292	1 621 225 222	1 621 225 222
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	(52 998 467)	0.44	(52 998 467)	0.44	0.04	47 348 422	41 567 779	41 567 779	0.08	203 385 964	94 566 246	94 566 246
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	52 835 082	1.66	52 835 082	1.66	0.11	113 793 860	132 837 902	132 837 902	0.07	95 756 261	80 002 820	80 002 820
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(9 320 369 075)	0.00	(9 320 369 075)	0.00	0.00	93 001	49 984	49 984	7.66	8 818 876 874	9 320 419 059	9 320 419 059
Total	Total SA Rand	(3 720 482 936)	0.97	(3 720 482 936)	0.97	100.00	100 581 771 126	117 980 583 454	117 980 583 454	100.00	94 049 319 153	121 701 066 390	121 701 066 390

World Zones	Cumulative Trade		Monthly Trade		Exports				Imports			
	Trade Balance (R'm)	Ratio ³⁾ (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	11 350 204 949	2.51	11 350 204 949	2.51	15.99	13 067 007 691	18 861 249 625	18 861 249 625	6.17	4 693 128 458	7 511 044 676	7 511 044 676
AMERICA	(2 346 384 531)	0.83	(2 346 384 531)	0.83	9.89	12 123 667 818	11 667 588 230	11 667 588 230	11.52	10 394 062 125	14 013 972 761	14 013 972 761
ASIA	(21 616 594 206)	0.67	(21 616 594 206)	0.67	36.54	39 181 146 409	43 115 731 100	43 115 731 100	53.19	47 528 348 257	64 732 325 306	64 732 325 306
EUROPE	2 777 213 715	1.09	2 777 213 715	1.09	29.80	29 108 822 250	35 158 318 041	35 158 318 041	26.61	30 162 295 289	32 381 104 326	32 381 104 326
OCEANIA	(808 577 360)	0.54	(808 577 360)	0.54	0.80	594 306 329	942 754 993	942 754 993	1.44	1 112 952 054	1 751 332 353	1 751 332 353
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	6 479 080 000	5.94	6 479 080 000	5.94	6.60	6 032 933 933	7 790 366 968	7 790 366 968	1.08	158 532 970	1 311 286 968	1 311 286 968
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	444 574 497	-	444 574 497	-	0.38	473 886 696	444 574 497	444 574 497				
Total	(3 720 482 936)	0.97	(3 720 482 936)	0.97	100.00	100 581 771 126	117 980 583 454	117 980 583 454	100.00	94 049 319 153	121 701 066 390	121 701 066 390

Temporary Imports	January 2022
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	7 517 354 453

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 January 2022 recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R7.27 billion.

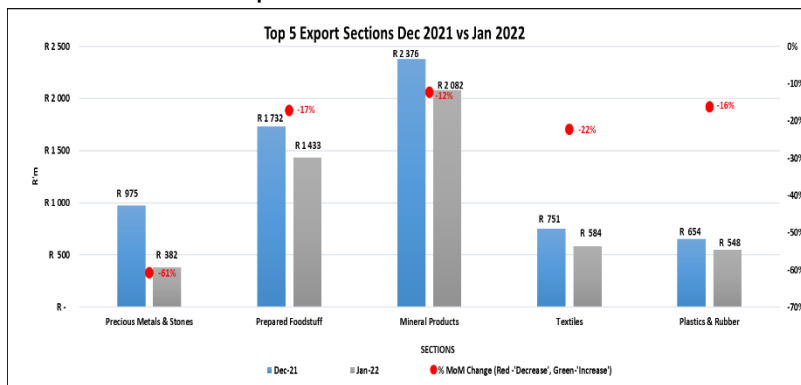
Summary

The R7.27 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for January 2022 was as a result of exports of R12.14 billion and imports of R4.87 billion. Exports decreased by R1.96 billion (13.9%) between December 2021 and January 2022 and imports increased by R1.00 billion (25.9%) over the same period.

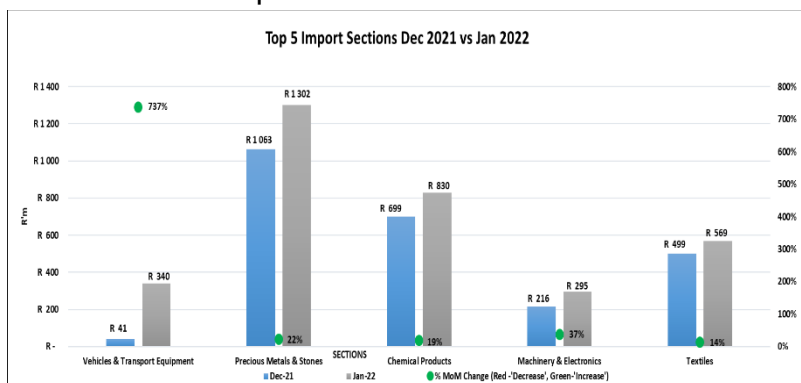
The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2022 was R7.27 billion compared to R6.45 billion in 2021.

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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