

STATEMENT

SARS MEDIA RELEASE

UNDER EMBARGO – 2pm Thursday, 30 June 2022

SARS releases the preliminary trade statistics for May 2022

Pretoria, 30 June 2022 – The South African Revenue Service (SARS) today releases trade statistics for May 2022 recording a preliminary trade balance surplus of R28.35 billion. These statistics include trade data with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia (BELN). The year-to-date (01 January to 31 May 2022) preliminary trade balance surplus of R105.87 billion is a deterioration from the R200.34 billion trade balance surplus for the comparable period in 2021. Exports increased by 11.3% year-on-year whilst imports increased by 38.8% over the same period.

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

The R28.35 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for May 2022 is attributable to exports of R179.46 billion and imports of R151.11 billion. Exports increased by R27.18 billion (17.8%) between April and May 2022 and imports increased by R14.84 billion (10.9%) over the same period.

Exports for the year-to-date (01 January to 31 May 2022) increased by 8.2% to R791.79 billion from R731.54 billion over the same period during 2021. Imports for the year-to-date of R685.92 billion were 29.1% more than the R531.20 billion imports recorded during the same period in 2021. The cumulative trade balance surplus for 2022 is R105.87 billion.

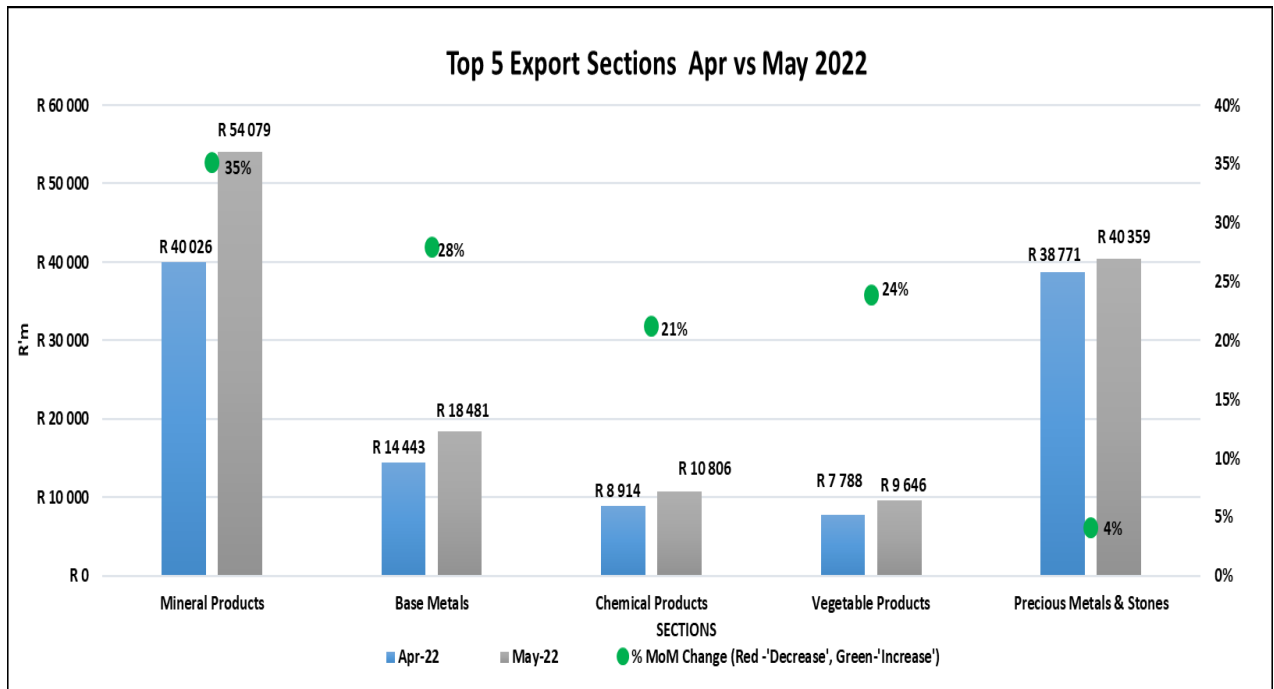
On a year-on-year basis, the R28.35 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for May 2022 was a deterioration from the R52.31 billion trade balance surplus recorded in May 2021. Exports of R179.46 billion were 11.3% more than the R161.19 billion exports recorded in May 2021. Imports of R151.11 billion were 38.8% more than the R108.88 billion imports recorded in May 2021.

April 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 R15.49 billion to the revised trade balance surplus of R16.01 billion.

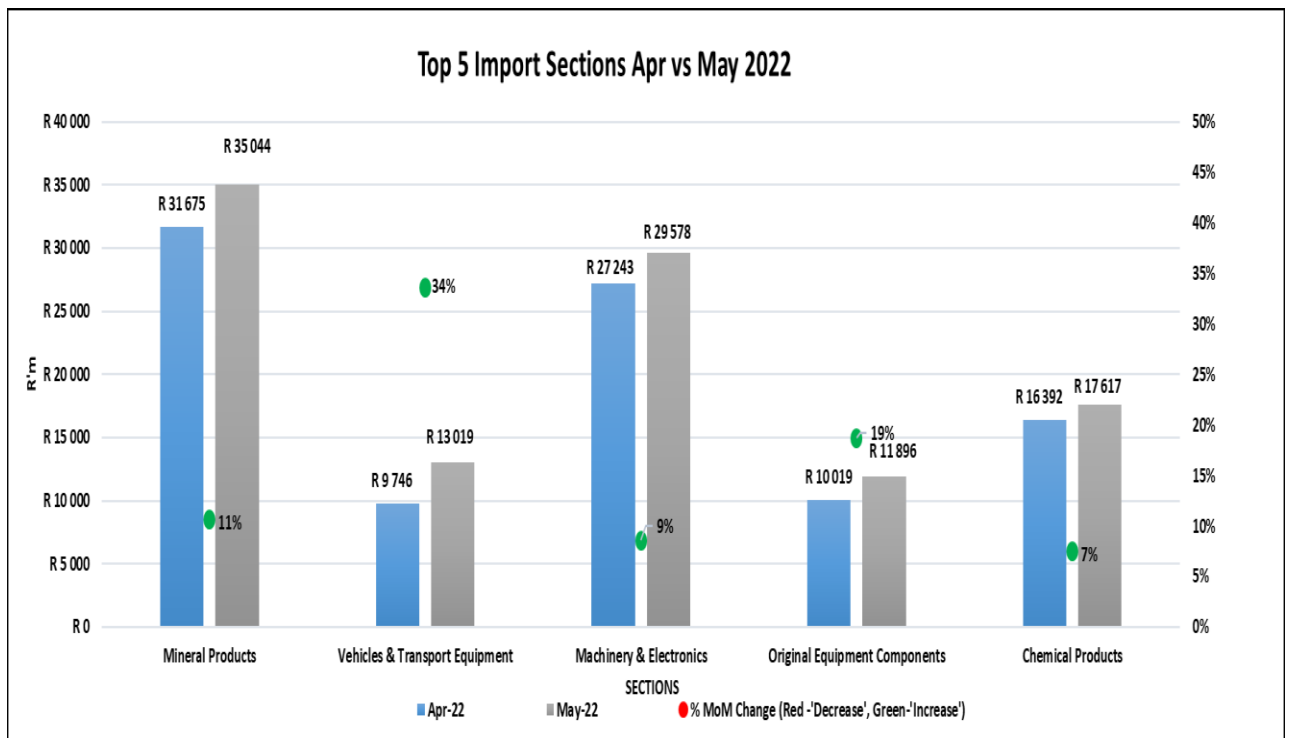
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Trade highlights by category

The main month-on-month export movements:



The main month-on-month import movements:



Trade highlights by world zone

The world zone results from April (revised) to May (preliminary) 2022 are given below:

World Zones (R' m)	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	April 2022	May 2022	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	36 915	41 192	4 277	↑ 11.6%
	Imports	14 078	10 445	-3 633	↓ -25.8%
	Trade Balance	22 837	30 747	7 909	
America	Exports	16 109	17 197	1 088	↑ 6.8%
	Imports	13 569	16 042	2 473	↑ 18.2%
	Trade Balance	2 540	1 155	-1 385	
Asia	Exports	44 499	59 322	14 823	↑ 33.3%
	Imports	70 753	78 619	7 865	↑ 11.1%
	Trade Balance	-26 254	-19 297	6 958	
Europe	Exports	45 608	51 364	5 757	↑ 12.6%
	Imports	34 301	41 506	7 205	↑ 21.0%
	Trade Balance	11 307	9 858	-1 449	
Oceania	Exports	1 398	1 348	-50	↓ -3.6%
	Imports	2 836	3 311	475	↑ 16.7%
	Trade Balance	-1 439	-1 963	-525	
Other Unclassified	Exports	6 450	7 659	1 209	↑ 18.7%
	Imports	740	1 189	449	↑ 60.7%
	Trade Balance	5 710	6 470	760	
Ship/Aircraft	Exports	1 305	1 380	75	↑ 5.8%
	Imports	-	-	-	
	Trade Balance	1 305	1 380	75	

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

The trade data excluding BELN for May 2022 recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R17.48 billion.

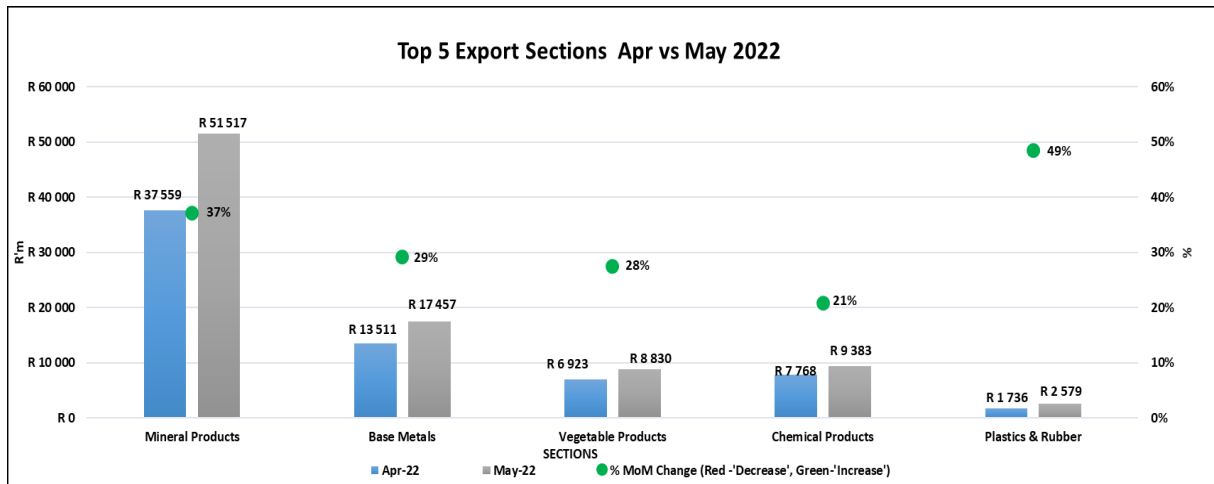
Summary

The R17.48 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for May 2022 was as a result of exports of R164.80 billion and imports of R147.32 billion. Exports increased by R25.12 billion (18%) between April and May 2022 and imports increased by R15.16 billion (11.5%) over the same period.

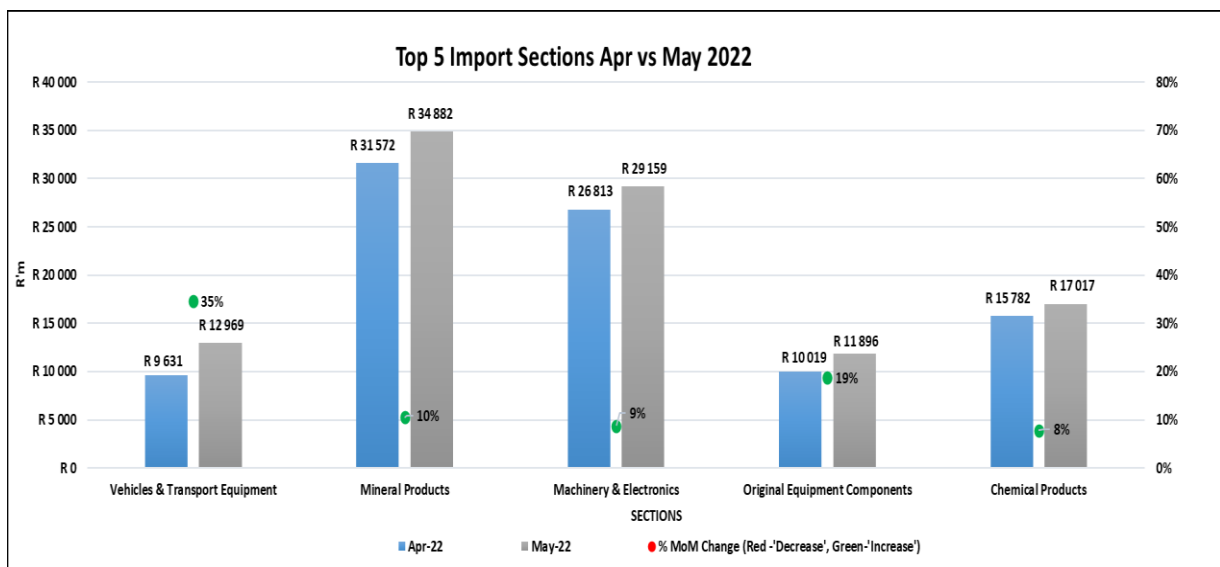
The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2022 was R58.61 billion compared to R159.56 billion trade balance surplus during 2021.

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 April (Revised) and May (preliminary) 2022 are given below:

World Zones	The main month-on-month movements (R' m)				
	Trade Type	April 2022	May 2022	Variance	% M-o-M
Africa	Exports	24 309	26 531	2 222	9.1%
	Imports	9 963	6 652	-3 311	-33.2%
	Trade Balance	14 347	19 880	5 533	

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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 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	(1 871 347 310)	0.80	(433 701 035)	0.79	0.88	7 181 597 608	7 301 329 824	1 585 034 755	1.34	7 680 628 721	9 172 677 134	2 018 735 790
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	29 225 271 967	3.22	7 243 083 597	4.01	5.37	35 914 506 967	42 360 532 482	9 645 801 238	1.59	11 602 678 407	13 135 260 515	2 402 717 641
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(4 438 102 478)	0.47	(537 072 096)	0.60	0.46	1 939 621 242	3 937 398 137	819 805 289	0.90	4 404 259 028	8 375 500 615	1 356 877 385
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	7 072 587 262	1.41	1 848 113 152	1.50	3.11	22 573 059 995	24 298 186 274	5 572 398 919	2.46	16 763 544 902	17 225 599 012	3 724 285 767
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	75 375 667 004	1.52	19 034 705 001	1.54	30.13	184 358 049 275	221 018 821 477	54 078 761 750	23.19	84 084 813 795	145 643 154 473	35 044 056 749
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(29 710 060 745)	0.62	(6 811 499 889)	0.61	6.02	45 621 318 674	47 898 049 031	10 805 846 492	11.66	63 124 262 731	77 608 109 776	17 617 346 381
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(15 705 875 410)	0.46	(3 214 448 490)	0.50	1.81	11 540 129 062	13 211 409 712	3 240 638 794	4.27	24 607 795 677	28 917 285 122	6 455 087 284
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	85 786 828	1.06	(3 586 473)	0.99	0.17	1 388 220 440	1 608 844 141	312 901 266	0.21	1 249 988 608	1 523 057 313	316 487 739
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	1 051 537 410	1.35	559 472 380	1.94	0.64	3 326 758 464	4 076 564 299	1 153 182 360	0.39	2 615 580 516	3 025 026 889	593 709 980
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(13 475 214 715)	0.43	(2 363 251 869)	0.51	1.40	8 249 728 099	10 083 998 506	2 506 768 663	3.22	16 269 378 615	23 559 213 221	4 870 020 532
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(15 125 593 541)	0.35	(2 511 782 286)	0.41	0.98	8 776 084 651	8 163 425 527	1 767 349 248	2.83	19 772 266 438	23 289 019 068	4 279 131 534
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(5 027 379 162)	0.21	(932 592 889)	0.25	0.18	1 255 200 955	1 329 067 881	318 010 160	0.83	5 509 643 164	6 356 447 043	1 250 603 049
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(3 803 618 889)	0.42	(713 897 448)	0.47	0.36	2 935 132 644	2 773 568 921	643 935 294	0.90	6 594 373 105	6 577 187 810	1 357 832 742
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	174 989 890 457	18.47	38 766 120 271	25.34	22.49	198 506 853 293	185 008 287 555	40 359 005 679	1.05	7 186 242 475	10 018 397 098	1 592 885 408
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	41 305 109 513	2.03	9 886 179 412	2.15	10.30	63 468 900 125	81 347 071 598	18 481 222 210	5.69	32 379 201 483	40 041 962 085	8 595 042 798
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(89 282 751 140)	0.37	(18 785 115 121)	0.36	6.01	48 904 537 935	52 747 598 670	10 792 595 727	19.57	112 504 617 763	142 030 349 810	29 577 710 848
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	21 535 976 329	1.40	2 449 837 438	1.19	8.62	77 733 094 968	74 834 696 637	15 469 021 065	8.62	43 385 075 587	53 298 720 308	13 019 183 627
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(11 165 973 166)	0.26	(2 348 239 325)	0.26	0.47	3 529 544 512	3 985 163 907	836 941 953	2.11	13 519 511 825	15 151 137 073	3 185 181 278
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(4 937 565 422)	0.41	(1 105 924 866)	0.40	0.42	2 980 174 092	3 382 891 285	751 861 083	1.23	7 574 244 034	8 320 456 707	1 857 785 949
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	273 609 550	2.61	138 268 627	11.73	0.08	372 269 811	443 377 028	151 156 112	0.01	284 012 188	169 767 478	12 887 485
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	1 239 082 111	2.69	80 320 051	1.90	0.09	968 238 650	1 972 837 290	169 238 737	0.06	510 466 533	733 755 179	88 918 686
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(51 738 138 223)	0.00	(11 895 107 858)	0.00	0.00	13 789 128	5 000 515	729 035	7.87	49 572 863 130	51 743 138 738	11 895 836 893
Total	Total SA Rand	105 872 898 230	1.15	28 349 880 284	1.19	100.00	731 536 810 590	791 788 120 697	179 462 205 829	100.00	531 195 448 725	685 915 222 467	151 112 325 545

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	118 428 623 233	2.73	30 746 579 076	3.94	22.95	144 327 016 404	187 016 741 538	41 191 909 841	6.91	49 112 673 805	68 588 118 305	10 445 330 765
AMERICA	3 731 829 362	1.05	1 155 088 838	1.07	9.58	92 024 464 963	78 652 091 862	17 197 400 272	10.62	51 956 100 183	74 920 262 500	16 042 311 434
ASIA	(95 995 503 248)	0.73	(19 296 544 335)	0.75	33.06	234 865 696 011	254 952 015 148	59 322 026 244	52.03	258 306 236 790	350 947 518 396	78 618 570 579
EUROPE	50 424 932 760	1.29	9 858 089 553	1.24	28.62	211 047 508 139	226 126 489 285	51 364 314 389	27.47	162 816 398 990	175 701 556 525	41 506 224 836
OCEANIA	(5 141 097 451)	0.56	(1 963 409 129)	0.41	0.75	5 765 985 441	6 462 791 340	1 347 702 412	2.19	7 320 042 744	11 603 888 791	3 311 111 541
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	29 517 270 825	8.11	6 470 020 010	6.44	4.27	41 401 138 384	33 671 148 775	7 658 796 400	0.79	1 683 996 213	4 153 877 950	1 188 776 390
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	4 906 842 749	-	1 380 056 271	-	0.77	2 105 001 248	4 906 842 749	1 380 056 271				
Total	105 872 898 230	1.15	28 349 880 284	1.19	100.00	731 536 810 590	791 788 120 697	179 462 205 829	100.00	531 195 448 725	685 915 222 467	151 112 325 545

Temporary Imports	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	7 517 354 453	7 878 661 535	9 728 657 074	8 285 156 817	8 840 750 001

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	(1 306 739 169)	0.81	(243 579 502)	0.84	0.76	5 631 450 462	5 698 369 026	1 254 656 727	1.02	6 057 916 736	7 005 108 195	1 498 236 229
II, Ch 6-14	Vegetable Products	25 073 813 691	2.95	6 516 323 256	3.82	5.36	32 187 685 475	37 937 816 803	8 829 710 641	1.57	11 344 872 023	12 864 003 112	2 313 387 385
III, Ch 15	Fats and Oils	(5 506 969 336)	0.34	(759 006 526)	0.44	0.36	1 113 664 141	2 858 950 446	596 218 350	0.92	4 398 597 601	8 365 919 782	1 355 224 876
IV, Ch 16-24	Prepared Foods	2 119 191 062	1.15	811 392 303	1.25	2.46	15 739 264 327	16 681 555 170	4 048 468 753	2.20	14 086 322 557	14 562 364 108	3 237 076 450
V, Ch 25-27	Mineral Products	64 517 713 994	1.44	16 635 641 251	1.48	31.26	175 714 691 272	209 573 802 424	51 517 343 856	23.68	83 665 648 894	145 056 088 430	34 881 702 605
VI, Ch 28-38	Chemical Products	(32 650 101 783)	0.56	(7 634 118 086)	0.55	5.69	39 900 669 161	41 471 749 141	9 382 904 763	11.55	59 790 405 666	74 121 850 924	17 017 022 849
VII, Ch 39-40	Plastics and Rubber	(18 553 571 986)	0.35	(3 823 087 859)	0.40	1.57	8 835 788 053	10 111 933 360	2 579 166 961	4.35	24 293 789 723	28 665 505 346	6 402 254 820
VIII, Ch 41-43	Hides, Skins and Leather	(74 349 020)	0.95	(34 226 932)	0.89	0.16	1 145 631 539	1 401 322 361	269 638 034	0.21	1 198 148 501	1 475 671 381	303 864 966
IX, Ch 44-46	Wood and articles thereof	1 076 344 036	1.52	564 090 673	2.42	0.58	2 424 828 020	3 144 002 149	961 386 494	0.27	1 747 994 380	2 067 658 113	397 295 821
X, Ch 47-49	Pulp and Paper Products	(14 726 324 322)	0.37	(2 592 164 815)	0.46	1.36	7 052 695 873	8 691 782 349	2 242 553 781	3.28	16 182 146 903	23 418 106 671	4 834 718 596
XI, Ch 50-63	Textiles and Clothing	(15 548 451 866)	0.23	(2 652 476 803)	0.28	0.64	5 673 049 907	4 737 059 763	1 049 081 544	2.51	17 058 621 942	20 285 511 629	3 701 558 347
XII, Ch 64-67	Footwear and Accessories	(5 791 910 196)	0.08	(1 088 879 314)	0.12	0.09	464 074 660	508 760 504	151 100 030	0.84	5 469 750 098	6 300 670 700	1 239 979 344
XIII, Ch 68-70	Stone, Plaster, etc	(4 571 644 662)	0.30	(886 930 744)	0.34	0.28	2 126 965 160	1 953 605 858	460 130 188	0.91	6 552 104 841	6 525 250 520	1 347 060 932
XIV, Ch 71	Precious Stones	176 561 572 184	34.62	38 303 514 587	34.99	23.93	196 091 576 021	181 812 957 561	39 430 297 418	0.76	3 943 691 376	5 251 385 377	1 126 782 831
XV, Ch 72-83	Base Metals	36 897 917 437	1.93	8 946 512 370	2.05	10.59	58 990 480 257	76 475 193 624	17 457 233 247	5.78	32 015 660 405	39 577 276 187	8 510 720 877
XVI, Ch 84-85	Machinery and Appliances	(96 764 879 077)	0.31	(20 385 288 348)	0.30	5.32	39 920 444 645	43 108 088 641	8 773 689 647	19.79	110 772 132 412	139 872 967 718	29 158 977 995
XVII, Ch 86-89	Transport Equipment	16 599 814 072	1.32	1 475 012 798	1.11	8.76	72 194 067 656	69 262 774 265	14 444 008 396	8.80	41 198 524 941	52 662 960 193	12 968 995 598
XVIII, Ch 90-92	Precision Products, etc	(12 000 107 322)	0.21	(2 538 183 687)	0.20	0.39	2 643 991 552	3 097 715 231	640 358 230	2.16	13 476 432 634	15 097 822 553	3 178 541 917
XX, Ch 94-96	Misc Manufactured Articles	(6 492 426 719)	0.21	(1 451 046 746)	0.22	0.24	1 539 601 937	1 764 251 688	397 808 105	1.26	7 529 797 642	8 256 678 407	1 848 854 851
XXI, Ch 97	Works of Art/Antiques	270 653 835	2.60	137 797 483	11.78	0.09	369 869 378	439 991 655	150 581 971	0.01	283 889 467	169 337 820	12 784 488
XXII, Ch 99	Other Unclassified ¹⁾	1 224 483 219	2.69	76 903 567	1.88	0.10	940 568 283	1 947 837 100	164 551 283	0.06	497 811 150	723 353 881	87 647 716
XXIII, Ch 98	Special Provisions ²⁾	(51 741 865 341)	0.00	(11 895 109 180)	0.00	0.00	689 128	1 273 397	727 713	8.07	49 572 863 130	51 743 138 738	11 895 836 893
Total	Total SA Rand	58 612 162 731	1.09	17 483 089 746	1.12	100.00	670 701 746 907	722 680 792 516	164 801 616 132	100.00	511 137 123 022	664 068 629 785	147 318 526 386

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	71 167 887 734	2.52	19 879 788 538	3.99	16.10	83 491 952 721	117 909 413 357	26 531 320 144	4.52	29 054 348 102	46 741 525 623	6 651 531 606
AMERICA	3 731 829 362	1.05	1 155 088 838	1.07	10.44	92 024 464 963	78 652 091 862	17 197 400 272	10.89	51 956 100 183	74 920 262 500	16 042 311 434
ASIA	(95 995 503 248)	0.73	(19 296 544 335)	0.75	36.00	234 865 696 011	254 952 015 148	59 322 026 244	53.37	258 306 236 790	350 947 518 396	78 618 570 579
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OCEANIA	(5 141 097 451)	0.56	(1 963 409 129)	0.41	0.82	5 765 985 441	6 462 791 340	1 347 702 412	2.25	7 320 042 744	11 603 888 791	3 311 111 541
OTHER UNCLASSIFIED	29 517 270 825	8.11	6 470 020 010	6.44	4.65	41 401 138 384	33 671 148 775	7 658 796 400	0.81	1 683 996 213	4 153 877 950	1 188 776 390
SHIP/AIRCRAFT	4 906 842 749	-	1 380 056 271	-	0.84	2 105 001 248	4 906 842 749	1 380 056 271				
Total	58 612 162 731	1.09	17 483 089 746	1.12	100.00	670 701 746 907	722 680 792 516	164 801 616 132	100.00	511 137 123 022	664 068 629 785	147 318 526 386

Temporary Imports	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022
Gold Imports ⁴⁾	7 517 354 453	7 878 661 535	9 728 657 074	8 285 156 817	8 840 750 001

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 May 2022 recorded a preliminary trade balance surplus of R10.87 billion.

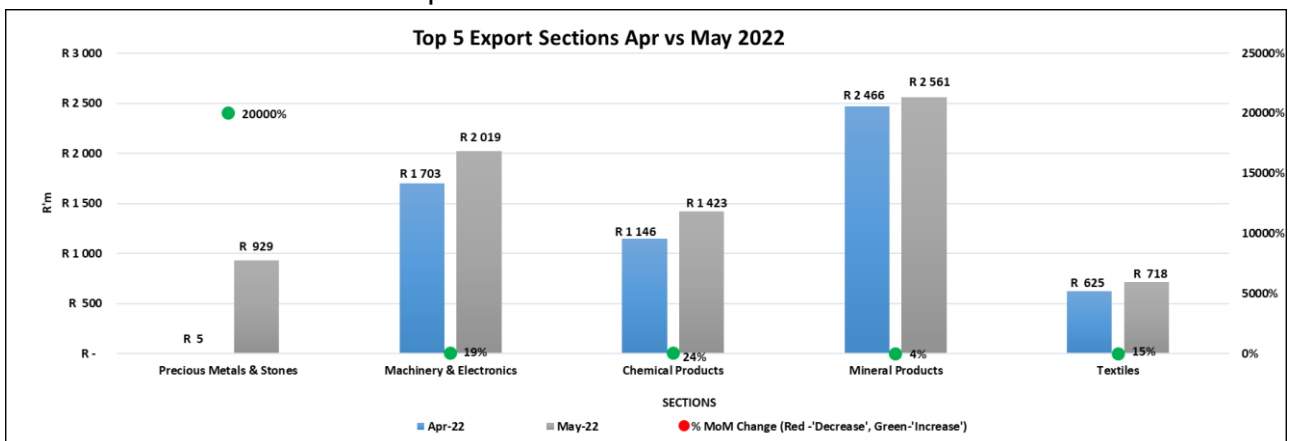
Summary

The R10.87 billion preliminary trade balance surplus for May 2022 was as a result of exports of R14.66 billion and imports of R3.79 billion. Exports increased by R2.05 billion (16.3%) between April and May 2022 and imports decreased by R0.32 billion (7.8%) over the same period.

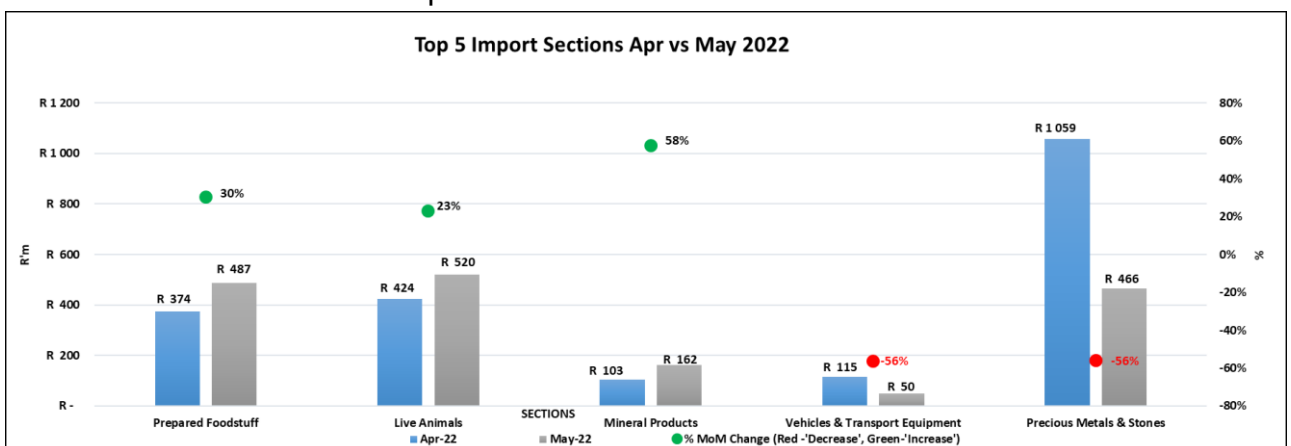
The preliminary cumulative trade balance surplus for 2022 was R47.26 billion compared to R40.78 billion in 2021.

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