

Monthly External Merchandise Trade Statistics - March 2015

1. Balance of visible trade

Balance of Visible Trade showed a deficit of R 5,286 million in March 2015 lower by 6.6% compared to the previous month and 3.4% compared to the corresponding month of 2014.

Summary of External Merchandise Trade

Value: R million

	2014	2015	
	Mar ¹	Feb ¹	Mar ²
A. Total Exports (f.o.b)	7,544	7,162	8,923
Domestic exports	5,160	4,164	5,241
Re-exports	1,104	2,348	2,932
Ship's Stores and Bunkers	1,280	650	750
B. Total Imports (c.i.f)	13,017	12,824	14,209
Total International Trade (A + B)	20,561	19,986	23,132
Trade Deficits (A - B)	-5,473	-5,662	-5,286

¹ Revised estimates ² First estimates

2. Total Imports of goods by S.I.T.C section

C.I.F value: R million

SITC SECTION/DESCRIPTION	2014	2015	
	Mar ¹	Feb ¹	Mar ²
0 - Food and live animals	2,553	2,249	2,772
1 - Beverages and tobacco	272	261	285
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	412	340	262
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	3,602	2,024	1,828
4 - Animals and vegetable oils, fats & waxes	54	56	175
5 - Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.	998	1,026	1,003
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1,890	2,580	2,376
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	2,188	3,264	4,363
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	993	965	1,055
9 - Other commodities & transactions, n.e.s	55	59	90
TOTAL	13,017	12,824	14,209

¹ Revised estimates ² First estimates

In March 2015, total imports increased by 10.8% compared to February 2015 and by 9.2% compared to March 2014.

3. Total Exports of goods by S.I.T.C section

F.O.B value: R million

SITC SECTION/DESCRIPTION	2014	2015	
	Mar ¹	Feb ²	Mar ²
0 - Food and live animals	2,310	1,856	2,416
1 - Beverages and tobacco	41	62	29
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	102	65	93
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	-	1	2
4 - Animals and vegetable oils, fats & waxes	5	15	6
5 - Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.	206	256	186
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	672	662	851
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	324	1,380	1,937
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2,582	2,189	2,627
9 - Other commodities & transactions, n.e.s.	22	26	26
Exports exclusive of Ship's Stores and Bunkers	6,264	6,512	8,173
Estimates of Ship's Stores and Bunkers	1,280	650	750
TOTAL	7,544	7,162	8,923

¹ Revised estimates ² First estimates

In March 2015, total exports increased by 24.6 % compared to the previous month and by 18.3% compared to March 2014.

4. Main trading partners in March 2015

Value: R million

Exports ¹ (F.O.B)				Imports (C.I.F)			
Country	2014	2015		Country	2014	2015	
	Mar ²	Feb ³	Mar ³		Mar ²	Feb ³	Mar ³
UAE	177	1,164	1,835	China	1,492	2,701	2,897
United Kingdom	923	880	1,015	India	3,845	2,018	1,841
USA	665	612	700	South Africa	806	897	1,028
France	930	574	643	France	950	802	788
Italy	698	341	533	Vietnam	153	711	672
South Africa	396	525	487	Thailand	229	310	437
Other	2,475	2,416	2,960	Other	5,542	5,385	6,546
Total	6,264	6,512	8,173	Total	13,017	12,824	14,209

¹ Excluding Ship's Stores and Bunkers ² Revised estimates ³ First estimates

UAE (22.5%), United Kingdom (12.4%), USA (8.6%) and France (7.9%) were our major exports destinations in March 2015 while our imports were mainly from China (20.4%), India (13.0%), South Africa (7.2%) and France (5.5%).

May 2015