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Motor trade sales (Preliminary)

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Sales at current prices: results for February 2022

Table A – Key growth rates in motor trade sales at current prices

	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	8,6	7,8	15,0	12,0	20,3	16,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	3,1	-1,0	4,0	0,2	2,6	1,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	-1,7	7,1	9,1	8,2	5,4	4,6

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Measured in nominal terms (current prices), motor trade sales increased by 16,4% year-on-year in February 2022. The largest annual growth rates were recorded for:

- fuel sales (23,5%); and
- new vehicle sales (21,1%) see Table 5.

Seasonally adjusted motor trade sales increased by 1,0% in February 2022 compared with January 2022. This followed month-on-month changes of 2,6% in January 2022 and 0,2% in December 2021.

In the three months ended February 2022, seasonally adjusted motor trade sales increased by 4,6% compared with the previous three months.

Table B - Motor trade sales at current prices for the latest three months by type of activity

Type of activity	Dec 2020 – Feb 2021 (R million)	Weight	Dec 2021 – Feb 2022 (R million)	% change between Dec 2020 – Feb 2021 and Dec 2021 – Feb 2022	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
New vehicle sales	34 351	21,4	40 522	18,0	3,9
Used vehicle sales	32 665	20,4	35 868	9,8	2,0
Workshop income	11 556	7,2	12 492	8,1	0,6
Income from the sales of accessories	29 305	18,3	32 399	10,6	1,9
Income from fuel sales	46 141	28,8	58 179	26,1	7,5
Income from convenience store sales 1/	6 393	4,0	6 864	7,4	0,3
Total	160 411	100,0	186 323	16,2	16,2

^{1/} Includes 'other' sales and trading income.

Motor trade sales increased by 16,2% in the three months ended February 2022 compared with the three months ended February 2021. The main contributors to this increase were:

- fuel sales (26,1% and contributing 7,5 percentage points);
- new vehicle sales (18,0% and contributing 3,9 percentage points);
- used vehicle sales (9,8% and contributing 2,0 percentage points); and
- sales of accessories (10,6% and contributing 1,9 percentage points) see Table B.

Figure 1 - Motor trade sales at current prices

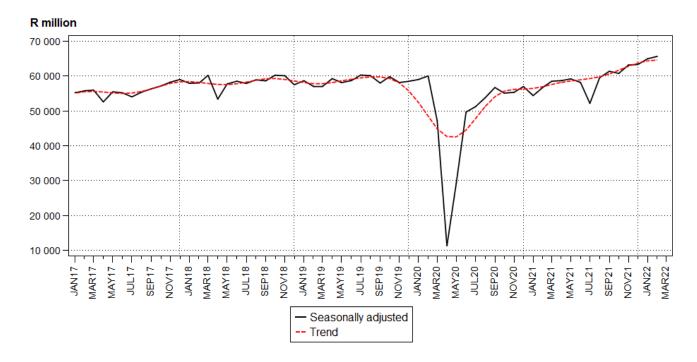
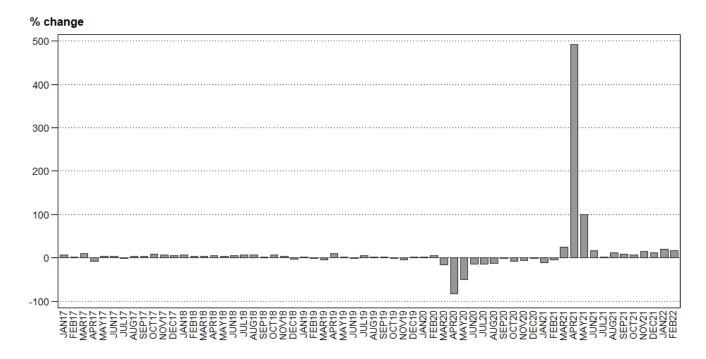


Figure 2 - Motor trade sales at current prices: year-on-year percentage change



Risenga Maluleke Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 - Motor trade sales at current prices (R million)

Month	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 1/
Jan	48 470	52 171	55 608	56 445	57 156	51 208	61 596
Feb	52 951	53 749	55 897	54 892	57 535	54 831	63 816
Mar	53 169	58 652	61 173	58 335	48 872	60 912	
Apr	52 832	49 115	52 031	57 638	9 704	57 457	
May	54 664	56 319	58 773	59 593	29 673	59 448	
Jun	53 236	55 390	57 933	56 870	49 238	57 446	
Jul	55 667	54 906	59 135	62 134	53 317	53 878	
Aug	54 048	56 481	60 381	61 259	53 874	60 171	
Sep	53 754	55 962	57 067	57 099	56 614	61 461	
Oct	54 464	59 423	63 325	62 857	57 744	62 247	
Nov	56 717	61 126	63 336	60 714	57 277	65 860	
Dec	52 794	55 904	53 968	55 265	54 372	60 911	
Total	642 766	669 198	698 627	703 101	585 376	705 830	

^{1/} Figures for latest month are preliminary.

Table 2 - Year-on-year percentage change in motor trade sales at current prices

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 year-to-date
Jan	7,6	6,6	1,5	1,3	-10,4	20,3	20,3
Feb	1,5	4,0	-1,8	4,8	-4,7	16,4	18,3
Mar	10,3	4,3	-4,6	-16,2	24,6		
Apr	-7,0	5,9	10,8	-83,2	492,1		
May	3,0	4,4	1,4	-50,2	100,3		
Jun	4,0	4,6	-1,8	-13,4	16,7		
Jul	-1,4	7,7	5,1	-14,2	1,1		
Aug	4,5	6,9	1,5	-12,1	11,7		
Sep	4,1	2,0	0,1	-0,8	8,6		
Oct	9,1	6,6	-0,7	-8,1	7,8		
Nov	7,8	3,6	-4,1	-5,7	15,0		
Dec	5,9	-3,5	2,4	-1,6	12,0		
Total	4,1	4,4	0,6	-16,7	20,6		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted motor trade sales at current prices

	R million					Month-on-month % change				
Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019	2020	2021	2022		
Jan	58 623	58 970	54 358	64 917	2,0	0,9	-4,6	2,6		
Feb	56 968	59 990	56 723	65 598	-2,8	1,7	4,4	1,0		
Mar	56 965	47 124	58 461		0,0	-21,4	3,1			
Apr	59 232	11 312	58 652		4,0	-76,0	0,3			
May	58 085	29 367	59 145		-1,9	159,6	0,8			
Jun	58 658	49 653	58 142		1,0	69,1	-1,7			
Jul	60 249	51 171	52 134		2,7	3,1	-10,3			
Aug	60 077	53 747	59 478		-0,3	5,0	14,1			
Sep	57 963	56 683	61 342		-3,5	5,5	3,1			
Oct	59 782	55 059	60 712		3,1	-2,9	-1,0			
Nov	58 121	55 300	63 135		-2,8	0,4	4,0			
Dec	58 449	56 959	63 281		0,6	3,0	0,2			

Table 4 – Motor trade sales at current prices by type of activity (R million)

Type of activity	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22 1/
New vehicle sales	13 804	13 174	14 079	12 463	13 512	14 547
Used vehicle sales	12 584	12 838	13 711	11 223	12 212	12 433
Workshop income	4 014	4 137	4 270	3 903	4 121	4 468
Income from the sales of accessories	11 153	11 226	11 872	10 239	10 898	11 262
Income from fuel sales	17 732	18 571	19 692	20 599	18 677	18 903
Income from convenience store sales 2/	2 174	2 300	2 236	2 486	2 175	2 203
Total	61 461	62 247	65 860	60 911	61 596	63 816

Table 5 - Year-on-year percentage change in motor trade sales at current prices by type of activity

Type of activity	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22
New vehicle sales	15,5	9,2	13,1	9,8	22,9	21,1
Used vehicle sales	4,1	3,8	13,9	3,3	16,1	10,2
Workshop income	-6,3	4,0	2,6	3,5	7,2	13,4
Income from the sales of accessories	6,2	2,1	10,9	7,6	14,2	9,9
Income from fuel sales	12,6	14,8	24,6	24,9	30,2	23,5
Income from convenience store sales 1/	6,3	5,9	5,8	4,2	10,7	7,9
Total	8,6	7,8	15,0	12,0	20,3	16,4

^{1/} Includes 'other' sales and trading income.

Table 6 - Contribution of each type of activity to the year-on-year percentage change in motor trade sales at current prices

Type of activity	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22
New vehicle sales	3,3	1,9	2,8	2,0	4,9	4,6
Used vehicle sales	0,9	0,8	2,9	0,7	3,3	2,1
Workshop income	-0,5	0,3	0,2	0,2	0,5	1,0
Income from the sales of accessories	1,2	0,4	2,0	1,3	2,6	1,9
Income from fuel sales	3,5	4,1	6,8	7,5	8,5	6,6
Income from convenience store sales 1/	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,4	0,3
Total	8,6	7,8	15,0	12,0	20,3	16,4

^{1/} Includes 'other' sales and trading income.

^{1/} Figures are preliminary. 2/ Includes 'other' sales and trading income.

Survey information

Introduction

- Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey covering enterprises in the motor trade industry (see point 4 below). This survey is based on a sample drawn from Stats SA's 2021 business sampling frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered at the South African Revenue Service (SARS) for value added tax (VAT). Stats SA continuously updates its BSF, which is linked to the SARS administrative data.
- In order to improve timeliness, some information for the latest month had to be estimated due to late response. These estimates will be revised in future statistical releases as soon as information becomes available. Published motor trade sales estimates exclude VAT.

Purpose of the survey

The results of the monthly motor trade sales survey are used to compile estimates of the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components, which are used in monitoring the state of the economy and formulation of economic policy. These statistics are also used in the analysis of comparative business and industry performance.

Scope of the survey

- The survey collects information from a sample of enterprises in South Africa that are predominantly involved in motor trade. These enterprises include:
 - motor vehicle dealers, filling stations and workshops;
 - motor cycle dealers;
 - · spares and accessories;
 - tyre dealers;
 - automotive electricians;
 - radiator repairs;
 - panel beaters and spray painters;
 - 'other' specialised motor repair services; and
 - 'other' motor trade.

Classification

The 1993 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Each enterprise is classified to the industry which reflects its predominant activity. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC group (four digits) level.

Collection rate

The preliminary collection rate for the survey on motor trade sales for February 2022 was 72,0%. The improved collection rate for January 2022 was 74,2%.

Statistical unit

7 The statistical unit for which information is compiled and published is the enterprise, defined as a legal unit or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its sales and service activities.

Revised figures

8 Revised figures are mainly due to late submission of data to Stats SA, or respondents reporting revisions or corrections to their figures. Preliminary figures, as indicated in the relevant tables, are subject to change and when revised will not be indicated as such.

Related publications

- **9** Users may also refer to the following publication available from Stats SA:
 - Stats in Brief issued annually.

Rounding-off	of	
figures		

Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

Historical data

Historical motor trade data are available on the Stats SA website. To access the data electronically, use the following link: Click to download historical data

Past publications

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Past motor trade releases are available on the Stats SA website. To access the releases electronically, use the following link: Click to download past releases

Technical notes

Survey methodology and design

- 1 The survey is conducted monthly. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of 857 enterprises from a population of 10 670 enterprises. Completed questionnaires are required to be returned to Stats SA within 10 days after the end of the reference month. Email, fax and telephone reminders are used to follow up on non-respondents.
- A stratified random sample was drawn in April 2021 from Stats SA's business sampling frame (BSF) at the SIC four-digit level. Strata were formed using a combination of Standard Industrial Classification and the measure of size classes for enterprises (see point 3 below).

The Neyman optimal allocation formula given below was used to allocate samples to each stratum.

$$nh = n * (Nh * Sh) / [\Sigma (Ni * Si)].$$

Neyman allocation formula not only allocates sample sizes to each stratum but also calculates the relative precision for each stratum as well as the relative precision for all strata. The relative precision for these strata was 3,8%.

Class limits

Each motor trade classification group (SIC at four digit level) is divided into four size groups. All large enterprises (size group one) are completely enumerated. Simple random sampling is applied to medium and small enterprises (size groups two, three and four). The total value of sales of the large enterprises (size group one) per classification group is added to the weighted totals of size groups two, three and four to reflect the total value of sales.

Measure of size classes (Rand)

Enterprise size	Size group	Lower limits	Upper limits
Very small	4	1 865 950	18 000 000
Small	3	18 000 001	85 500 000
Medium	2	85 500 001	175 500 000
Large	1	175 500 001	

Sample weighting

For those strata not completely enumerated, the weights to produce estimates are the inverse ratio of the sampling fraction, modified to take account of non-response in the survey. Stratum estimates are calculated and then aggregated with the completely enumerated stratum to form classification group estimates. These procedures are consistent with international best practice.

Seasonal adjustment

Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month using the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by the United States Census Bureau. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be recognised more clearly. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variations. Therefore the month-to-month movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour. The X-12-ARIMA procedure for motor trade sales is described in more detail on the Stats SA website at:

Click to download seasonal adjustment motor trade sales February 2022

Trend cycle

The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimates of the underlying trend cycle.

Reliability of estimates

- 7 Data presented in this publication are based on information obtained from a sample and are, therefore, subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if the data had been obtained from all enterprises in the motor trade industry in South Africa. Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.
- Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by enterprises and errors made in the collection and processing of the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors. Every effort is made to minimise non-sampling errors by careful design of questionnaires, testing them in pilot studies, editing reported data and implementing efficient operating procedures. Fluctuations may occur in consecutive months as a result of seasonal and economic factors.

Month-on-month percentage change

9 The month-on-month percentage change in a variable for any given month is the change between that month and the previous month, expressed as a percentage of the latter.

Year-on-year percentage change

The year-on-year percentage change in a variable for any given period is the change between that period and the corresponding period of the previous year, expressed as a percentage of the latter.

Contribution (percentage points)

11 The contribution (percentage points) to the year-on-year percentage change is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each type of activity by its corresponding weight, divided by 100. The weight is the percentage contribution of each type of activity to total motor trade sales in the corresponding period of the previous year.

Glossary

Enterprise An enterprise is a legal entity or a combination of legal units that includes and directly

controls all functions necessary to carry out its sales activities.

Industry An industry is made up of enterprises engaged in the same or similar kinds of

economic activity. Industries are defined in the *System of National Accounts* (SNA) in the same way as in the *Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities*

(SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993.

Symbols and abbreviationsBSF
Business sampling frame
GDP
Gross domestic product

ISIC International Standard Industrial Classification

IT Income tax Rm Rand million

SIC Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities

SARS South African Revenue Service

Stats SA Statistics South Africa VAT Value added tax

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General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

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