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P6242.1

Retail trade sales (Preliminary)

June 2025

The results published in the next publication (July 2025) will be based on a new sample. This is an annual procedure which typically affects the level of sales at both current and constant prices. To avoid breaks in time series and to minimise revisions to historical growth rates, historical sales levels will be revised (i.e. they will be linked to the estimates based on the new sample).

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IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS

Contents

Sales at constant 2019 prices: results for June 2025

Table A – Key growth rates in retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices

	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	7,0	4,1	1,2	5,2	4,3	1,6
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,1	-0,5	-0,3	1,1	0,2	0,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted [1]	1,7	0,7	-0,4	-0,5	0,1	0,9

[1] Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Measured in real terms (constant 2019 prices), retail trade sales increased by 1,6% year-on-year in June 2025. The largest positive contributors to this increase were retailers in:

- textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (4,6% and contributing 0,8 of a percentage point); and
- hardware, paint and glass (5,4% and contributing 0,4 of a percentage point) – see Table 5 and Table 6.

Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales were flat in June 2025 compared with May 2025. This followed month-on-month changes of 0,2% in May 2025 and 1,1% in April 2025.

Table B – Retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices for the latest three months by type of retailer

Type of retailer	Apr – Jun 2024 (R million)	Weight (%)	Apr – Jun 2025 (R million)	% change between Apr – Jun 2024 and Apr – Jun 2025	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
General dealers	123 560	44,7	126 968	2,8	1,2
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	21 094	7,6	20 728	-1,7	-0,1
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	21 786	7,9	22 356	2,6	0,2
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	46 283	16,8	50 802	9,8	1,6
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	11 395	4,1	12 244	7,5	0,3
Hardware, paint and glass	21 878	7,9	21 922	0,2	0,0
All other retailers	30 119	10,9	31 252	3,8	0,4
Total	**276 115**	**100,0**	**286 272**	**3,7**	**3,7**

Retail trade sales increased by 3,7% in the second quarter of 2025 compared with the second quarter of 2024. The largest positive contributors to this increase were:

- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (9,8% and contributing 1,6 percentage points); and
- general dealers (2,8% and contributing 1,2 percentage points) – see Table B.

Table C – Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices for the latest three months by type of retailer

Type of retailer	Jan – Mar 2025 (R million)	Weight (%)	Apr – Jun 2025 (R million)	% change between Jan – Mar 2025 and Apr – Jun 2025	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
General dealers	132 671	44,9	132 565	-0,1	0,0
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	22 504	7,6	21 995	-2,3	-0,2
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	22 117	7,5	22 250	0,6	0,0
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	51 040	17,3	52 945	3,7	0,6
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	12 969	4,4	13 327	2,8	0,1
Hardware, paint and glass	22 311	7,6	22 638	1,5	0,1
All other retailers	31 659	10,7	32 215	1,8	0,2
Total	**295 272**	**100,0**	**297 935**	**0,9**	**0,9**

Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales increased by 0,9% in the second quarter of 2025 compared with the first quarter of 2025. The largest positive contributors were:
- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (3,7% and contributing 0,6 of a percentage point);
- all 'other' retailers (1,8% and contributing 0,2 of a percentage point);
- retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment (2,8% and contributing 0,1 of a percentage point); and
- retailers in hardware, paint and glass (1,5% and contributing 0,1 of a percentage point).

The largest negative contributor was retailers in food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores (-2,3% and contributing -0,2 of a percentage point) – see Table C.

**Figure 1 – Retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices**
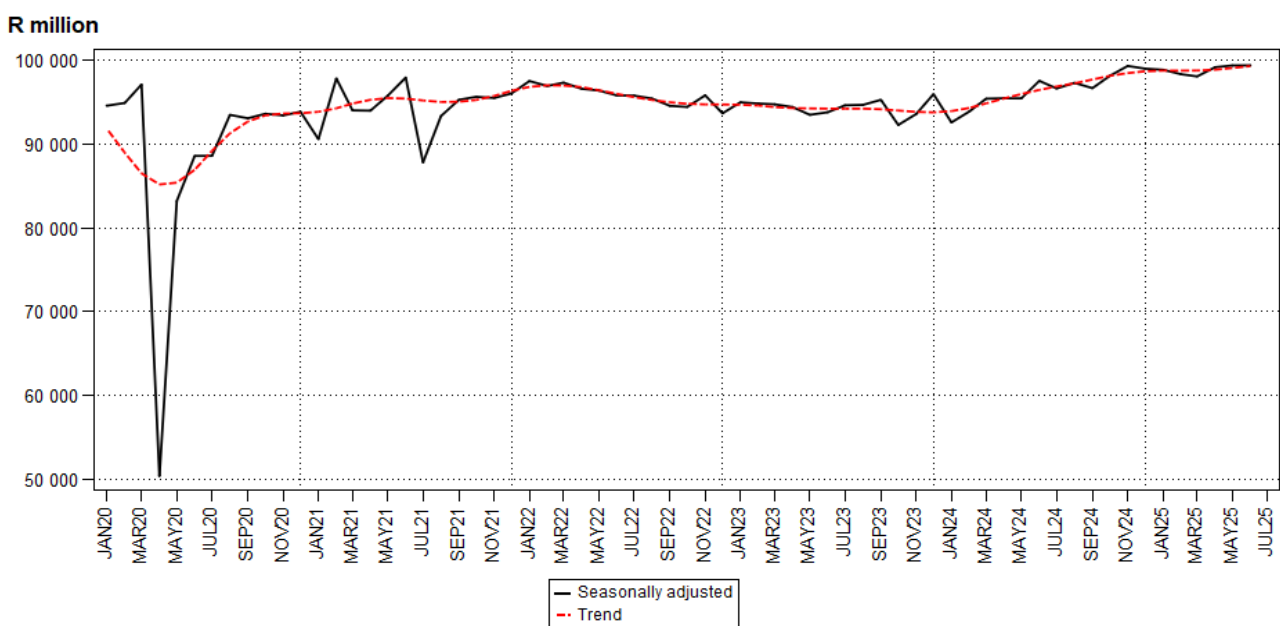
Figure 2 – Retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices: year-on-year percentage change
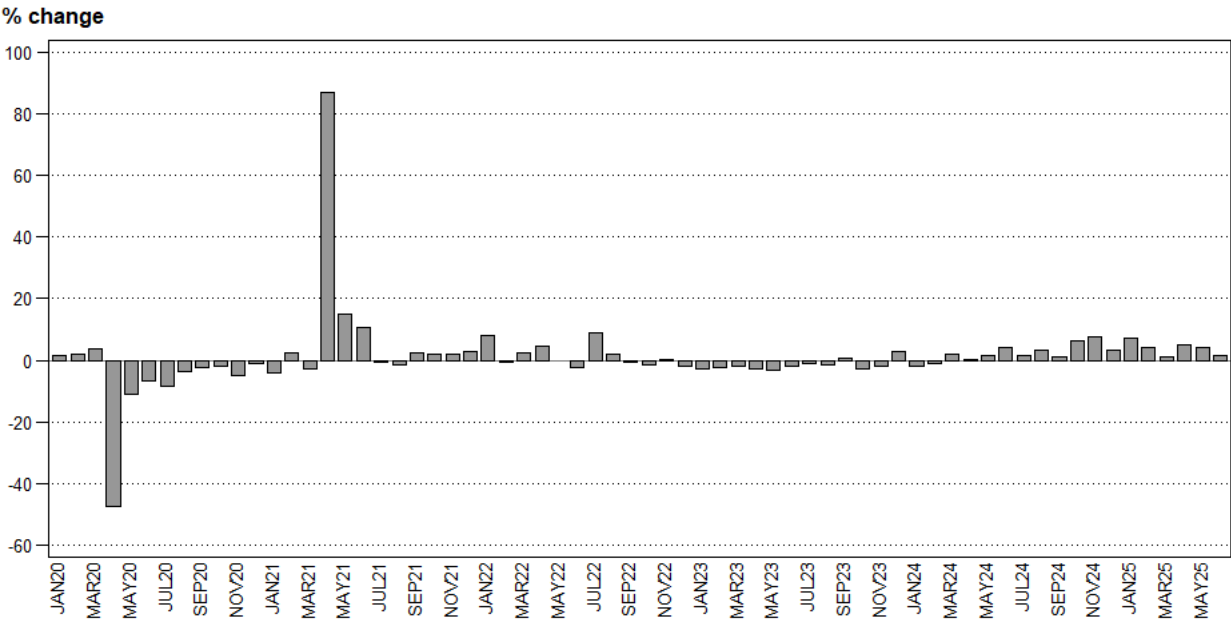
Sales at current prices: results for June 2025

Table D – Key growth rates in retail trade sales at current prices

	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	8,7	5,5	2,7	6,9	6,4	3,7
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,7	-0,4	-0,4	1,3	0,4	0,2
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted [1]	2,2	1,0	-0,8	-0,6	0,1	1,2

[1] Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Table E – Retail trade sales at current prices for the latest three months by type of retailer

Type of retailer	Apr – Jun 2024 (R million)	Weight (%)	Apr – Jun 2025 (R million)	% change between Apr – Jun 2024 and Apr – Jun 2025	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
General dealers	163 555	48,0	172 956	5,7	2,7
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	27 682	8,1	28 934	4,5	0,4
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	28 350	8,3	30 066	6,1	0,5
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	50 625	14,9	56 109	10,8	1,6
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	11 508	3,4	11 929	3,7	0,1
Hardware, paint and glass	26 750	7,8	27 021	1,0	0,1
All other retailers	32 299	9,5	32 988	2,1	0,2
Total	**340 769**	**100,0**	**360 006**	**5,6**	**5,6**

Table F – Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at current prices for the latest three months by type of retailer

Type of retailer	Jan – Mar 2025 (R million)	Weight (%)	Apr – Jun 2025 (R million)	% change between Jan – Mar 2025 and Apr – Jun 2025	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
General dealers	178 657	48,6	179 055	0,2	0,1
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	29 983	8,2	30 440	1,5	0,1
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	29 387	8,0	29 774	1,3	0,1
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	55 966	15,2	58 191	4,0	0,6
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	12 713	3,5	12 974	2,1	0,1
Hardware, paint and glass	27 350	7,4	27 812	1,7	0,1
All other retailers	33 606	9,1	33 977	1,1	0,1
Total	**367 662**	**100,0**	**372 225**	**1,2**	**1,2**

Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices (R million)

Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Jan	86 114	87 331	83 922	90 582	88 241	86 396	92 417
Feb	88 268	89 985	92 172	91 434	89 390	88 629	92 272
Mar	91 106	94 450	91 959	94 267	92 544	94 398	95 538
Apr	88 969	46 619	87 209	91 250	88 617	89 001	93 643
May	93 561	83 055	95 523	95 491	92 339	93 831	97 888
Jun	90 965	84 677	93 655	91 592	89 696	93 283	94 741
Jul	90 314	82 816	82 354	89 668	88 604	90 055	
Aug	94 316	90 730	89 583	91 277	89 940	92 857	
Sep	91 434	89 216	91 150	90 462	91 090	91 989	
Oct	92 712	90 816	92 565	91 186	88 582	94 047	
Nov	109 184	103 927	106 152	106 417	104 256	112 192	
Dec	126 145	124 589	128 372	125 933	129 363	133 422	
Total	**1 143 088**	**1 068 211**	**1 134 616**	**1 149 559**	**1 132 662**	**1 160 100**	

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices

Month	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	*2025 year-to-date*
Jan	1,4	-3,9	7,9	-2,6	-2,1	7,0	*7,0*
Feb	1,9	2,4	-0,8	-2,2	-0,9	4,1	*5,5*
Mar	3,7	-2,6	2,5	-1,8	2,0	1,2	*4,0*
Apr	-47,6	87,1	4,6	-2,9	0,4	5,2	*4,3*
May	-11,2	15,0	0,0	-3,3	1,6	4,3	*4,3*
Jun	-6,9	10,6	-2,2	-2,1	4,0	1,6	*3,8*
Jul	-8,3	-0,6	8,9	-1,2	1,6		
Aug	-3,8	-1,3	1,9	-1,5	3,2		
Sep	-2,4	2,2	-0,8	0,7	1,0		
Oct	-2,0	1,9	-1,5	-2,9	6,2		
Nov	-4,8	2,1	0,2	-2,0	7,6		
Dec	-1,2	3,0	-1,9	2,7	3,1		
Total	**-6,6**	**6,2**	**1,3**	**-1,5**	**2,4**		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022	2023	2024	2025
Jan	97 517	94 977	92 571	98 865	1,5	1,4	-3,5	-0,1
Feb	96 929	94 828	93 881	98 338	-0,6	-0,2	1,4	-0,5
Mar	97 326	94 742	95 412	98 069	0,4	-0,1	1,6	-0,3
Apr	96 597	94 415	95 459	99 168	-0,7	-0,3	0,0	1,1
May	96 385	93 481	95 450	99 378	-0,2	-1,0	0,0	0,2
Jun	95 810	93 790	97 540	99 389	-0,6	0,3	2,2	0,0
Jul	95 772	94 622	96 629		0,0	0,9	-0,9	
Aug	95 428	94 672	97 299		-0,4	0,1	0,7	
Sep	94 555	95 272	96 668		-0,9	0,6	-0,6	
Oct	94 424	92 272	98 139		-0,1	-3,1	1,5	
Nov	95 810	93 578	99 322		1,5	1,4	1,2	
Dec	93 660	95 953	98 998		-2,2	2,5	-0,3	

Table 4 – Retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices by type of retailer (R million)

Type of retailer	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
General dealers	40 331	42 401	44 578	40 623	42 977	43 368
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	7 192	6 795	7 273	7 131	6 920	6 677
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	7 617	6 744	7 228	7 962	7 340	7 054
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	15 175	14 984	14 922	16 840	17 780	16 182
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	3 906	3 957	4 174	3 947	4 087	4 210
Hardware, paint and glass	6 744	6 698	7 105	6 647	7 984	7 291
All other retailers	11 452	10 693	10 258	10 493	10 800	9 959
Total	**92 417**	**92 272**	**95 538**	**93 643**	**97 888**	**94 741**

Table 5 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices by type of retailer

Type of retailer	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
General dealers	7,6	3,6	-0,1	5,4	3,4	-0,2
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	7,5	-3,2	-2,3	1,7	-2,4	-4,5
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	6,9	-0,2	7,0	2,1	1,7	4,2
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	10,8	16,1	3,4	12,1	12,6	4,6
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	7,9	5,9	5,0	8,8	6,8	6,9
Hardware, paint and glass	2,1	-3,8	1,8	-6,6	1,8	5,4
All other retailers	2,6	3,7	0,7	6,0	3,0	2,3
Total	**7,0**	**4,1**	**1,2**	**5,2**	**4,3**	**1,6**

Table 6 – Contribution of each type of retailer to the year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices (percentage points)

Type of retailer	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
General dealers	3,3	1,7	0,0	2,3	1,5	-0,1
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	0,6	-0,3	-0,2	0,1	-0,2	-0,3
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	0,6	0,0	0,5	0,2	0,1	0,3
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	1,7	2,4	0,5	2,0	2,1	0,8
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	0,3	0,2	0,2	0,4	0,3	0,3
Hardware, paint and glass	0,2	-0,3	0,1	-0,5	0,2	0,4
All other retailers	0,3	0,4	0,1	0,7	0,3	0,2
Total	**7,0**	**4,1**	**1,2**	**5,2**	**4,3**	**1,6**

Table 7 – Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices by type of retailer (R million)

Type of retailer	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Month-on-month % change
General dealers	44 566	43 979	44 126	44 142	44 239	44 184	-0,1
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	7 840	7 296	7 368	7 407	7 348	7 240	-1,5
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	7 483	7 319	7 315	7 444	7 376	7 430	0,7
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	16 575	17 442	17 023	17 592	17 622	17 731	0,6
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	4 349	4 331	4 289	4 408	4 436	4 483	1,1
Hardware, paint and glass	7 511	7 292	7 508	7 306	7 634	7 698	0,8
All other retailers	10 541	10 679	10 439	10 869	10 723	10 623	-0,9
Total	**98 865**	**98 338**	**98 069**	**99 168**	**99 378**	**99 389**	**0,0**

Table 8 – Retail trade sales at current prices (R million)

Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Jan	84 941	88 492	86 936	97 282	102 223	105 380	114 598
Feb	87 343	91 485	95 854	98 818	104 805	108 823	114 788
Mar	90 529	96 329	96 390	102 673	109 718	116 358	119 539
Apr	88 534	47 750	91 603	99 738	105 374	109 625	117 213
May	93 470	84 403	100 453	105 597	110 094	115 672	123 027
Jun	91 029	86 199	99 007	102 251	107 424	115 472	119 766
Jul	90 377	84 443	87 194	100 578	106 033	111 232	
Aug	94 666	92 852	95 292	103 567	108 130	115 075	
Sep	91 979	91 513	96 980	103 280	110 039	114 721	
Oct	93 178	93 606	98 846	104 464	107 479	117 024	
Nov	109 981	107 372	113 265	121 882	126 583	138 621	
Dec	127 060	128 769	136 942	144 283	156 372	163 778	
Total	**1 143 090**	**1 093 213**	**1 198 762**	**1 284 413**	**1 354 274**	**1 431 781**	

Table 9 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at current prices

Month	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	*2025 year-to-date*
Jan	4,2	-1,8	11,9	5,1	3,1	8,7	*8,7*
Feb	4,7	4,8	3,1	6,1	3,8	5,5	*7,1*
Mar	6,4	0,1	6,5	6,9	6,1	2,7	*5,6*
Apr	-46,1	91,8	8,9	5,7	4,0	6,9	*5,9*
May	-9,7	19,0	5,1	4,3	5,1	6,4	*6,0*
Jun	-5,3	14,9	3,3	5,1	7,5	3,7	*5,6*
Jul	-6,6	3,3	15,3	5,4	4,9		
Aug	-1,9	2,6	8,7	4,4	6,4		
Sep	-0,5	6,0	6,5	6,5	4,3		
Oct	0,5	5,6	5,7	2,9	8,9		
Nov	-2,4	5,5	7,6	3,9	9,5		
Dec	1,3	6,3	5,4	8,4	4,7		
Total	**-4,4**	**9,7**	**7,1**	**5,4**	**5,7**		

Table 10 – Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at current prices

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022	2023	2024	2025
Jan	105 196	110 586	113 428	123 075	1,7	1,7	-3,9	-0,7
Feb	105 148	111 545	115 796	122 549	0,0	0,9	2,1	-0,4
Mar	105 450	112 150	117 235	122 038	0,3	0,5	1,2	-0,4
Apr	105 642	111 850	117 102	123 639	0,2	-0,3	-0,1	1,3
May	106 216	111 006	116 999	124 159	0,5	-0,8	-0,1	0,4
Jun	106 471	111 550	119 749	124 427	0,2	0,5	2,4	0,2
Jul	106 917	112 740	118 717		0,4	1,1	-0,9	
Aug	107 459	112 844	119 531		0,5	0,1	0,7	
Sep	107 341	114 145	119 207		-0,1	1,2	-0,3	
Oct	108 484	112 706	123 437		1,1	-1,3	3,5	
Nov	109 950	113 815	123 297		1,4	1,0	-0,1	
Dec	108 750	118 007	123 909		-1,1	3,7	0,5	

Table 11 – Retail trade sales at current prices by type of retailer (R million)

Type of retailer	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
General dealers	54 066	56 961	60 029	55 060	58 556	59 340
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	9 584	9 063	9 781	9 835	9 655	9 444
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	10 010	8 893	9 646	10 676	9 875	9 515
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	16 646	16 451	16 411	18 573	19 642	17 894
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	3 860	3 869	4 083	3 843	3 994	4 092
Hardware, paint and glass	8 292	8 215	8 734	8 146	9 886	8 989
All other retailers	12 139	11 336	10 854	11 078	11 419	10 491
Total	**114 598**	**114 788**	**119 539**	**117 213**	**123 027**	**119 766**

Table 12 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at current prices by type of retailer

Type of retailer	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
General dealers	10,1	6,2	2,2	8,3	6,4	2,9
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	9,2	-1,0	0,6	6,9	3,7	3,0
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	10,7	2,5	10,5	5,4	5,3	7,7
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	11,6	17,0	4,3	13,0	13,7	5,8
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	4,9	1,9	1,4	4,6	3,4	3,0
Hardware, paint and glass	3,4	-3,3	2,5	-6,4	3,2	6,2
All other retailers	2,3	3,1	-0,3	4,2	1,5	0,7
Total	**8,7**	**5,5**	**2,7**	**6,9**	**6,4**	**3,7**

Table 13 – Contribution of each type of retailer to the year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at current prices (percentage points)

Type of retailer	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
General dealers	4,7	3,1	1,1	3,9	3,0	1,5
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	0,8	-0,1	0,1	0,6	0,3	0,2
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	0,9	0,2	0,8	0,5	0,4	0,6
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	1,6	2,2	0,6	2,0	2,0	0,9
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	0,2	0,1	0,0	0,2	0,1	0,1
Hardware, paint and glass	0,3	-0,3	0,2	-0,5	0,3	0,5
All other retailers	0,3	0,3	0,0	0,4	0,1	0,1
Total	**8,7**	**5,5**	**2,7**	**6,9**	**6,4**	**3,7**

Table 14 – Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at current prices by type of retailer (R million)

Type of retailer	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	*Month-on-month % change*
General dealers	59 998	59 394	59 265	59 650	59 641	59 764	*0,2*
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	10 321	9 803	9 859	10 183	10 134	10 123	*-0,1*
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	9 855	9 734	9 798	9 905	9 885	9 984	*1,0*
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	18 154	19 120	18 692	19 313	19 401	19 477	*0,4*
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	4 281	4 231	4 201	4 281	4 323	4 370	*1,1*
Hardware, paint and glass	9 254	8 927	9 169	8 850	9 458	9 504	*0,5*
All other retailers	11 212	11 339	11 055	11 457	11 316	11 204	*-1,0*
Total	**123 075**	**122 549**	**122 038**	**123 639**	**124 159**	**124 427**	***0,2***

Explanatory notes

Introduction	**1**	Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey of the retail trade industry, covering retail enterprises (see point 3 below). This survey is based on a sample drawn from Stats SA's 2024 statistical business register (SBR) that contains businesses registered for value-added tax (VAT). Published retail trade sales estimates include VAT.
Purpose of the survey	**2**	The results of the monthly retail 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   **3**   This survey covers retail enterprises according to the following types of retailers:

- general dealers:
  - retail trade in non-specialised stores with food, beverages and tobacco predominating; and
  - 'other' retail trade in non-specialised stores.
- retailers in food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores:
  - retailers in fresh fruit and vegetables;
  - retailers in meat and meat products;
  - retailers in bakery products;
  - retailers in beverages;
  - retailers in tobacco; and
  - retailers in 'other' food in specialised stores.
- retailers in pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries;
- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods:
  - retailers in men's and boys' clothing;
  - retailers in ladies', girls' and infants' clothing;
  - general outfitters; and
  - retailers in footwear.
- retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment;
- retailers in hardware, paint and glass; and
- all 'other' retailers:
  - retailers in reading matter and stationery;
  - retailers in jewellery, watches and clocks;
  - retailers in sport goods and entertainment requisites;
  - retailers in 'other' specialised stores;
  - repair of personal and household goods;
  - retail trade in second-hand goods in stores; and
  - retail trade not in stores.

Classification	**4**	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 digit) level.
Collection rate	**5**	The preliminary collection rate for the survey on retail trade sales for June 2025 was 71,0%. The revised collection rate for May 2025 was 73,5%.

| **Statistical unit** | **6** | 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 activities. The statistical units are derived from and linked to the South African Revenue Service (SARS) administrative data. |

| **Revised figures** | **7** | Revised figures are mainly due to late submission of data to Stats SA, or respondents reporting revisions or corrections to their figures. The reasons for routine revisions are outlined in the following schedule. Any unscheduled revisions will be promptly indicated in relevant tables to maintain transparency and accuracy. It is important to note that seasonally adjusted figures are revised monthly. |

Statistical release	Reason for revision	Period subject to revision
Jun-25	Additional information from respondents	May-25
Jul-25	Additional information from respondents New sample	Jan-02–Jun-25
Aug-25	Additional information from respondents	Jul-25
Sep-25	Additional information from respondents	Aug-25
Oct-25	Additional information from respondents	Sep-25
Nov-25	Additional information from respondents	Oct-25
Dec-25	Additional information from respondents	Nov-25
Jan-26	Additional information from respondents	Dec-25
Feb-26	Additional information from respondents	Jan-26
Mar-26	Additional information from respondents	Feb-26
Apr-26	Additional information from respondents	Mar-26
May-26	Additional information from respondents	Apr-26
New base year in 2027/28 - periodic, approximately four- to five-year intervals		

| **Related publications** | **8** | Users may also refer to *Stats in Brief* available from Stats SA. |

| **Rounding-off of figures** | **9** | Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals. |

| **Historical data** | **10** | Historical retail trade sales data are available on the Stats SA website. To access the data electronically, use the following link: Click to download historical data. |

| **Past publications** | **11** | Past retail trade sales 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 on a monthly basis. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of 1 891 enterprises from a population of 19 052 enterprises. Completed questionnaires are required to be returned to Stats SA within ten days after the end of the reference month. Email and telephone reminders are used to follow up on non-respondents.
	2	A stratified random sample was drawn at the SIC four-digit level in April 2024 from Stats SA's statistical business register (SBR). Strata were formed using a combination of the Standard Industrial Classification and the measure of size classes for enterprises (see point three 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 did not exceed 6,0%.

Class limits	**3**	The retail sampling frame is divided into four size groups. All large enterprises (size group one) are completely enumerated. Simple random sampling is applied to size groups two, three and four (medium, small and very small) enterprises. The total value of sales of the large enterprises (size group one) 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 limit	Upper limit
Very small	4	2 585 491	10 000 000
Small	3	10 000 001	47 500 000
Medium	2	47 500 001	97 500 000
Large	1	97 500 001	

Sample weighting	**4**	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 group estimates. These procedures are consistent with international best practice.
Seasonal adjustment	**5**	Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month using the X-12 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 retail trade sales is described in more detail on the Stats SA website: [Click to download seasonal adjustment retail trade sales January 2022](#).
Trend cycle	**6**	The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-12 Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimate the underlying trend cycle.

Constant prices	**7**	For February 2002 to January 2007 retail trade sales at constant prices were calculated using the consumer price index (CPI) for goods, excluding petrol and purchases of vehicles, for all urban areas to deflate total sales at current prices. From February 2008 onwards total retail trade sales at constant prices are obtained by adding up the deflated sales by type of retailer.	
	8	Retail trade sales at constant prices by type of retailer are obtained by deflating estimated sales at current prices by the relevant weighted price index. To obtain total retail trade sales at constant prices, estimates of the deflated sales for each type of retailer are aggregated.	
Reliability of estimates	**9**	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 retail industry in South Africa. Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.	
	10	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.	
Relative standard error	**11**	One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of enterprises was used. The relative standard error (RSE) provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling, and thus avoids the need to refer to the size of the estimate.	

Estimates of total retail trade sales within 95% confidence limits – June 2025

	Lower limit (R million)	Sales (R million)	Upper limit (R million)	Relative standard error (RSE) (%)
Retail trade sales	116 992	119 766	122 540	1,1

Month-on-month percentage change	**12**	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	**13**	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)	**14**	The contribution (percentage points) to the year-on-year percentage change for any given period is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each type of retailer by its corresponding weight, divided by 100. The weight is the percentage contribution of each type of retailer to total retail 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.

Retail trade
Retail trade includes the resale (sale without transformation) of new and used goods and products to the general public for household use.

Retailer
A retailer is an enterprise deriving more than 50% of its turnover from sales of goods to the general public for household use.

Symbols and abbreviations

CPI	Consumer price index
GDP	Gross domestic product
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification
SARS	South African Revenue Service
SBR	Statistical Business Register
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
SNA	System of National Accounts
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
VAT	Value-added tax
*	Revised figures

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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 12 official languages. Since the releases are used extensively locally and by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

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Central Regional Library, Polokwane
Central Reference Library, Mbombela
Central Reference Collection, Kimberley
Central Reference Library, Mmabatho

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