

# South Africa

Imports: FOB, by origin

Exports: FOB, by last known destination

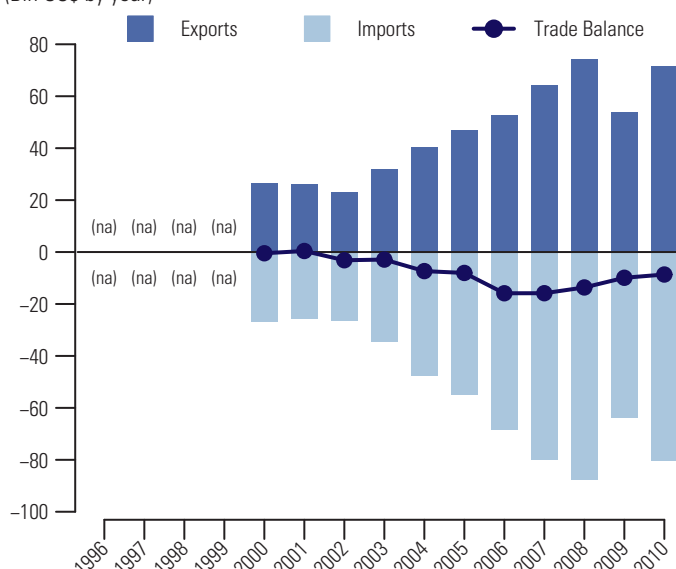
Trade System: General

## Overview:

From 2006 to 2010, South Africa's exports increased on average by 8.0 percent each year and amounted to 71.5 bln US\$ in 2010, reaching its previous level of 2008 after a significant decline in 2009 (see table 1). Imports increased on average by 4.0 percent each year and reached 80.1 bln US\$ (see table 2). This resulted in a trade deficit of 8.7 bln US\$ in 2010, slightly lower than the 2009 deficit of 9.9 bln US\$ (see graph 1). The trade balance recorded deficits with MDG regions such as Developed Europe (-5.6 bln US\$), Western Asia (-2.9 bln US\$), South-eastern Asia (-2.8 bln US\$) and Southern Asia (-2.7 bln US\$) (see graph 2). Large surpluses were recorded with Sub-Saharan Africa (+5.7 bln US\$), Developed Asia-Pacific (+1.8 bln US\$) and Developed North America (+1.0 bln US\$). South Africa's trade was diversified across partners: 24 major partners accounted for 80 percent of exports (compared to 23 major partners for imports) in 2010 (see graph 3).

## Graph 1: Total imports, exports and trade balance

(Bln US\$ by year)



## Exports Profile:

In 2010, manufactured goods classified chiefly by material (SITC section 6) and machinery and transport equipment (SITC section 7) accounted for a majority of exported goods. Their exports increased respectively by 40.2 and 24.7 percent and accounted for 34.4 and 18.8 percent of total exports (see table 1). Inedible crude materials (except fuels), animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes (SITC sections 2+4) accounted for 18.5 percent of exports. Major markets for exports were China, USA and Japan (see table 4). More than two-thirds (69.5 percent) of exports to China were inedible crude materials (except fuels), animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes (SITC sections 2+4). Over the last three years, South Africa's main commodities for exports were platinum, unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms, or in powder form (HS code 7110), coal; briquettes, ovoids and similar solid fuels manufactured from coal (HS code 2701) and ferro-alloys (HS code 7202) (see table 3).

Table 1: Exports by SITC sections

(Value in million US\$, growth and shares in percentage)

SITC	2010	Avg. Growth rates (%)		2010 share
		2006-2010	2009-2010	
Total	71 484.3	8.0	32.7	100.0
0+1	5 976.7	12.8	13.5	8.4
2+4	13 231.0	24.9	55.0	18.5
3	7 197.7	9.6	19.5	10.1
5	5 077.5	6.8	23.8	7.1
6	24 584.1	3.5	40.2	34.4
7	13 450.8	4.5	24.7	18.8
8	1 699.7	3.2	20.7	2.4
9	266.9	-5.3	28.8	0.4

Table 2: Imports by SITC sections

(Value in million US\$, growth and shares in percentage)

SITC	2010	Avg. Growth rates (%)		2010 share
		2006-2010	2009-2010	
Total	80 139.3	4.0	25.7	100.0
0+1	3 784.6	10.7	6.9	4.7
2+4	2 508.4	0.5	36.9	3.1
3	15 722.5	5.8	15.1	19.6
5	8 662.9	9.1	29.8	10.8
6	8 688.5	3.5	31.4	10.8
7	28 400.4	2.3	27.9	35.4
8	7 122.3	4.0	24.3	8.9
9	5 249.6	-0.2	49.4	6.6

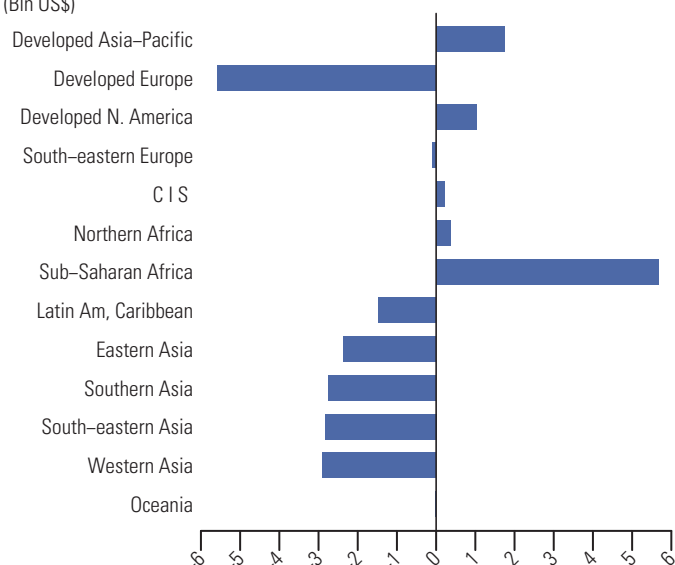
Table 3: Top 10 export commodities 2008 to 2010

(Value in million US\$)

HS code	4-digit heading of Harmonized System 2007	Value (million US\$)			Unit value			SITC code
		2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010	
	All Commodities.....	73 965.5	53 863.9	71 484.3				
7110	Platinum, unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms, or in powder form.....	9 801.0	6 766.6	9 377.1	18.8	16.6	25.5 thsd US\$/kg	681
2701	Coal; briquettes, ovoids and similar solid fuels manufactured from coal.....	4 760.2	4 204.2	5 468.6	0.1	0.1	0.1 US\$/kg	321
7202	Ferro-alloys.....	5 654.4	2 657.2	4 670.8	1.3	0.8	1.1 US\$/kg	671
8703	Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport.....	4 535.6	3 062.5	4 116.9	16.0	19.7	19.9 thsd US\$/unit	781
2601	Iron ores and concentrates, including roasted iron pyrites.....	2 395.8	3 135.3	5 408.4	0.1	0.1	0.1 US\$/kg	281
8421	Centrifuges, including centrifugal dryers.....	3 127.7	1 639.1	2 185.1				743
7102	Diamonds, whether or not worked, but not mounted or set.....	2 283.4	1 304.2	1 952.1	290.6	123.6	186.5 US\$/carat	667
2710	Petroleum oils, other than crude.....	1 585.9	1 115.4	1 209.2	0.7	0.5	0.6 US\$/kg	334
2602	Manganese ores and concentrates.....	1 896.4	525.5	1 434.4	0.3	0.1	0.2 US\$/kg	287
8704	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods.....	1 602.6	853.6	1 169.2	9.7	6.2	10.2 thsd US\$/unit	782

Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG Regions in 2010

(Bln US\$)



Graph 3: Partner concentration of trade in 2010

(Cumulative share by ranked partners)

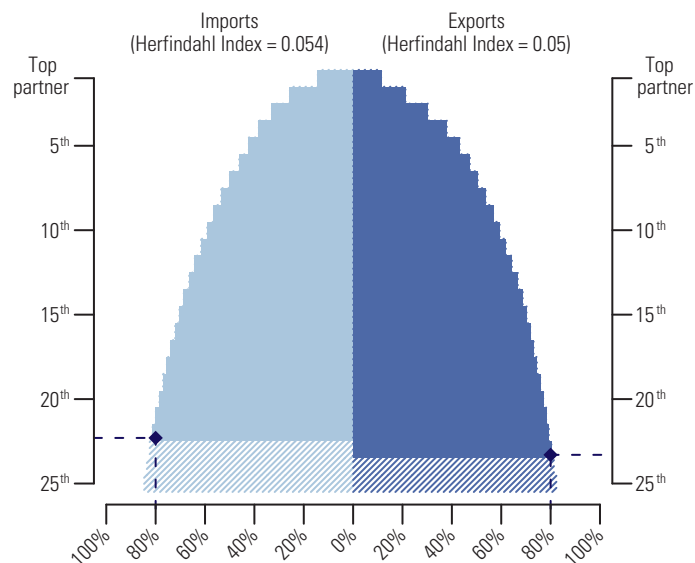


Table 4: Exports by principal countries and SITC sections in 2010

(Value in million US\$, percentages of country total)

Country	Total	Shares by SITC sections (%)								
		0 + 1	2 + 4	3	5	6	7	8	9	Total
World.....	71 484.3	8.4	18.5	10.1	7.1	34.4	18.8	2.4	0.4	100
China.....	8 132.4	1.1	69.5	6.4	3.4	18.2	1.4	0.1	0.0	100
USA.....	7 060.8	2.9	5.5	0.8	10.3	44.7	34.1	1.8	0.0	100
Japan.....	6 425.0	3.1	17.8	0.5	1.8	69.1	7.6	0.1	0.0	100
Germany.....	5 529.4	4.5	14.9	2.2	2.1	24.3	44.5	7.5	0.0	100
United Kingdom.....	3 703.5	16.0	7.3	1.8	2.5	57.0	12.3	2.5	0.6	100
India.....	2 980.6	0.3	17.3	59.5	10.5	9.0	3.0	0.3	0.0	100
Netherlands.....	2 284.6	28.5	15.2	15.1	8.2	23.9	8.5	0.6	0.0	100
Switzerland.....	2 276.9	1.8	0.4	1.1	0.1	95.0	1.0	0.5	0.0	100
Zimbabwe.....	2 156.1	16.9	6.3	10.0	17.4	18.3	25.7	5.3	0.0	100
Mozambique.....	1 893.9	16.3	1.9	17.4	8.1	21.4	29.3	5.7	0.0	100

**Imports Profile:**

In 2010, imports of machinery and transport equipment (SITC section 7) went up by 27.9 percent and accounted for 35.4 percent of imported goods (see table 2). Imports of mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (SITC section 3) increased by 15.1 percent and represented 19.6 percent of imports. Over the last three years, top products for imports were petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude (HS code 2709), petroleum oils, other than crude (HS code 2710) and motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport (HS code 8703) and (see table 5).

Table 5: Top 10 import commodities 2008 to 2010

(Value in million US\$)

HS code	4-digit heading of Harmonized System 2007	Value (million US\$)			Unit value				SITC code
		2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010	Unit	
All Commodities.....		87 593.1	63 766.1	80 139.3					
2709 Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude.....		14 957.2	10 294.4	11 199.5	0.7	0.4	0.6	US\$/kg	333
9999 Commodities not specified according to kind.....		5 827.6	3 512.5	5 241.6					931
2710 Petroleum oils, other than crude.....		3 326.9	2 462.6	3 364.0	0.8	0.6	0.8	US\$/kg	334
8703 Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport.....		2 749.7	2 335.8	4 067.2	1.9	14.2	15.3	thsd US\$/unit	781
8517 Electrical apparatus for line telephony or line telegraphy.....		2 692.3	2 159.9	3 000.9					764
8471 Automatic data processing machines and units thereof.....		1 470.8	1 197.2	1 623.9	87.2	152.0	173.5	US\$/unit	752
3004 Medicaments (excluding goods of heading 30.02, 30.05 or 30.06).....		1 240.4	1 221.9	1 588.1	47.6	54.6	58.1	US\$/kg	542
8708 Parts and accessories of the motor vehicles of headings 87.01 to 87.05.....		1 196.5	951.1	1 192.6	9.1	4.0	9.3	US\$/kg	784
8443 Printing machinery used for printing by means of the printing type, blocks.....		991.5	746.1	977.4					726
8802 Other aircraft (for example, helicopters, aeroplanes); spacecraft.....		1 256.4	627.4	702.2	2.0	0.0	1.5	mln US\$/unit	792