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**info@tips.org.za  
+27 12 433 9340  
www.tips.org.za**

**Import Tracker**

**Quarter 4 2018**

**Report prepared for the Department of Trade and Industry**

**March 2019**

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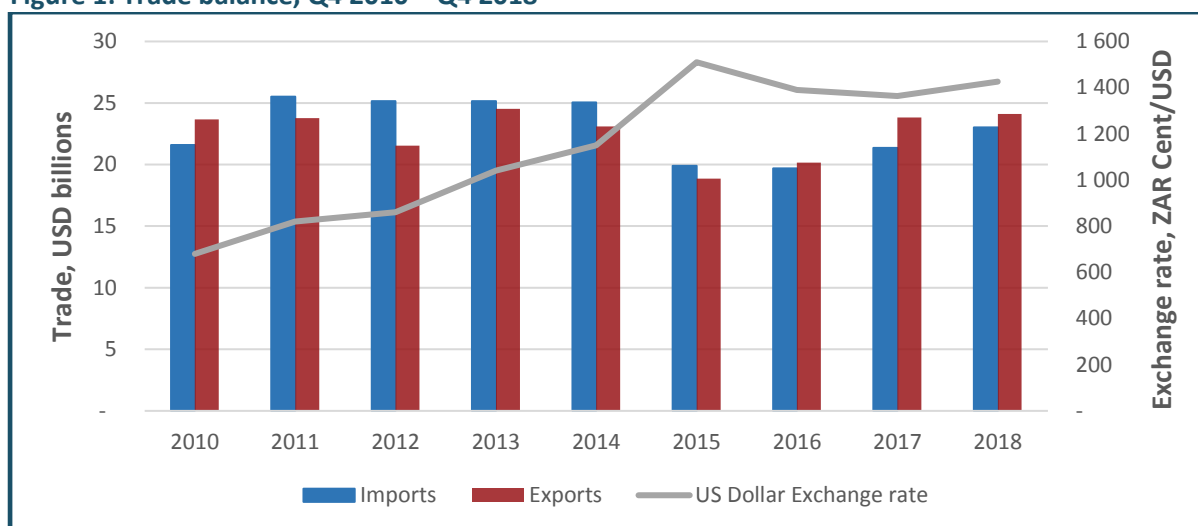
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## Import trends

### Trade context

The trade balance declined in the fourth quarter of 2018, however, although it fell there was still a trade surplus. During the same period, imports grew by 7,8% while exports saw a minimal growth of 1,2%. The growth in imports was driven by imports of crude oil (R41,2 billion), automotive components for motor cars (R11,6 billion) and diesel (R9,7 billion).

Figure 1: Trade balance, Q4 2010 – Q4 2018



Source: ITC Trade Map, South African Reserve Bank (SARB)

Export growth, though minimal, was driven by growth in exports of precious metals, particularly platinum, which is seeing a global rebound that is expected to continue into 2019. The automotive sector also saw a rise in the value of exports, with both vehicles and accessories exports growing 26,7% in the year to the fourth quarter of 2018, and 5,2% quarter on quarter.

### Major imports

Annexure 1 shows a list of South Africa's top 100 import commodities for the fourth quarter of 2018. As seen in the annexure, crude oil, automotive components for motor cars and diesel remain among the top three major imports for the country. As expected, the list is mainly dominated by similar categories, as reported in the previous quarters. These include petroleum and other liquid fuels, information and communications technology (ICT) equipment, automotive (including automotive components), medical equipment, aircraft and aircraft components, production metals, and food and beverage products. One item that has risen in import value ranking is dredgers (HS 89051000). This appears to be driven by maintenance work by Transnet, which is upgrading its infrastructure, including dredgers, for which the company is looking to spend about R85 million in 2019 for the acquisition of a new cutter suction dredger<sup>1</sup>. The surge in the import of unused postage, revenue or similar stamps (HS 49070010) continues, with imports amounting to R4,72 billion in the fourth quarter of 2018.

### Import surges

Annexure 2 provides a list of the top 50 commodity items with the most rapid quantity growth for the fourth quarter of 2018. The annexure also provides a summary of the reasons for the surges, along

<sup>1</sup> Transnet National Ports Authority, 2018. <https://www.transnet.net/InvestorRelations/AR2018/TNPA.pdf>

with those items for which the rapid growth requires further analysis. The next section provides an extended explanation of the surges included in Annexure 2.

## Explanation of import surges

### Finding 1: ongoing monitoring of previously identified surges

Table 1 provides a list of commodities for which there is ongoing monitoring of the surge trends. Imports of certain commodities are beginning to show signs of stabilising. These include chemicals used as fertiliser inputs, which are showing signs of decline, with the exception of sulphur (HS 25030000), which shows growth of about 240%. The surge in imports of beer made from malt and roasted malt of barley is also beginning to show signs of stabilising. Following about four successive quarters of increases in import quantities, imports of Portland cement from Vietnam declined in the fourth quarter of 2018, falling by about 16,7% from the third quarter of 2018; nevertheless, year-on-year growth is still significant.

**Table 1: Ongoing monitoring of import surges from Q1 2018**

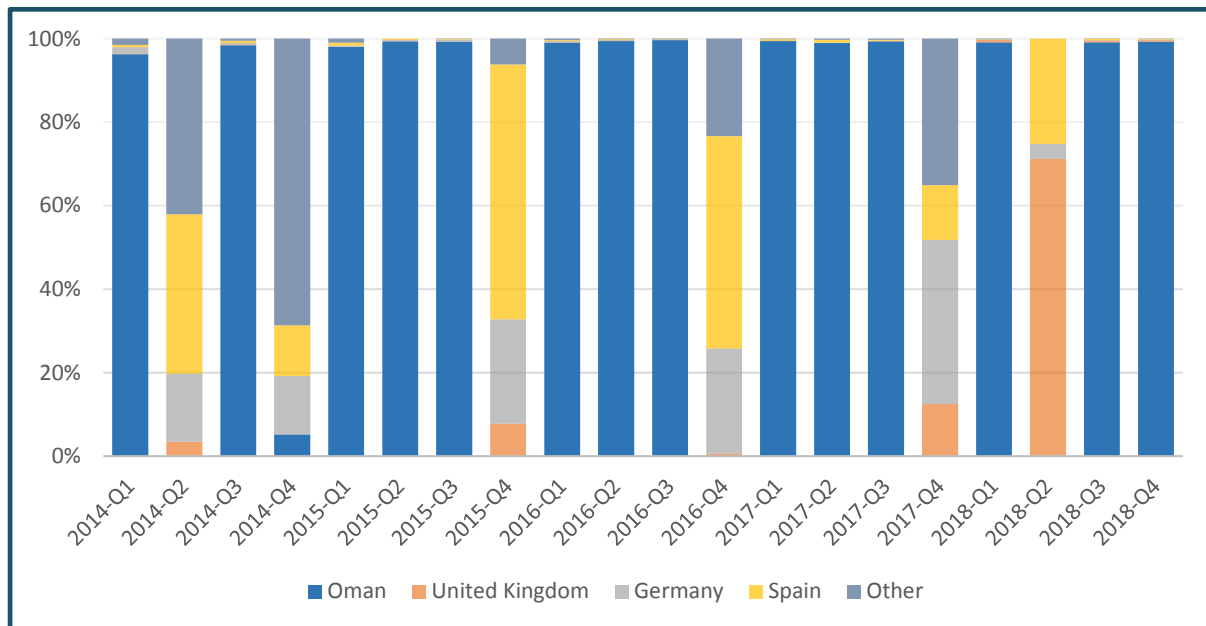
HS Code	Description	Status of surge	Explanation
Various	Fertiliser inputs	Ongoing, with signs of stabilising	Recovery in agriculture
25232900	Portland cement	Slowing	Lifting of exports restrictions in Vietnam, exposing the country to Vietnamese overproduction.
26140000	Titanium ores and concentrates	Accelerating	Continued surge from Mozambique, still not clear why. This requires further monitoring to figure out if it is an occasional import, or if it is linked to other activities.
Various	Beer made from malt: Other, and roasted malt of barley	Ongoing, with signs of stabilising	Restructuring at Heineken and Namibian Breweries, recovery in consumer expenditure.
25201000	Gypsum; anhydrite	Accelerating	This is largely driven by imports from Oman. A further explanation is provided in the text below.
Various	Specialist paper products	Ongoing	This is driven by restructuring at Mondi.
17031000	Cane molasses resulting from the extraction or refining of sugar	Imports declining, monitoring stopped	The surge in the previous quarter was driven by challenges in the industry, however, imports declined in the fourth quarter of 2018.

Imports of gypsum and anhydrite (HS 25201000) have been fluctuating over the years. Though the year-on-year growth is about 27436,7%, this is due to the massive decline in the quantity imported in the fourth quarter of 2017. Quarter-on-quarter shows a decline of about 50,7% in the quantity of gypsum and anhydrite imported, from just over 90,1 million kilograms in the third quarter to about 44,3 million kilograms in the fourth quarter of 2018. With the exception of about six of the last 20 quarters examined, imports from Oman accounted for no less than 90% of gypsum and anhydrite imports (see Figure 2). Worth noting is that post 2014, in the quarters when no gypsum and anhydrite

is imported from Oman, total imports of gypsum and anhydrite decline to below one million kilograms for each respective quarter.

Oman toppled Thailand to become the largest exporter of natural gypsum, with reports noting that the country has potential to export about 300 million tonnes over the next 15 years (2018-2032), based on current trends<sup>2</sup>. South Africa’s import of gypsum and anhydrite from Oman will likely continue rising over the years following renewed commitments in 2017 to advance trade relations between the two countries. Another factor that will result in increased gypsum imports is the newly constructed Osho cement plant, which will require gypsum for use in the manufacture of cement.

**Figure 2: Top 4 countries from which South Africa imports gypsum and anhydrite (Q1 2014 – Q4 2018), sorted by Q4 2018**



Source: Calculated using data from ITC Trade Map. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in February 2019.

## Finding 2: Refractory bricks, blocks, tiles and similar refractory ceramic constructional goods

Imports of refractory bricks, blocks, tiles and similar refractory ceramic constructional goods (HS 69029000) amounted to about 125,1 million kilograms in the fourth quarter of 2018, significantly higher than the 4,6 million kilograms in the fourth quarter of 2017. The highest quantity imported of this commodity was last seen in the third quarter of 2011, after which imported quantities began declining, reaching about 3,8 million kilograms in the third quarter of 2018. The surge in the year to the fourth quarter of 2018 is driven by France, which exported about 121,2 million kilograms of the commodity to South Africa during quarter four of 2018.

The shift in imports of this product from China towards France could in part be attributed to rising prices resulting from environmental inspections and restrictions enforcements, as well as winter-related supply tightness drivers<sup>3</sup>. In addition, secondary sources suggest that refractory production

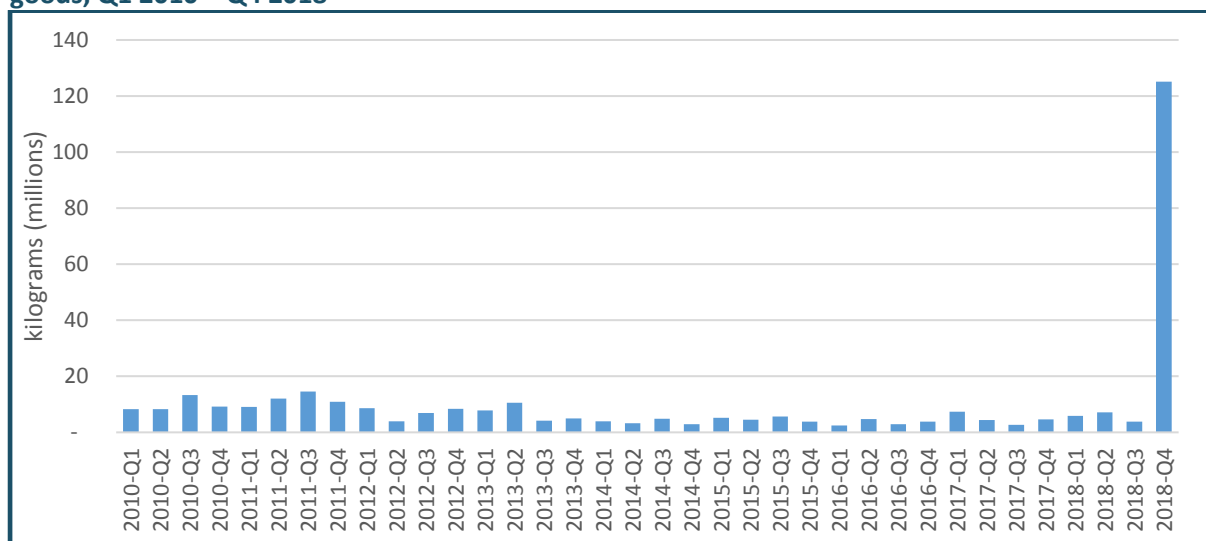
<sup>2</sup> Oman becomes world’s largest gypsum exporter, 2018. <https://businessgateways.com/news/2018/03/11/Oman-becomes-worlds-largest-gypsum-exporter>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.indmin.com/Article/3849381/Price-Briefing-December-6-13.html> and <http://www.anfre.com/global-refractories-facing-the-next-production-revolution/> and <http://imformed.com/chinas-refractory-mineral-supply-a-new-world-review-outlook/>

has declined significantly since 2017, with no signs of supply improving in the future as it becomes more complex for Chinese producers to export. Rising domestic demand for residential property could be another driver of the surge in imports of blocks, tiles and similar refractory ceramic constructional goods<sup>4</sup>. In addition, rising costs of domestic inputs (road transport and electricity) and other operating costs induced by increasing demand for raw materials (sand and aggregates) is expected to affect supply levels.

Figure 3 shows imports of refractory bricks, blocks, tiles and similar refractory ceramic constructional goods for the period covering the first quarter of 2010 to the fourth quarter of 2018.

**Figure 3: Imports of refractory bricks, blocks, tiles and similar refractory ceramic constructional goods, Q1 2010 – Q4 2018**



Source: ITC Trade Map. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in February 2019.

### **Finding 3: Oak whether or not planed, sanded or end-jointed, of a thickness of > 6 mm**

Imports of oak whether or not planed, sanded or end-jointed, of a thickness of > 6 mm (HS 44079100) reached about 100 million cubic meters in the fourth quarter of 2018, which is growth of about 206972,0% year-on-year, driven by imports from the United States of America (US). In the first quarter of 2018, imported quantities of this commodity rose to about 18,9 million cubic meters, driven by imports from Belgium. However, this growth was not sustained, and saw import quantities decline to about 2 513 cubic meters by the third quarter of 2018, before surging upwards again in the last quarter of the year.

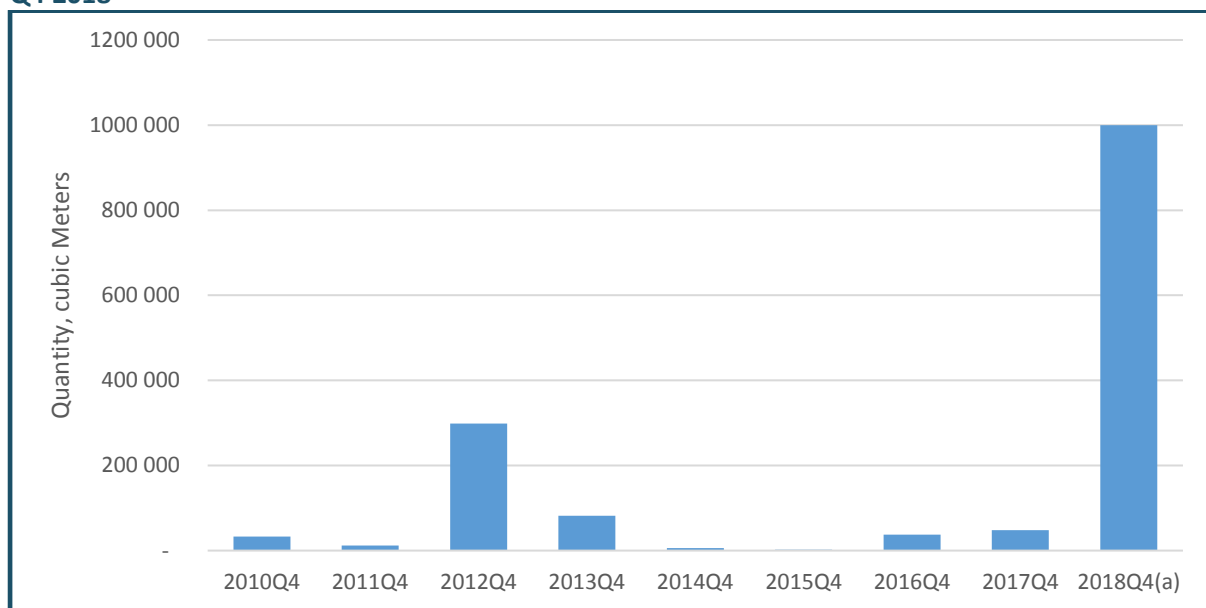
The probable explanation for the surge could be data errors, particularly given the negligible change in the Rand value of imports between the fourth quarter of 2017 and the fourth quarter of 2018. There will be ongoing monitoring of this product to determine if there are data errors. However, another explanation for the surge in the last quarter of 2018 could be the imposition of a 10%-25% tariff on US wood and wood products by China in July 2018, which could be having an effect in the US and causing a diversion of the commodity to South Africa by the US. The December 2018 Hancock Timberland Investor report suggested that the US hardwood markets are beginning to show signs of disruptions

<sup>4</sup> Who Owns Whom: the manufacture of clay and concrete bricks. February 2019.

due to the July tariffs on wood and wood products<sup>5</sup>. The effect of the surge in the fourth quarter of 2018 is such that the quantities for the previous year are barely visible on the figure. The effect of the surge in the fourth quarter of 2018 is such that the quantities for the previous year are barely visible on the figure.

Figure 4 shows the year-on-year imports of oak whether or not planed, sanded or end-jointed, of a thickness of > 6 mm between the fourth quarter of 2010 and the fourth quarter of 2018. The effect of the surge in the fourth quarter of 2018 is such that the quantities for the previous year are barely visible on the figure.

**Figure 4: Oak whether or not planed, sanded or end-jointed, of a thickness of > 6 mm, Q4 2010 – Q4 2018**



Source: ITC Trade Map. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in February 2019. Note: (a) due to the size of the surge, Q4 2018 is denominated in hundreds because otherwise it appears as though there were no quantities in the previous quarters.

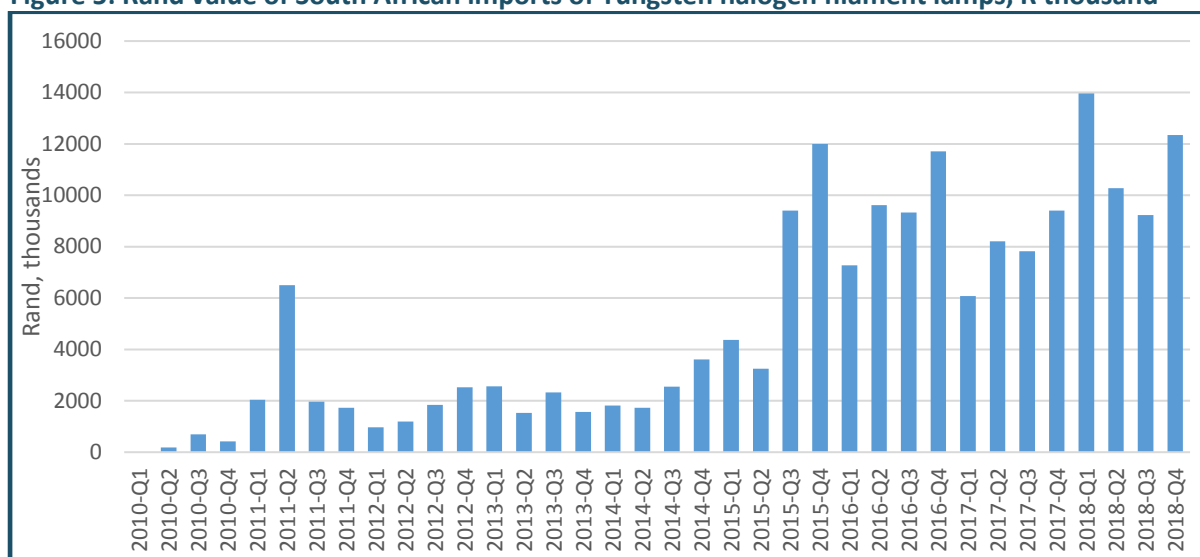
#### Finding 4: Tungsten halogen filament lamps

Although there was a large surge in imports of tungsten halogen filament lamps for use solely or principally in motor vehicles (HS 85392125) between the fourth quarter of 2017 and the fourth quarter of 2018, looking at the long-term trend, the increase in imports is more a return to what was previously seen between the third quarter of 2016 and the second quarter of 2017. Import quantities of the product fell to about 655 352 units in the third quarter of 2016, rising again to more than 14 million units in the fourth quarter of 2017.

These declines in particular are the cause of the apparent surge in the fourth quarter of 2018, during which more than 42 million units were imported, resulting in a 191,3% growth between the fourth quarter of 2017 and the fourth quarter of 2018.

<sup>5</sup> [http://htrg.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/Hancock-Timberland-Investor\\_-Q3-2018\\_US-Hardwood-Markets-React-to-Tarrifs-on-Exports-for-China.pdf](http://htrg.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/Hancock-Timberland-Investor_-Q3-2018_US-Hardwood-Markets-React-to-Tarrifs-on-Exports-for-China.pdf).

**Figure 5: Rand value of South African imports of Tungsten halogen filament lamps, R thousand**



Source: ITC Trade Map. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in February 2019.

Figure 5 shows the Rand value of imports of tungsten halogen filament lamps between the first quarter of 2010 and the fourth quarter of 2018. As the figure shows, though growth has been inconsistent, the import Rand value and quantities of the commodity have risen considerably since the first quarter of 2010. In part, this upward trend can be attributed to the phasing out of incandescent light bulbs in favour of compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL) between 2012 and 2016. It stands to be seen whether the upward trend will continue, particularly as there's a growing shift towards the use of Xenon HID and LED, which are favoured for their longer lifespan and provide better light on the road<sup>6</sup>.

### **Finding 5: Wine of fresh grapes, including fortified wines, and grape must**

South Africa does not import a lot of wine. The bulk of the wine that has been imported since 2011 was re-imports. Further, these imports never exceeded 500 000 litres, until the fourth quarter of 2018, when imports of wine reached 15,4 million litres. The sharp surge in these imports was driven by imports of wine from Argentina, from which about 15 million litres were purchased (see Figure 6).

It appears that at least two factors converged to make this happen. The first is the drought South Africa began experiencing in 2015, water shortages, weather-related crop losses and a drop in area planted, which impacted the production of grapes and lowered production of wine in 2018<sup>7</sup>. The second factor was the downturn in Argentina's economy. The downturn began with a drought which affected the country's exports, resulted in high inflation, and a devaluation of the Peso by at least 52% in the first half of 2018<sup>8</sup>. These changes also saw a decline in the price of Argentinian wine to US\$1,70 a litre. Given the decline in wine production in South Africa in 2018, it appears that the shortage was filled with imports from Argentina.

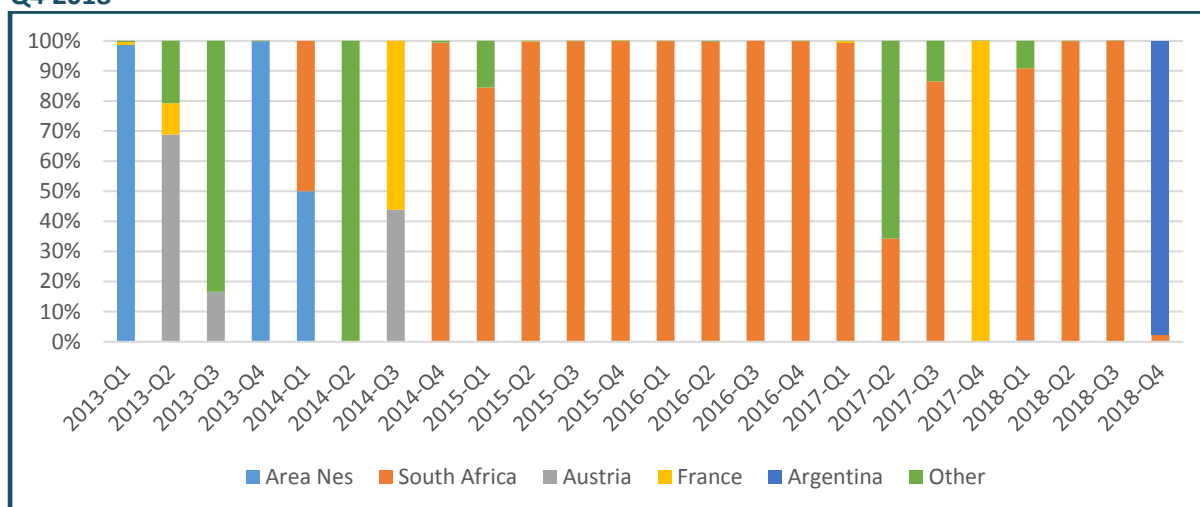
<sup>6</sup> <https://www.powerbulbs.com/blog/2016/03/headlights-halogen-xenon-led-laser-conversion-kits>

<sup>7</sup> [http://vinpro.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Vinpro\\_document\\_22-Jan-2018\\_Nedbank-Vinpro-Information-Day-Report.pdf](http://vinpro.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Vinpro_document_22-Jan-2018_Nedbank-Vinpro-Information-Day-Report.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/08/31/argentinas-peso-has-fallen-108percent-against-the-dollar-so-far-this-year.html>



**Figure 6: Top 5 countries from which South Africa imports wine (Q1 2013 – Q4 2018), sorted by Q4 2018**

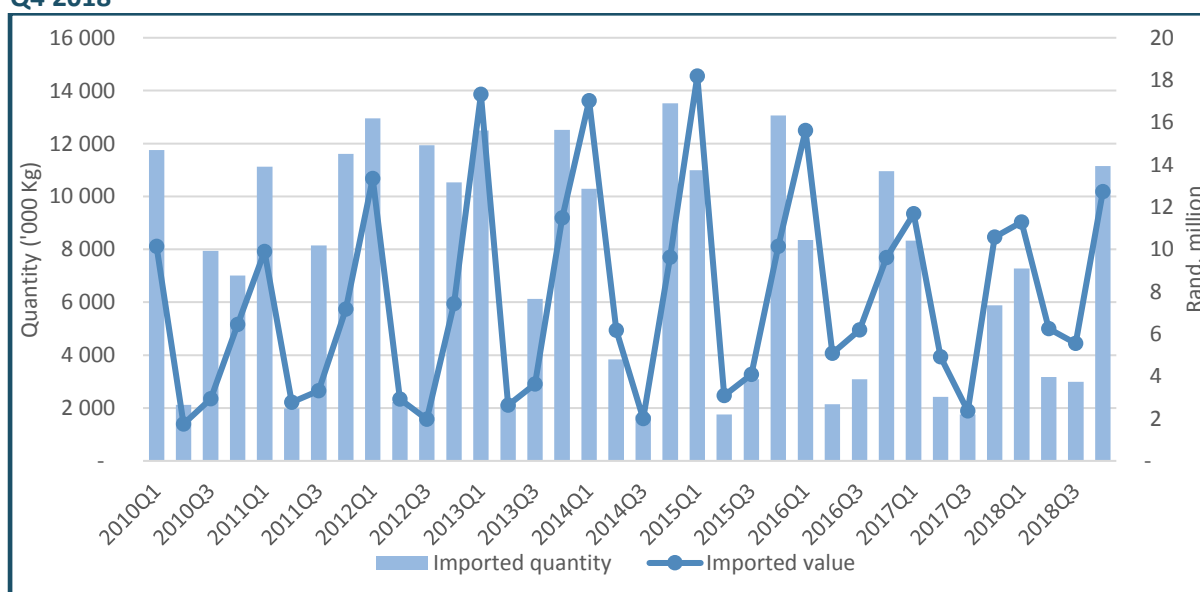


Source: Calculated using data from ITC Trade Map. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in February 2019.

**Finding 6: Bulbs, tubers, tuberous roots, corms, crowns and rhizomes, dormant (excluding those used for human consumption and chicory plants and roots)**

Bulbs, tubers, tuberous roots, corms, crowns and rhizomes, dormant (HS 06011000) are medicinal plants, mainly imported from the Netherland, with negligible quantities from Italy and Israel. Figure 7 depicts the quarterly import volumes and associated Rand values for the commodity, and demonstrates that import volumes are subject to substantial seasonal variation. Comparisons across the last quarters of 2010-2018 reveal a considerably lower quantity for 2017 than would be associated with that value. The unit value (Rands/kg) for that consignment was R5,8, whereas the unit value for the last quarters of 2016 and 2018 were R0,8 and R1,1 respectively. Furthermore, the highest unit value in recent years occurred in 2016 Q2 (R2,4), a period when imported quantities tend to be quite low and therefore have a high unit value.

**Figure 7: Imports of bulbs, tubers, tuberous roots, corms, crowns and rhizomes, Q1 2010 – Q4 2018**



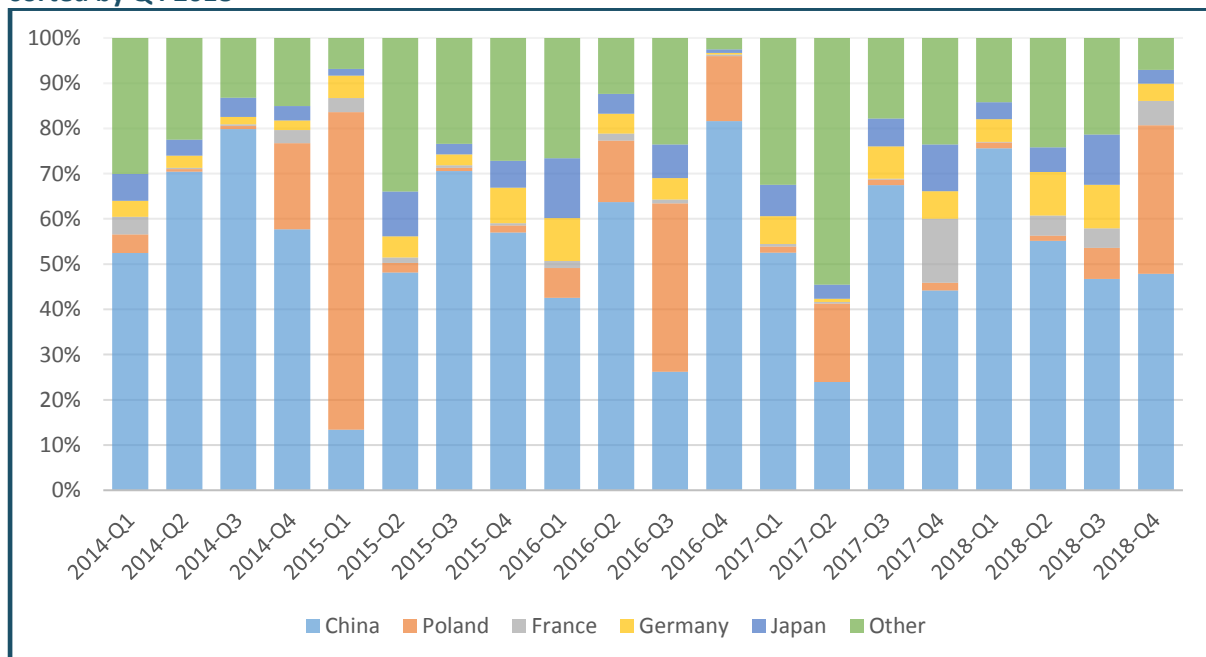
Source: Author's calculations based on South African Revenue Service (SARS) data

## Finding 7: Surge in imports of filament lamps

Imports of electric filament lamps (HS 85392945) grew by about 210,0% in the year to the fourth quarter of 2018. Figure 8 shows that imports of this commodity come mostly from China, with Poland, France, Germany and Japan completing the top five countries of the commodity since the first quarter of 2014. As can be seen in Figure 8, China and Poland tend to displace each other in the largest share of filament lamps exports to South Africa. However, whereas import volumes for filament lamps from China tend to be consistently about 40%, import volumes from Poland show significant fluctuations. Analysis of the trends highlights the fluctuations; for instance, in the year to the fourth quarter of 2018, import volumes from Poland grew by about 5552,0%, whereas looking at the two years to the fourth quarter of 2018, the import volumes show a decline of about 34,1%.

A shift in this quarter that differs from past trends is that previously an increase in imports of Chinese filament lamps corresponded with a decline in imports of the same commodity from Poland, however, this was not the case in the fourth quarter of 2018. Imports of the commodity from the two countries rose during the same quarter, though in different months.

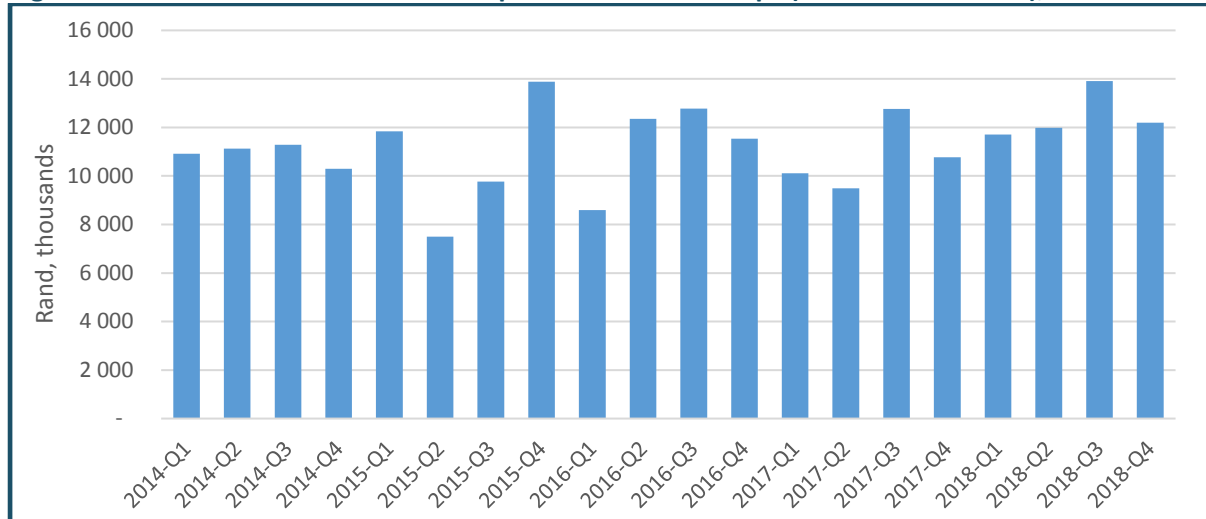
**Figure 8: Top 5 countries from which South Africa imports filament lamps (Q1 2014 – Q4 2018), sorted by Q4 2018**



Source: Calculated using data from ITC Trade Map. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in February 2019.

Figure 9 shows the Rand value of South African imports of filament lamps for the period between the first quarter of 2014 to the fourth quarter of 2018. Although there was a surge in the quantity of imports, from 2,5 million units in the fourth quarter of 2017 to 7,7 million units in the fourth quarter of 2018, the Rand value of the imports grew by R1,4 million.

**Figure 9: Rand value of South African imports of filament lamps (Q1 2014 – Q4 2018), R thousand**



Source: Calculated using data from ITC Trade Map. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in March 2019.

### **Finding 8: Feldspar**

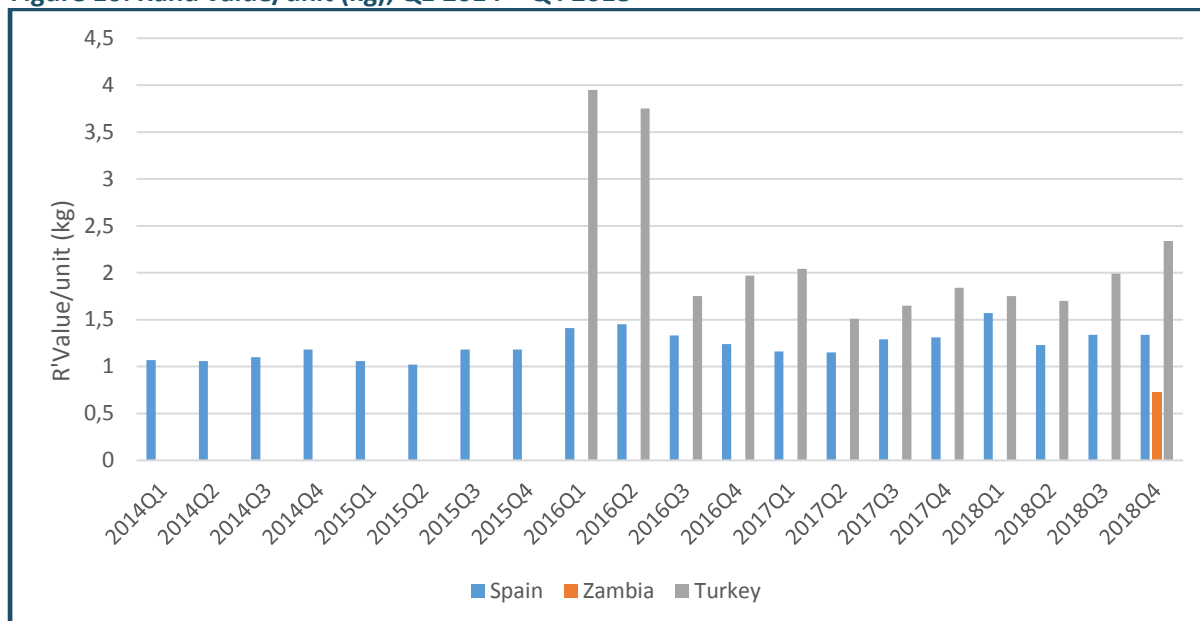
Feldspar (HS 25291000) is a group of industrial minerals containing alumina-silicates with varying amounts of calcium, potassium, or sodium. It is one of the most common minerals with a range of applications in segments including glassmaking, ceramics, paint and pigment. In glassmaking, alumina from feldspar improves product hardness, resistance to chemical corrosion and durability; in ceramics it is used as a flux, lowering the vitrifying temperature of a ceramic body during firing, forming a glassy phase and it can be used as a filler and extender in paint, plastics, and rubber.

South Africa does have local production of feldspar with nine mining operations mainly in Limpopo, having produced 126,9 kilotons (kt) in 2016. Production appears to be entirely for the local market. South Africa is a net importer of the mineral, with around nine companies importing the mineral.

South Africa mainly imports feldspar from Spain and Turkey. The fourth quarter of 2018 was the first time there were imports of the mineral from Zambia and could likely be due to the comparatively lower price for the mineral at R0,73/kg which is 45% and 68% lower than the price from Spain and Turkey respectively.

The surge in imports appears to be firms taking advantage of this lower price. This is also reflected in the large quantity imported from Zambia. There was also a sharp decline in the average global price, possibly driven by the lower price/kg from Zambia. Imports from Spain increased with no change in the price/kg between the third and fourth quarter 2018, while there was an increase the price of feldspar from Turkey and a decrease in the quantity imported (see Figure 10).

**Figure 10: Rand value/unit (kg), Q1 2014 – Q4 2018**



Source: Calculated using data from ITC Trade Map. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in February 2019.

### Finding 9: Data errors and other issues

Although surges of certain import products are not unusual, some surges are the result of data errors. Table 2: **Errors and other issues** shows two commodities whose surges are likely the result of data errors.

**Table 2: Errors and other issues**

HS Code	Product Description	Description of error
<b>57019000</b>	Carpets and other textile floor coverings	Unusually high quantity reported to have come from Afghanistan in October. The surge in quantity is not matched by a change in the Rand value of the imports. Imported quantities reported in Q3 of 2018 are significantly lower than the quantities reported for Q4 2018, but the Rand value of the Q3 imports is higher.
<b>98010015</b>	Automotive components: for tractors and buses	The surge in imports is not matched by a similar movement in the Rand value of imports; the Rand value of the imports is down by about 6,1% year-on-year.

## Data annexures

Annexure 1: Top 100 import products by value, Quarter 4 2018

HS Code	Product Description	Import value, Rand Billion	Change in rank, Q4 2017 - Q4 2018
27090000	Crude oil	41,16	No change
98010030	Automotive components: for motor cars	11,59	1
27101230	Diesel	9,72	-1
98010040	Original equipment components: for goods vehicles	6,95	1
85171210	Mobile phones	6,15	1
49070010	Postage stamps, revenue stamps and banknotes	4,72	2
87032290	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity 1 000 cm <sup>3</sup> to 1 500 cm <sup>3</sup>	3,45	2
87032390	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity 1 500 cm <sup>3</sup> to 3 000 cm <sup>3</sup>	3,22	2
85176290	Routers and set-top boxes: Other	3,18	-5
84713000	Laptops and other portable computing devices	3,09	1
28182000	Aluminium oxide	2,85	1
87033290	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity 1 000 cm <sup>3</sup> to 2 500 cm <sup>3</sup>	2,32	3
33021000	Alcoholic and other solutions used in the food and drink industries	2,27	1
10063000	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	2,25	2
98010045	Original equipment components: for goods vehicles	2,23	-2
27101202	Light oils and preparations: Petrol	2,00	-9
71023100	Non-industrial diamonds unworked or simply sawn, cleaved or bruted	1,98	1
89051000	Dredgers	1,96	5487
84715000	Processing units for automatic data-processing machines	1,84	3
87032190	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity not exceeding 1 000 cm <sup>3</sup>	1,70	-1
88024000	Aeroplanes and other powered aircraft: weight > 15.000 kg	1,56	34
84314990	Parts of machinery of heading 8426, 8429 and 8430, n.e.s: Other	1,50	1

HS Code	Product Description	Import value, Rand Billion	Change in rank, Q4 2017 - Q4 2018
84439900	Parts and accessories of printers, copying machines and facsimile machines, not elsewhere specified (n.e.s).	1,40	1
85177090	Parts for telephones, routers and other telecoms devices	1,38	1
87033390	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity exceeding 2 500 cm3	1,33	-5
87041090	Dumpers for off-highway use: Other	1,31	-5
90189000	Medical instruments and appliances, n.e.s	1,29	-1
27111100	Natural gas, liquefied	1,25	11
27040000	Coke and semi-coke of coal	1,15	16
87082900	Parts and accessories of bodies for tractors and buses	1,13	8
87032490	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity exceeding 3 000 cm3	1,12	-1
31021000	Urea, whether or not in aqueous solution	1,05	-4
71081300	Gold, in semi-manufactured forms, for non-monetary purposes	1,05	-6
98010015	Automotive components: for motor cars	1,01	-5
84295200	Self-propelled bulldozers, etc: with 360 degree revolving superstructure	1,00	No change
74081100	Wire of refined copper, with a maximum cross-sectional dimension of > 6 mm	1,00	-2
88033000	Parts of aeroplanes or helicopters, n.e.s. (excluding those for gliders)	0,96	6
64029900	Footwear with outer soles and uppers of rubber or plastics	0,95	-1
85044000	Static converters	0,91	-6
64041990	Footwear with outer soles of rubber or plastics and uppers of textile materials	0,90	12
38220000	Diagnostic or laboratory reagents (pharmaceutical chemicals)	0,90	-1
27011900	Coal (excl. anthracite and bituminous coal)	0,86	-10
98010025	Original equipment components: for buses and taxis	0,86	1
27160000	Electrical energy	0,83	37
29173600	Terephthalic acid and its salts	0,82	59
87089990	Parts and accessories for tractors and buses	0,80	No change

HS Code	Product Description	Import value, Rand Billion	Change in rank, Q4 2017 - Q4 2018
27011200	Bituminous coal	0,79	13
84433100	Printers, copiers and fax machines	0,75	No change
69091900	Ceramic wares for chemical or other technical uses	0,74	1
87042181	Motor vehicles with diesel or semi-diesel engine of gross vehicle weight <= 5t	0,71	7
84733000	Parts and accessories of automatic data-processing machines or for other machines	0,70	-4
22030090	Beer made from malt: Other	0,68	28
84717000	Storage units for automatic data-processing machines	0,67	-17
22083010	Whiskies : In containers holding 2 litres or less	0,67	-13
85451100	Electrodes of graphite or other carbon, for electric furnaces	0,65	39
84798990	Machines and mechanical appliances, n.e.s: Other	0,65	-7
24012000	Tobacco, partly or wholly stemmed or stripped, otherwise unmanufactured	0,60	-3
95030090	Tricycles, scooters, pedal cars and similar wheeled toys: Other	0,59	-7
61091000	T-shirts, singlets and other vests of cotton, knitted or crocheted	0,59	2
39269090	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials: Other	0,56	3
33049990	Beauty or make-up preparations and preparations for the care of the skin: Other	0,56	7
87042183	Motor vehicles with diesel or semi-diesel engine of a gross vehicle weight <= 5 t	0,56	54
31054000	Ammonium dihydrogenorthophosphate "monoammonium phosphate"	0,55	34
94019090	Parts of seats, n.e.s: Other	0,54	No change
72026000	Ferro-nickel	0,54	43
62034210	Men's or boys' trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts, of cotton: Other	0,52	18
85443000	Ignition wiring sets and other wiring sets for vehicles, aircraft or ships	0,52	-5
38112100	Additives for oil lubricants containing petroleum oil or bituminous mineral oil	0,51	4
17011300	Raw cane sugar, in solid form, not containing added flavouring or colouring matter	0,50	-4
84271000	Self-propelled trucks fitted with lifting or handling equipment, powered by an electric motor	0,49	7
25030000	Sulphur of all kinds (excluding sublimed sulphur, precipitated sulphur and colloidal sulphur)	0,49	157

HS Code	Product Description	Import value, Rand Billion	Change in rank, Q4 2017 - Q4 2018
21069090	Food preparations, n.e.s: Other	0,49	-3
84314300	Parts for boring or sinking machinery of subheading 8430.41 or 8430.49, n.e.s.	0,48	37
23040000	Soya oilcake and other solid residues	0,48	-21
16041317	Canned sardines	0,47	38
85437000	Electrical machines and apparatus, having individual functions, n.e.s. in chapter 85	0,46	-18
71189000	Coin of legal tender	0,46	2430
27101207	Light oils and preparations: Other	0,46	-36
28439000	Inorganic or organic compounds of precious metals, whether or not chemically defined	0,45	249
30022000	Vaccines for human medicine	0,45	20
73269090	Articles of iron or steel, n.e.s: Other	0,43	-14
84749000	Parts of machinery for working mineral substances of heading 8474, n.e.s.	0,43	17
49019900	Printed books, brochures and similar printed matter	0,42	-4
48115990	Coated paper and paperboard	0,41	4
84099990	Parts suitable for use solely or principally with diesel or semi-diesel engine, n.e.s: Other	0,40	-7
84490000	Machinery for the manufacture or finishing of felt or nonwovens in the piece or in shapes	0,40	3378
84834000	Gears and gearing for machinery	0,40	-17
47032100	Semi-bleached or bleached coniferous chemical wood pulp, soda or sulphate	0,39	66
85299075	Parts for use with transmission and reception apparatus for radio or television, television cameras	0,39	-18
39072090	Polyethers, in primary forms (excl. polyacetals and goods of 3002 10): Other	0,38	94
31042000	Potassium chloride for use as fertiliser	0,38	-15
38170010	Mixed alkylbenzenes and mixed alkylnaphthalenes produced by the alkylation of benzene and naphthalene	0,38	67
85235210	Cards incorporating one or more electronic integrated circuits "smart cards": Digital	0,38	40
05040010	Guts, bladders and stomachs of animals (other than fish), whole and pieces thereof: Sausage casings	0,38	75
72259200	Flat-rolled products of alloy steel other than stainless, of a width of >= 600 mm	0,38	22



HS Code	Product Description	Import value, Rand Billion	Change in rank, Q4 2017 - Q4 2018
<b>71023900</b>	Diamonds, worked, but not mounted or set (excluding industrial diamonds)	0,38	-23
<b>85258090</b>	Television cameras, digital cameras and video camera recorders: Other	0,38	-31
<b>64039990</b>	Footwear with leather uppers: Other	0,37	8
<b>76012000</b>	Unwrought aluminium alloys	0,37	-14
<b>84089090</b>	Compression-ignition internal combustion piston engine "diesel or semi-diesel engine": Other	0,36	-41

**Annexure 2: Surges in import products, by quantity, with explanations, Q4 2018**

HS Code	Product Description	Explanation	Real Growth	Percent Growth
<b>27090000</b>	Crude oil	Not significant – import commodity	1746667674,57	54,5%
<b>25030000</b>	Sulphur of all kinds (excluding sublimed sulphur, precipitated sulphur and colloidal sulphur)	Ongoing monitoring – fertiliser inputs	151962622,97	240,0%
<b>69029000</b>	Refractory bricks, blocks, tiles and similar refractory ceramic constructional goods	<b>Selected for analysis</b>	120463657,49	2607,3%
<b>44079100</b>	Oak whether or not planed, sanded or end-jointed, of a thickness of > 6 mm	<b>Selected for analysis</b>	99962593,60	206972,0%
<b>27011200</b>	Bituminous coal	Not significant – import commodity	95233900,33	41,1%
<b>10063000</b>	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	Not significant – within trend	89509883,88	32,1%
<b>27040000</b>	Coke and semi-coke of coal	Not significant – import commodity	74391697,65	47,5%
<b>57019000</b>	Carpets and other textile floor coverings	Data error	74043684,11	1107316,1%
<b>25232900</b>	Portland cement	Ongoing monitoring – continued surge from Vietnam	58449457,58	43,4%
<b>26140000</b>	Titanium ores and concentrates	Ongoing monitoring – imports from Mozambique	53273753,91	56077635,7%
<b>25201000</b>	Gypsum; anhydrite	Ongoing monitoring – imports from Oman	44171227,04	27436,7%
<b>98010015</b>	Automotive components: for tractors and buses	Data error	30363524,41	298,8%
<b>27011100</b>	Anthracite	Not significant – import commodity	28305496,99	35,9%
<b>85392125</b>	Tungsten halogen filament lamps for motor vehicles	<b>Selected for analysis</b>	28097926,00	191,3%
<b>22030090</b>	Beer made from malt : Other	Ongoing monitoring – Heineken restructuring	24343877,92	96,4%
<b>26011200</b>	Agglomerated iron ores and concentrates (excluding roasted iron pyrites)	Not significant – within trend	23981104,00	23,0%
<b>90183140</b>	Disposable hypodermic syringes of plastics	Not significant – within trend	22705962,00	94,0%

HS Code	Product Description	Explanation	Real Growth	Percent Growth
85235210	Cards incorporating one or more electronic integrated circuits "smart cards": Digital	Not significant – within trend	22157747,00	47,2%
44012100	Coniferous wood in chips or particles	Ongoing monitoring – Mondi restructuring	21383779,00	504,1%
29173600	Terephthalic acid and its salts	Not significant – surge within usual variance	20128549,91	53,6%
31054000	Ammonium dihydrogenorthophosphate	Ongoing monitoring – fertiliser inputs	18864500,00	27,6%
27111200	Propane, liquefied	Ongoing monitoring – Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) growth	17321991,91	859,4%
31022100	Ammonium sulphate	Ongoing monitoring – fertiliser inputs	15585331,06	51,8%
28151200	Sodium hydroxide in aqueous solution	Not significant – within trend	15435627,54	18,0%
22042941	Wine of fresh grapes, including fortified wines, and grape must	<b>Selected for analysis</b>	15324569,71	32099,4%
27111900	Gaseous hydrocarbons, liquefied, n.e.s.	Ongoing monitoring – LPG	13043311,41	130,0%
47032900	Semi-bleached or bleached non-coniferous chemical wood pulp, soda or sulphate (excluding dissolving grades)	Ongoing monitoring – Mondi restructuring	11528087,00	719,6%
85235290	Cards incorporating one or more electronic integrated circuits "smart cards": Other	Ongoing monitoring	11017537,00	1125,4%
23061000	Oilcake and other solid residues from cotton seeds	Not significant – within trend	10759898,19	95,9%
98010030	Automotive components: for motor cars	Not significant – within trend	10740957,23	19,7%
29053100	Ethylene glycol "ethanediol"	Not significant – within trend	10698159,89	84,3%
25309000	Arsenic sulfides, alunite, pozzuolana, earth colours and other mineral substances, n.e.s.	Ongoing monitoring – fertiliser inputs	10559075,21	114,4%
28365000	Calcium carbonate	Not significant – import commodity	10320113,77	22,6%
11072020	Roasted malt: Of barley	Ongoing monitoring – Heineken restructuring	10258044,00	74,2%
23063000	Oilcake and other solid residues from the extraction of sunflower seeds	Not significant – surge within usual variance	9192703,00	45963,5%

HS Code	Product Description	Explanation	Real Growth	Percent Growth
17031000	Cane molasses resulting from the extraction or refining of sugar	Not significant	8426549,38	32,6%
08039010	Fresh or dried bananas (excl. plantains): Fresh	Not significant – within trend	8378226,59	27,4%
39041000	Poly “vinyl chloride”, in primary forms, not mixed with any other substances	Not significant – within trend	8241316,70	108,5%
96032100	Tooth brushes, incl. dental-plate brushes	Not significant – within trend	7321947,00	109,1%
98010040	Original equipment components: for goods vehicles	Not significant – within trend	6596315,10	14,8%
73259100	Grinding balls and similar articles for mills, cast	Not significant – surge within surge variance	6549290,96	252,3%
38170010	Mixed alkylbenzenes and mixed alkyl-naphthalenes	Not significant – within trend	6420227,59	46,0%
39072090	Polyethers, in primary forms	Not significant – within trend	6403903,96	88,1%
31026000	Double salts and mixtures of calcium nitrate and ammonium nitrate	Ongoing monitoring – fertiliser inputs	5443420,00	80,7%
16041317	Canned sardines	Not significant – within trend	5284245,76	62,2%
06011000	Bulbs, tubers, tuberous roots, corms, crowns and rhizomes, dormant (excl. those used for human consumption and chicory plants and roots)	<b>Selected for analysis</b>	5266730,00	89,5%
85392945	Filament lamps, electric	<b>Selected for analysis</b>	5218834,00	210,0%
20096900	Grape juice, incl. grape must, unfermented	Not significant	5214098,31	109,9%
25081000	Bentonite	Not significant	5162085,88	24,3%
25291000	Feldspar	<b>Selected for analysis</b>	5082823,19	268,4%