



TRADE & INDUSTRIAL POLICY STRATEGIES



Tracking quarterly trends and analysing foreign direct investment, imports and exports

TIPS EXPORT TRACKER

FIRST QUARTER 2021

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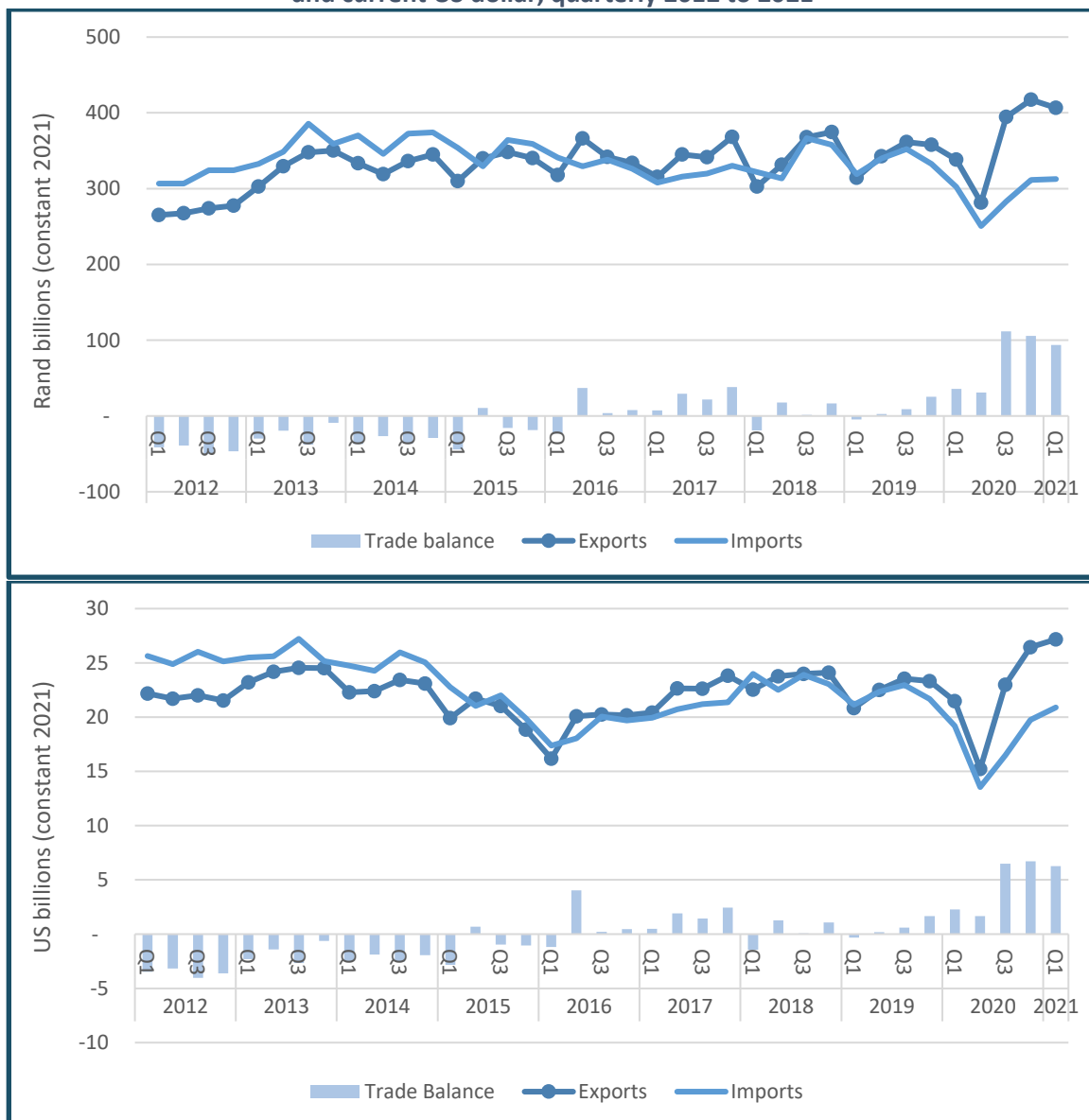
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OVERVIEW OF EXPORT PERFORMANCE

The first quarter of 2021 saw South Africa’s merchandise exports increase by 20.2% from the same period last year, amounting to R406 billion, although it experienced a slight decline of 2.6% from the previous quarter (Q4 2020). Though South Africa’s exports have been on an increasing trend, recovering from the significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic experienced in the second quarter of 2020, the large year-on-year increase seen in this quarter is partially reflective of a low base in 2020 as South Africa and most global economies were affected by the early lockdown of China as a result of COVID-19 outbreak, which disrupted global supply chain resulting in a drop in exports. Imports experienced a marginal increase of 3.4% in Q1 2021 amounting to R312 billion in constant rand terms (quarter-on-quarter). South Africa recorded an eighth straight positive quarter trade balance of R93 billion (US\$6.3 billion). In US dollar terms, merchandise exports grew by 26.6% from Q1 2019, amounting to US\$27 billion, while imports increased by 8.9% to US\$20.9 billion (see Graph 1).

Graph 1: Exports, imports and trade balance in constant (2021) rand value and current US dollar, quarterly 2012 to 2021



Source: South African Revenue Services (SARS) Statistics. Downloaded from sars.gov.za in June 2021.

Table 1 presents South Africa's Top 20 export products and their top market in Q1 2021. The Top 5 export products remained unchanged in the first quarter of 2021, with precious stones accounting for 25.1% of South Africa's total export value, followed by ores (16.6%), vehicles (9.6%), mineral fuels and oils (7.7%) and industrial machinery (5.6%). The first quarter of 2021 saw two new entrants into the Top 20, namely animal, vegetable fats and oils and preparations of vegetable, fruits and nuts, which accounted for 1.5% and 0.7% respectively of South Africa's total export value. Among the Top 20 export products, animal, vegetable fats and oils experienced the biggest increase, growing exponentially by 674% from R799 million in Q1 2020 to R6.1 billion in Q1 2021, largely driven by an increase in demand for groundnut oil and its fractions by China. Exports of chemical products came in second increasing by 104% to R9.4 billion in Q1 2021, followed by copper, which grew by 69% amounting to R3.4 billion. Three sectors in the Top 20 experienced a decline in exports in Q1 2021 with wood pulp seeing the largest decline of -17%, followed by inorganic chemicals and mineral fuels and oil, which declined by 12.5% and 1.7%, respectively.

Table 1: Top 20 sectors, Q1 2020 to Q1 2021

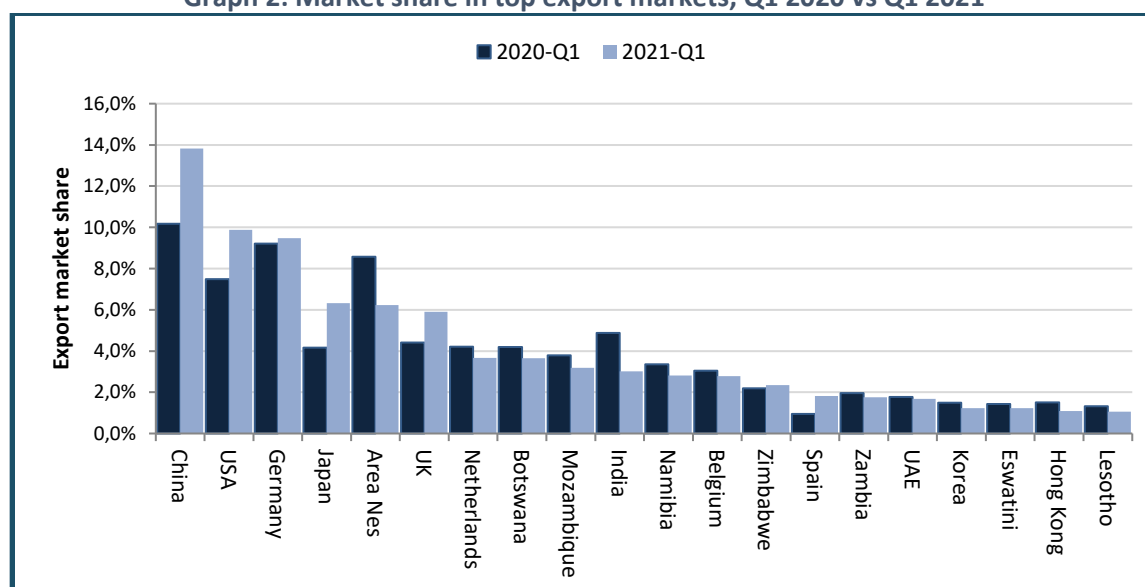
| HS Code | Sector | VALUE (R BILLIONS) | | SHARE % | | ANNUAL GROWTH RATE | TOP EXPORT MARKET |
|---------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | Q1 2020 | Q1 2021 | Q1 2020 | Q1 2021 | Q1 2020- Q1 2021 | |
| '71 | Precious stones | 70.8 | 102.0 | 21.6% | 25.1% | 44.0% | Areas Not Elsewhere Specified, US |
| '26 | Ores | 47.5 | 67.5 | 14.5% | 16.6% | 42.2% | China |
| '87 | Vehicles | 35.7 | 39.0 | 10.9% | 9.6% | 9.4% | Germany |
| '27 | Mineral fuels and oils | 32.0 | 31.5 | 9.8% | 7.7% | -1.7% | India |
| '84 | Machinery (Industrial) | 18.0 | 22.8 | 5.5% | 5.6% | 26.3% | Germany |
| '72 | Iron & steel | 17.5 | 20.2 | 5.3% | 5.0% | 15.9% | China |
| '08 | Fruit & Nuts | 11.8 | 14.1 | 3.6% | 3.5% | 19.3% | Netherlands |
| '38 | Chemical products | 4.6 | 9.4 | 1.4% | 2.3% | 104.0% | US |
| '76 | Aluminium | 5.9 | 6.3 | 1.8% | 1.6% | 6.9% | US |
| '15 | Animal or vegetable fats and oils | 0.8 | 6.2 | 0.2% | 1.5% | 674.0% | China |
| '85 | Electrical machinery and equipment | 5.4 | 5.7 | 1.6% | 1.4% | 5.4% | Botswana and Namibia |
| '39 | Plastics | 4.7 | 5.3 | 1.4% | 1.3% | 13.7% | Nigeria and Zambia |
| '29 | Organic chemicals | 4.2 | 4.6 | 1.3% | 1.1% | 11.3% | Belgium |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|-----|------|------|--------|----------|
| '22 | Beverages, spirits and vinegar | 4.1 | 4.3 | 1.2% | 1.1% | 6.1% | UK |
| '73 | Articles of iron or steel | 3.4 | 3.7 | 1.0% | 0.9% | 8.5% | Botswana |
| '28 | Inorganic chemicals | 4.1 | 3.6 | 1.3% | 0.9% | -12.5% | Belgium |
| '74 | Copper | 2.0 | 3.4 | 0.6% | 0.8% | 69.0% | China |
| '20 | Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts | 2.0 | 2.7 | 0.6% | 0.7% | 33.7% | Spain |
| '47 | Pulp of wood | 3.2 | 2.7 | 1.0% | 0.7% | -17.0% | India |
| '10 | Cereals | 2.6 | 2.6 | 0.8% | 0.6% | 0.0% | Zimbabwe |

Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from www.trademap.org in June 2021.

South Africa's exports to China accounted for 13.8% of South Africa's total export value in the first quarter of 2021, amounting to R56.1 billion. Ores remained the largest export product to China in Q1 2021, accounting for 55.5% of South Africa's total exports to China by value. Animal or vegetable fats and oils took the second position as a new entrant into the Top 5 export products to China valued at R4.9 billion, taking a share of 8.8%, similar to mineral fuels and oils. Iron and steel and copper exports were the fourth and fifth largest exports China, accounting for 8.4% and 5% of South Africa's total exports to China by value in the first quarter of 2021. All products within the Top 5 export experienced positive growth, with mineral fuels and oils seeing the largest growth from R55 million in Q1 2020 to R4.9 billion in Q1 2021.

Graph 2: Market share in top export markets, Q1 2020 vs Q1 2021



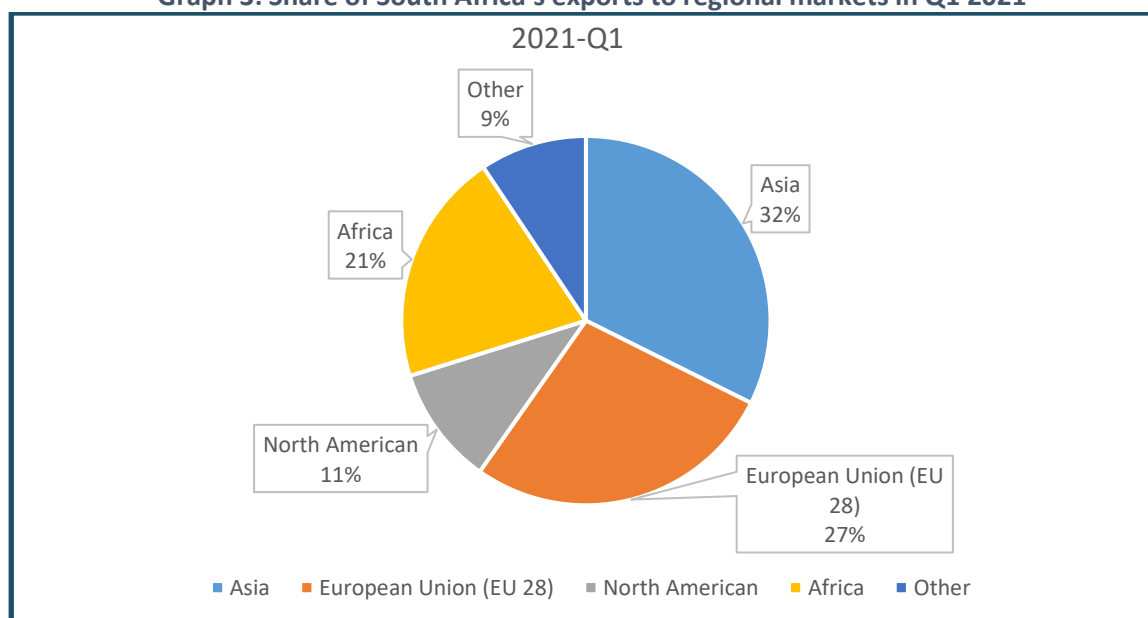
Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> and sars.gov.za in June 2021.

The first quarter of 2021 saw the United States (US) return to being South Africa's second largest export market, with its market share increasing from 7.5% of South Africa's total exports by value in Q1 2020, to 9.9% in Q1 2021 amounting to R40.1 billion. The Top 5 export products from South Africa to the US in Q1 2021 included precious stones, which claimed a share of 52.4% of South Africa's total exports to the US by value, followed by chemical products (11.5%), vehicles (6.7%), industrial machinery (5.1%) and iron and steel (4.2%). Among these Top 5 products, all except

iron and steel, which declined by 5.1%, experienced positive growth in the first quarter of 2021. Chemical products continue to show exponential growth in Q1 2021, increasing by 607% from R659 million in Q1 2020 to R4.6 billion in Q1 2021. This increase was largely driven by the continued increase in demand for reaction initiators, reaction accelerators and catalytic preparations, (excluding rubber accelerators) (*HS3815*), which were up from R356 million in Q1 2020, to R4.3 billion in Q1 2021. Precious stones and metals¹ also experienced high growth in Q1 2021, increasing by 105% from R10.2 billion in Q1 2020, to R21 billion in Q1 2021, driven by an increased demand for the platinum product group (*HS7110: Platinum, including palladium, rhodium, iridium, osmium and ruthenium, unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms, or in powder form*) which was up from R9.6 billion in Q1 2020 to R19.6 billion in Q1 2021.

South Africa’s exports to Germany accounted for 9.5% of its total export value in Q1 2021, making it the country’s third largest export market. The country’s exports to Germany grew by 27.4% from R30.2 billion in Q1 2020 to R38.5 billion in Q1 2021. The Top 5 export products to Germany, which altogether account for 93% of South Africa’s total exports to Germany by value, included vehicles (31%), precious stones (27.6%), ores (22.9%), industrial machinery (9.4%) and chemical products (1.9%). Of the Top 5 export products, ores and chemical products experienced the biggest growth, increasing by 127% and 121%, respectively in Q1 2021. South Africa’s ores exports to Germany rose from R3.8 billion in Q1 2020 to R8.8 billion in Q1 2021, driven by an increase in demand for precious metal ores and concentrates (*HS2616*), which increased to R6.5 billion in Q1 2021 from R3.3 billion in Q1 2020, and iron ores and concentrates including roasted iron pyrites (*HS2601*), which rose exponentially from R539 million in Q1 2020 to R2.2 billion in Q1 2021. The rise in chemical exports continued to be driven by an increase in demand for reaction initiators, reaction accelerators and catalytic preparations, (excluding rubber accelerators) (*HS3815*), which increased from R281 million in Q1 2020 to R688 million in Q1 2021. Vehicle exports to Germany declined by 5.5% in Q1 2021 to R11.9 billion.

Graph 3: Share of South Africa’s exports to regional markets in Q1 2021



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> in June 2021.

¹ This group includes “Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal, and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin”

Asia remained South Africa’s biggest regional export market in the first quarter of 2021, accounting for 32% of its total exports by value. South Africa’s exports to China grew by 33% from R99 billion in Q1 2020 to R131 billion in Q1 2021. The European Union (28) was the second largest export market for South African products, claiming a share of 27% in Q1 2021 amounting to R111 billion, a 34% increase from Q1 2020. The African region accounted for 21% (R83 billion), while North America claimed 11% (R42 billion).

South Africa’s exports to the rest of Africa grew by 5.2% from R79 billion in Q1 2020 to R83 billion in Q1 2021. The Top 5 African export markets for South African products in the first quarter of 2021 included Botswana, which accounted for 18% of South Africa’s total exports to the African region, followed by Mozambique (16%), Namibia (14%), Zimbabwe (11%) and Zambia (9%). Exports to Zimbabwe experienced the highest growth, increasing by 31.9% from R7.2 billion in Q1 2020 to R9.5 billion in Q1 2021.

SIGNIFICANT PRODUCT GROWTH IN EXPORTS AND ANALYSIS

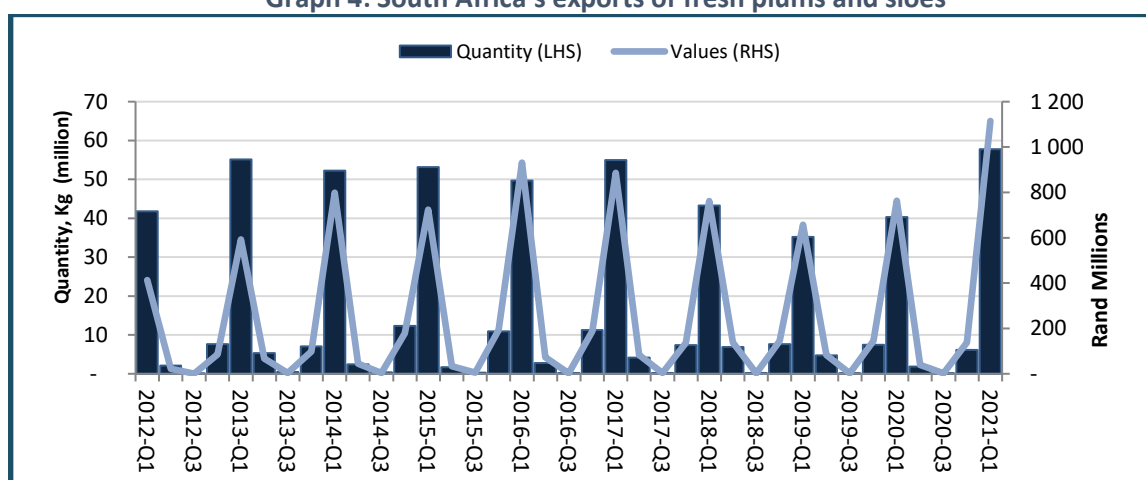
Three products of significant export growth and two of significant decline have been identified for this quarter. These include fruits and nuts products, fertiliser products for growth and aluminium, and mineral fuel and oil products for declines. The full list of top exports with a growth or a decline are provided in the Annexure. In this quarter, the production selection has been expanded to other products outside the Top 50 exports, eliminating bias in the selection and overlooking other goods needing attention, as well as issues with data errors. The Annexure also provides a list of products for ongoing monitoring.

Significant growth in fresh plums and sloes

HS 08094000: Fresh plums and sloes

Fresh plums are fruits that can be consumed directly or processed to produce other products such as jam, juiced and fermented into plum wine, or dried to produce prunes. Fresh sloes are the fruit of a blackthorn tree (*prunus spinosa*), a relative of the plum. They are commonly used to make sloe gin and are also used to produce jam, jellies and syrup. The juice from sloe fruit is used to produce linen dye. South Africa is the world’s second largest exporter of fresh plums and sloes by both value and quantity after Chile. Fresh plums and sloes are a seasonal product, with export usually increasing in the first quarter of each year. However, the first quarter of 2021 recorded the highest exports of fresh plums and sloes of 57.7 million kg valued at R1.1 billion, a 43% increase from Q1 2020 (see Graph 4).

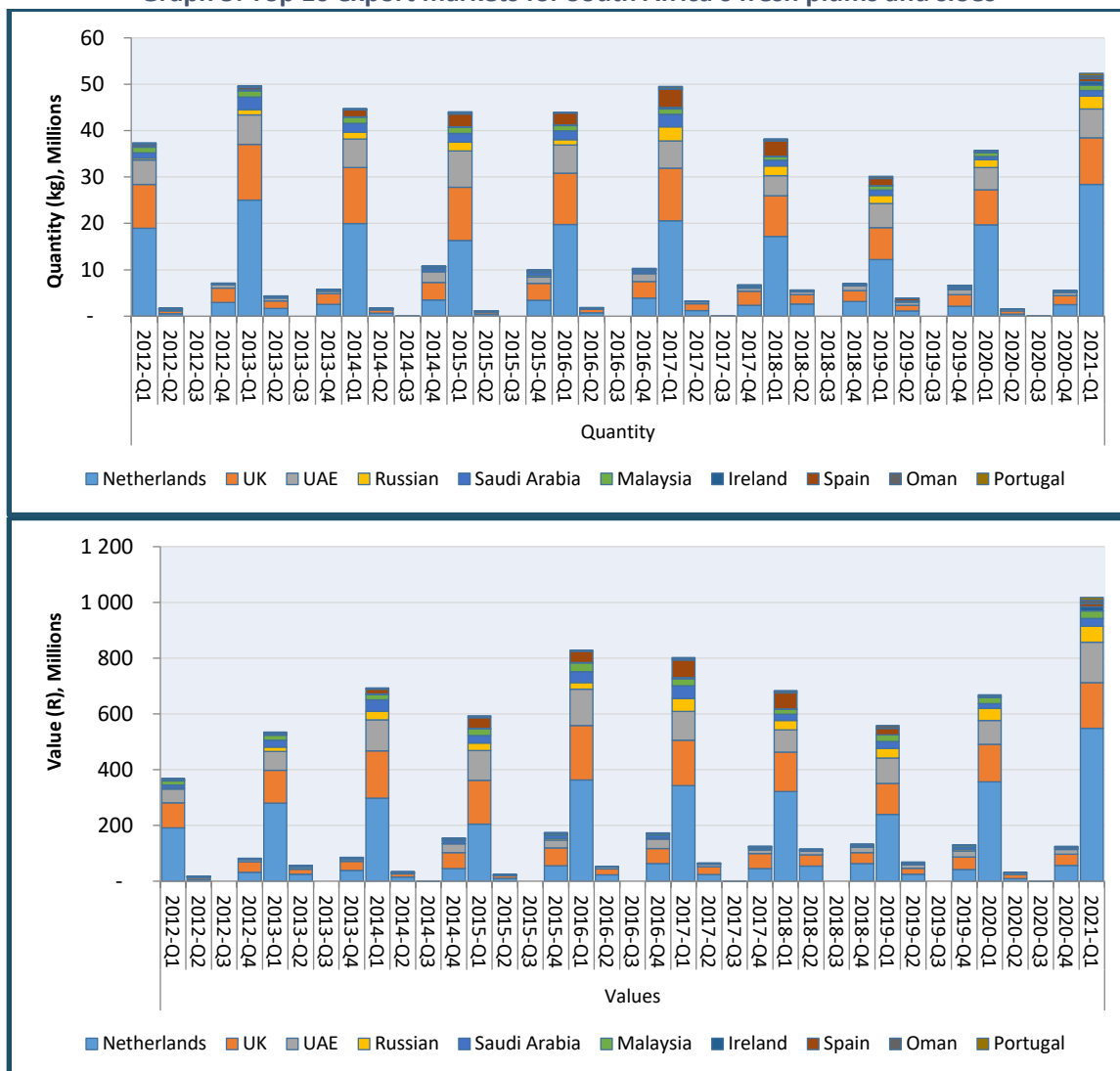
Graph 4: South Africa’s exports of fresh plums and sloes



Source: Author’s. Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> and sars.gov.za in June 2021.

South Africa's top export markets for fresh plums and sloes include the Netherlands, which claimed a share of 49%, followed by the United Kingdom (UK) (17.5%), UAE (10.8%), Russia (4.7%) and Saudi Arabia (2.2%). The growth in South Africa's plums and sloes exports in the first quarter of 2021 was driven by an increase in demand from all its top export markets, regardless of the 2% increase in unit price. All of South Africa's top export markets for plums and sloes experienced a growth in demand of over 30%, with Saudi Arabia showing the highest increase of 74% from 728 thousand kg valued at R16.6 million in Q1 2020 to 1.2 million kg worth R27 million in Q1 2021. Exports to the Netherlands were up by 44% from 19.7 million kg valued at R356 million in Q1 2020 to 28.4 million kg worth R548 million (see Graph 5).

Graph 5: Top 10 export markets for South Africa's fresh plums and sloes



Source: Authors. Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> and sars.gov.za in June 2021.

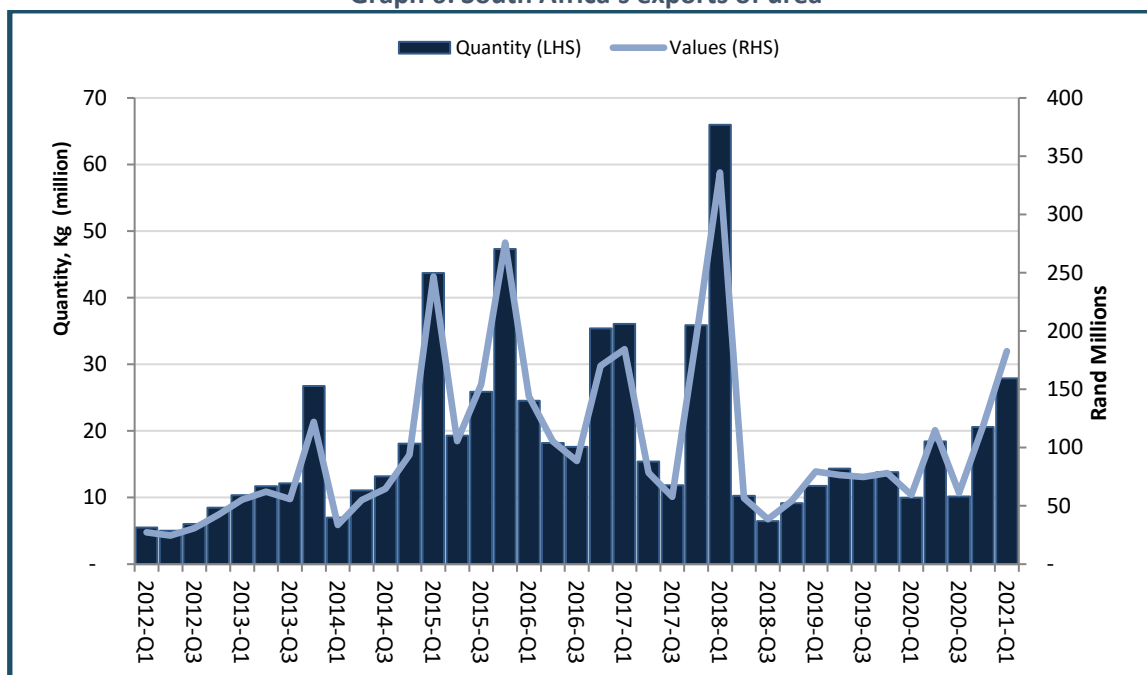
Significant growth in urea

HS 31021000: Urea, whether or not in aqueous solution (excluding that in pellet or similar forms, or in packages with a gross weight of <= 10 kg)

Urea, whether or not in aqueous solution, falls under the fertiliser product group. Urea is the main nitrogenous end product of the metabolic breakdown of proteins in all mammals and some fishes, and is also commercially produced in vast amounts from liquid ammonia and liquid carbon

dioxide. These two materials are combined under high pressures and elevated temperatures to form ammonium carbamate, which then decomposes at much lower pressures to yield urea and water.² Although South Africa is in the Top 20 global exporters of urea, ranking 15th by export value and quantity, it is generally a net importer of urea, having imported 160 million kg of urea in Q1 2021 compared to exports of 27 million kg in the same quarter. According to secondary sources, South Africa’s local fertiliser manufacturers face the challenge of not only competing with cheaper imports from China and the Middle East, but also the lack of urea production facilities,³ indicating the possibility of the country re-exporting urea to the region.

Graph 6: South Africa’s exports of urea



Source: Author’s. Calculated from ITC TradeMap data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> and sars.gov.za in June 2021.

The first quarter of 2021 saw South Africa exporting 27.9 million kg of urea valued at R182 million compared to nine million kg worth R59 million in Q1 2020, representing a growth in exports of 179%. Since reaching a peak 65 million kg in the first quarter of 2018, South Africa’s urea exports have been on a steady declining trend, reaching levels as low as six million kg in the third quarter of 2018, before picking up again in Q4 2018. The top export markets for South Africa’s urea are mainly South African Development Community (SADC) member countries with the exception of France. Zimbabwe is by far the top export market which absorbed 75% of South Africa’s total urea exports, followed by Eswatini (14%) and Zambia (6%) (see Graph 7).

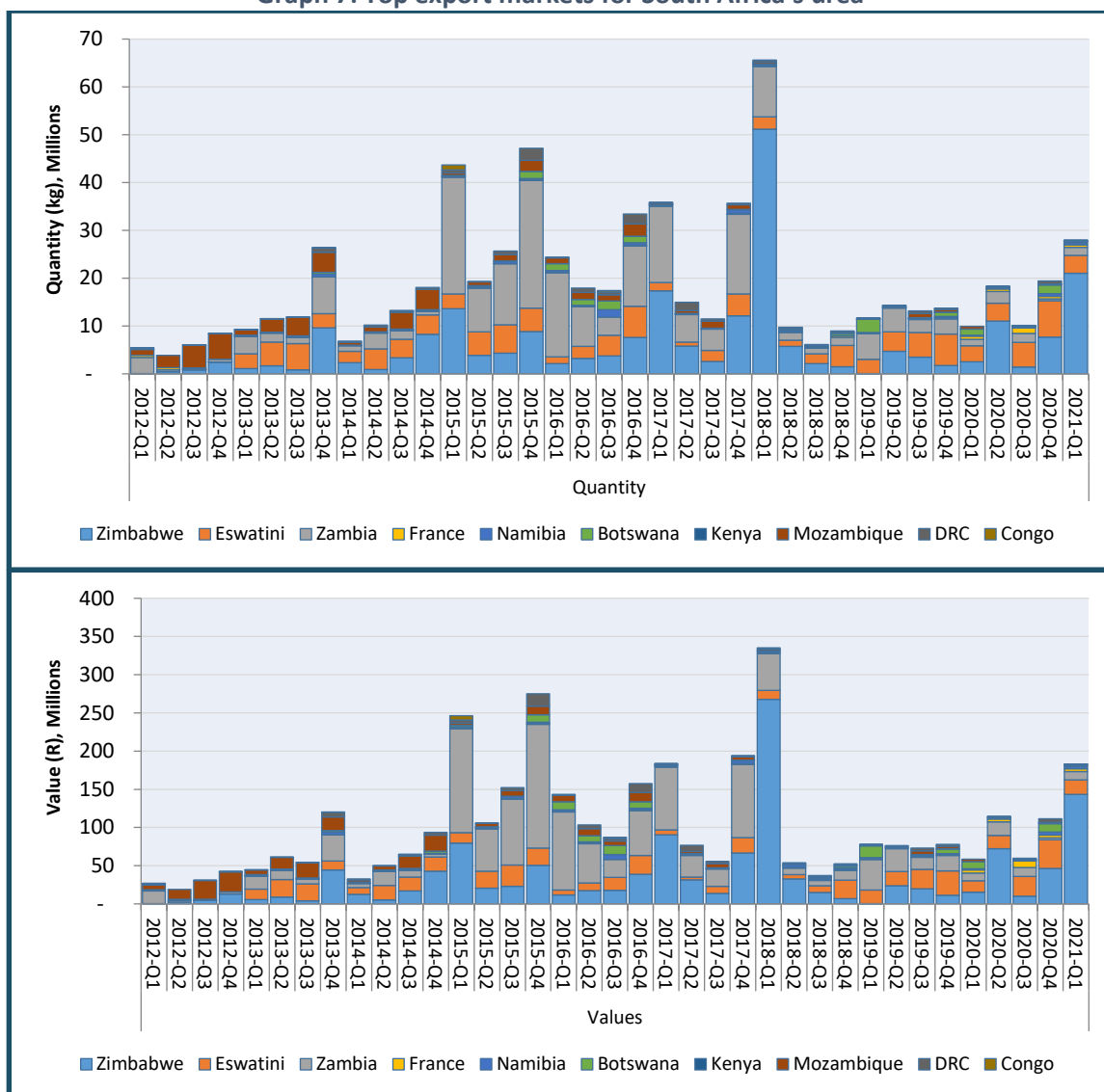
Growth in South Africa’s urea exports in the first quarter of 2021 can be attributed to an increase in demand from its top export market Zimbabwe. The country’s urea exports to Zimbabwe were up by 728% from 2.5 million kg, valued at R15 million, in Q1 2020 to 21 million kg worth R143 million in Q1 2021, regardless of the unit price increase. The increased demand for urea by Zimbabwe could be due to the country having experienced increased rainfall, which makes urea fertiliser a good option for effective top-dressing as conventional nitrogen source ammonium nitrate generally leaches under increased rainfall, which is not the case with urea. Exports to

² <https://www.britannica.com/science/urea>

³ <https://www.whoownswhom.co.za/store/info/3186?segment=Agriculture>

Eswatini and Zambia were up by 13% and 23%, amounting to 3.7 million kg and 1.6 million kg, respectively in Q1 2021.

Graph 7: Top export markets for South Africa's urea



Source: Author's. Calculated from ITC TradeMap data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> and sars.gov.za in June 2021.

SIGNIFICANT SLUMPS AND ANALYSIS

Significant slump in aluminium

HS 76011000: Aluminium, not alloyed, unwrought

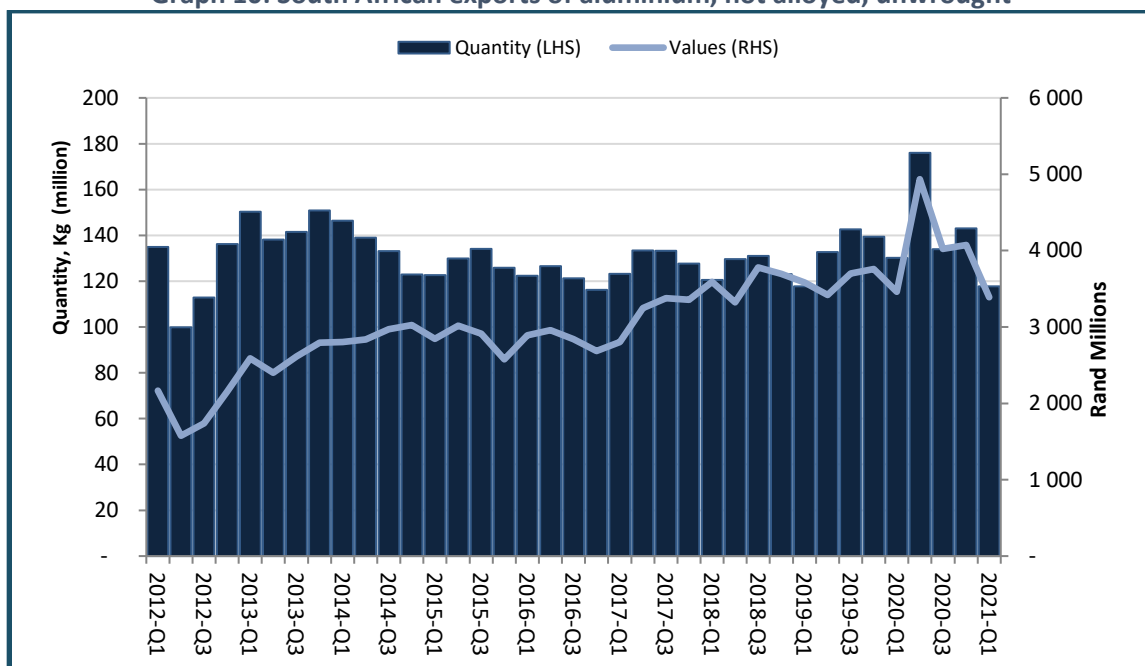
Aluminium is a silvery white metal. It is the most abundant metallic element in the earth's crust and the most widely used nonferrous metals. It is mainly found in igneous rocks such as aluminosilicates in feldspars, feldspathoids and micas. Aluminium is widely used to produce alloys by adding small amounts of it to certain metals to improve their properties for specific uses.⁴ The metal and its alloys are used in the manufacturing of aircrafts, building materials and consumer durables such as refrigerators, air conditioners and cooking utensils, electrical

⁴ <https://www.britannica.com/science/aluminum>

conductors and many other kinds of chemical and food processing equipment. Aluminium, not alloyed, unwrought is the metal in its pure form and not shaped.

South Africa is the sixth largest global exporter of aluminium, not alloyed, unwrought by quantity and in seventh place by value in Q1 2021. The country's exports of aluminium, not alloyed, unwrought fell in the first quarter of 2021, declining by 10% from 130 million kg, valued at R3.5 billion in Q1 2020, to 117 million kg worth R3.3 billion in Q1 2021 (see Graph 10).

Graph 10: South African exports of aluminium, not alloyed, unwrought

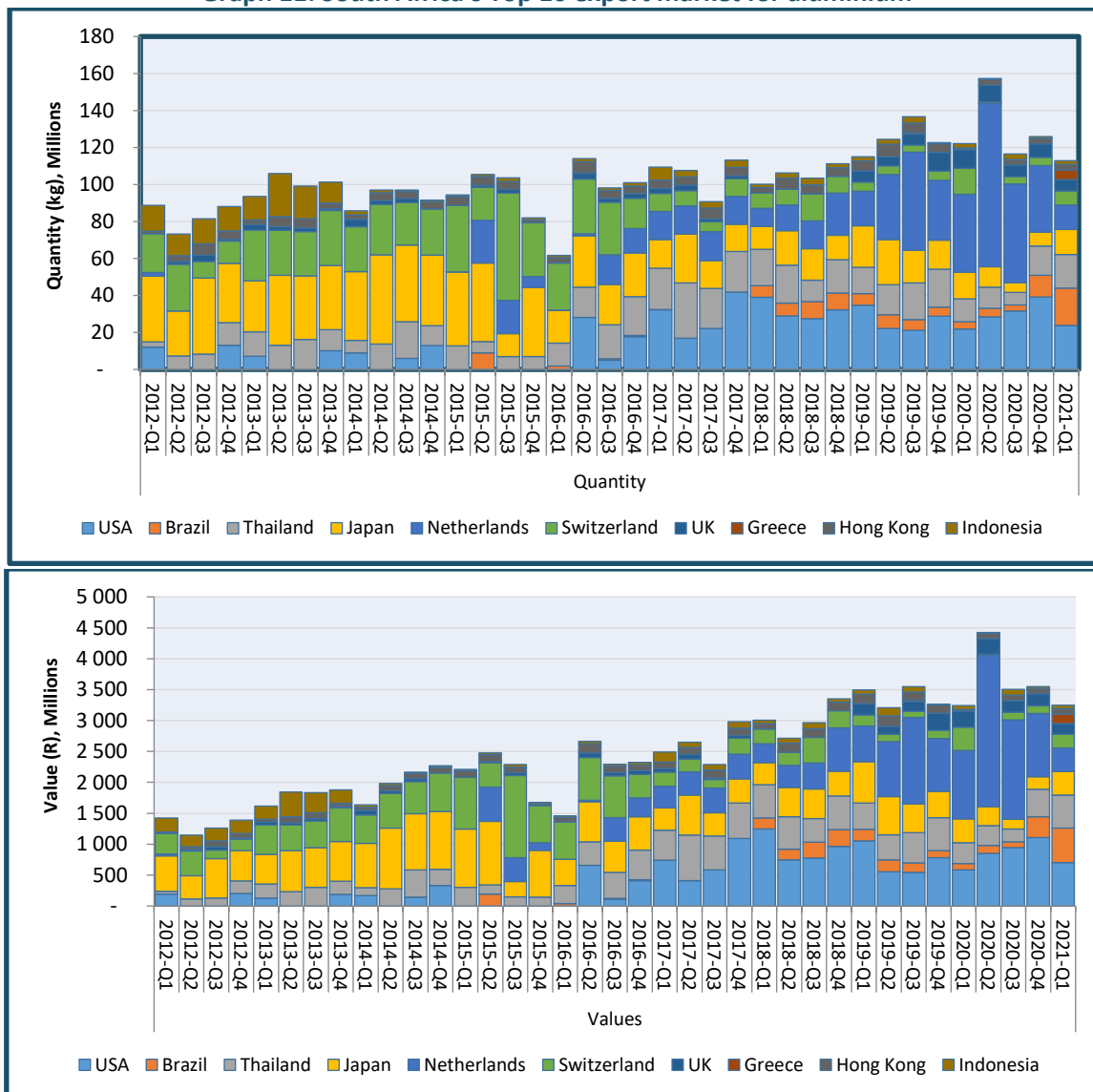


Source: Authors. Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> and sars.gov.za in June 2021.

The Top 5 export markets account for 76% of South Africa's total export quantity of aluminium, not alloyed, unwrought, with the US accounting for 20.2%, followed by Brazil (17.1%), Thailand (15.5%), Japan (11.5%) and Netherlands (11.2%). Demand from the Netherlands has had significant effects on South Africa's aluminium exports.

As presented in Graph 11, South Africa's aluminium exports reached a peak of 176 million kg, worth R5 billion, in the second quarter of 2020 as a result of 151% increase in demand by the Netherlands, which claimed just over 50% of South Africa's aluminium exports in Q2 2020. The decline in aluminium exports in the first quarter of 2021 is largely attributed to subdued demand from Netherlands, which saw exports to country decline by 69% from 42 million kg, valued at R1.1 billion, in Q1 2020 down to 13 million kg, worth R381 million, in Q1 2021. It is not clear what is driving the fluctuation in demand for aluminium by the Netherlands, therefore the product will be monitored in the next quarters to see if this trends persists.

Graph 11: South Africa's Top 10 export market for aluminium



Source: Authors. Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> and sars.gov.za in June 2021.

Significant slump in light oils of petroleum or bituminous minerals

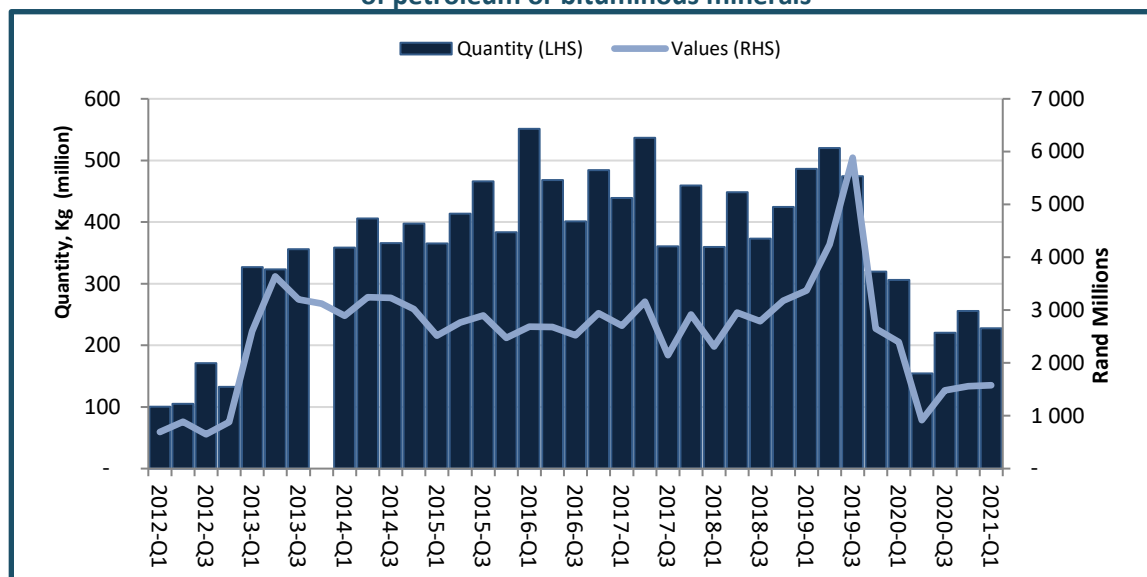
HS 27101230: Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which $\geq 90\%$ by volume "including losses" distil at 210°C "astm d 86 method" (excluding containing biodiesel): distillate fuel, as defined in additional note 1(g)

Light oils and preparations of petroleum or bituminous minerals are a complex mixture of gaseous liquid, and solid hydrocarbons and other organic molecules that may contain sulphur, nitrogen and metals and have densities less than 1.0 g/cc and float easily on water.⁵ Light oils are cheaper to refine to form gasoline, diesel, kerosene, and are used in tar and other products. South Africa is in the top global exporters of light oils, ranking 13th by export quantity. Exports of light oils and preparations of petroleum or bituminous minerals dropped by 25.6% in the first quarter of 2021 from 305 million kg, worth R2.3 billion, in Q1 2020, to 227 million kg valued at R1.5 billion in Q1 2021. South Africa's light oils exports have been steadily declining since the

⁵ <https://www2.southeastern.edu/orgs/oilspill/basics.html>

third quarter of 2019, reaching a low level of 154 million kg in the Q2 2020, as a result of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic (levels last experienced in 2012), despite the decrease in unit price R12.40/kg in Q4 2019 to R5.94/kg in Q2 2020.

Graph 12: South Africa's exports of light oils and preparations of petroleum or bituminous minerals



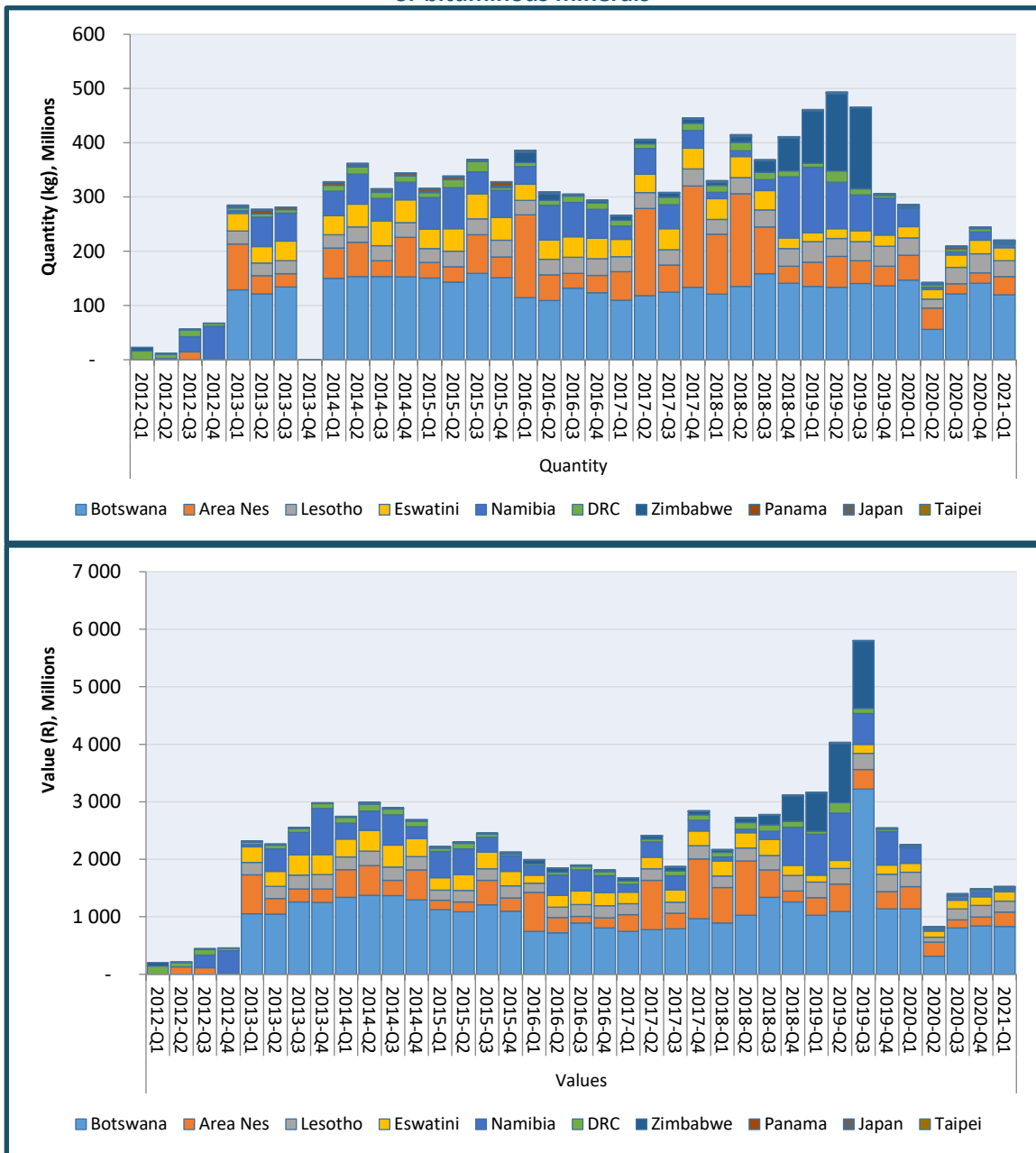
Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> and sars.gov.za in June 2021. Note: Missing data point for 2013-Q4.

The top export markets for South Africa's light oil include Botswana, Lesotho and Eswanti, which have a share of 53%, 13% and 11%, respectively.⁶

The first quarter of 2021 saw a significant decline in demand for South Africa's light oil export in Namibia, Botswana and Lesotho. Exports to Namibia dropped by 81.6% from 34 million kg, valued at R272 million, in Q1 2020 to 6.3 million kg at R42 million in Q1 2021, while exports to Botswana and Lesotho fell by 26% and 9%, coming down to 119 million kg (R832 million) and 29 million kg (R192 million), respectively in Q1 2021. It is not clear what has driven the decline in exports to these top markets in Q1 2021, as the unit price of light oils declined.

⁶ Areas not elsewhere specified account for 15% of South Africa's total light oils exports in Q1 2021

Graph 13: Top 10 export markets for South Africa's light oils and preparations of petroleum or bituminous minerals



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://trademap.org> and sars.gov.za in June 2021.

Annexure

Table A1: South Africa's Top 50 exports by value, Q1 2021

| RANK | HS CODE | PRODUCT DESCRIPTION | EXPORT VALUE (RAND THOUSANDS) | | GROWTH RATE (%) |
|------|---------|---|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| | | | 2019-Q4 | 2020-Q4 | |
| 1 | '71 | Precious stones (natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal, and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin) | 70 809 812 | 101 974 751 | 44.0% |
| 2 | '26 | Ores ⁷ , slag and ash | 47 470 990 | 67 481 691 | 42.2% |
| 3 | '87 | Vehicles | 35 701 007 | 39 042 795 | 9.4% |
| 4 | '27 | Mineral fuels and oils | 32 032 654 | 31 476 800 | -1.7% |
| 5 | '84 | Machinery(Industrial) | 18 028 337 | 22 760 897 | 26.3% |
| 6 | '72 | Iron and steel | 17 474 567 | 20 245 909 | 15.9% |
| 7 | '08 | Fruit and nuts | 11 805 542 | 14 088 985 | 19.3% |
| 8 | '38 | Chemical products | 4 623 159 | 9 429 937 | 104.0% |
| 9 | '76 | Aluminium | 5 928 374 | 6 336 644 | 6.9% |
| 10 | '15 | Animal or vegetable fats and oils | 799 077 | 6 184 581 | 674.0% |
| 11 | '85 | Electrical machinery and equipment | 5 398 733 | 5 688 785 | 5.4% |
| 12 | '39 | Plastics | 4 687 385 | 5 327 475 | 13.7% |
| 13 | '29 | Organic chemicals | 4 158 493 | 4 630 089 | 11.3% |
| 14 | '22 | Beverages, spirits and vinegar | 4 072 017 | 4 318 395 | 6.1% |
| 15 | '73 | Articles of iron or steel | 3 429 999 | 3 723 053 | 8.5% |
| 16 | '28 | Inorganic chemicals | 4 148 851 | 3 631 226 | -12.5% |
| 17 | '74 | Copper | 2 033 877 | 3 437 536 | 69.0% |
| 18 | '20 | Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts | 2 043 886 | 2 732 477 | 33.7% |
| 19 | '47 | Pulp of wood | 3 203 962 | 2 660 170 | -17.0% |

⁷ Ores, slag and ash, including iron, manganese, chromium, titanium, zinc, niobium, tantalum, vanadium or zirconium, copper, lead etc

| | | | | | |
|----|-----|---|-----------|-----------|--------|
| 20 | '10 | Cereals | 2 560 523 | 2 561 402 | 0.0% |
| 21 | '33 | Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery, cosmetic or toilet preparations | 2 002 169 | 2 058 845 | 2.8% |
| 22 | '03 | Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates | 1 695 982 | 2 053 205 | 21.1% |
| 23 | '90 | Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical ... | 2 444 739 | 2 022 736 | -17.3% |
| 24 | '48 | Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard | 2 181 798 | 2 019 924 | -7.4% |
| 25 | '75 | Nickel and articles thereof | 1 713 693 | 1 961 708 | 14.5% |
| 26 | '25 | Salt; sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement | 1 585 669 | 1 952 912 | 23.2% |
| 27 | '44 | Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal | 1 817 696 | 1 901 771 | 4.6% |
| 28 | '21 | Miscellaneous edible preparations | 1 707 245 | 1 852 829 | 8.5% |
| 29 | '51 | Wool, fine or coarse animal hair; horsehair yarn and woven fabric | 1 588 205 | 1 799 877 | 13.3% |
| 30 | '30 | Pharmaceutical products | 1 492 469 | 1 737 084 | 16.4% |
| 31 | '34 | Soap, organic surface-active agents, washing preparations, lubricating preparations, artificial ... | 1 455 092 | 1 447 064 | -0.6% |
| 32 | '31 | Fertilisers | 1 057 785 | 1 411 045 | 33.4% |
| 33 | '40 | Rubber and articles thereof | 1 590 956 | 1 400 754 | -12.0% |
| 34 | '88 | Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof | 977 987 | 1 203 877 | 23.1% |
| 35 | '12 | Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal ... | 803 279 | 1 061 417 | 32.1% |
| 36 | '32 | Tanning or dyeing extracts; tannins and their derivatives; dyes, pigments and other colouring ... | 868 682 | 1 025 668 | 18.1% |
| 37 | '11 | Products of the milling industry; malt; starches; inulin; wheat gluten | 1 150 739 | 1 024 711 | -11.0% |
| 38 | '02 | Meat and edible meat offal | 975 343 | 1 011 174 | 3.7% |
| 39 | '19 | Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; pastrycooks' products | 978 782 | 1 009 244 | 3.1% |
| 40 | '23 | Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder | 990 319 | 966 479 | -2.4% |
| 41 | '07 | Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers | 944 262 | 958 806 | 1.5% |
| 42 | '94 | Furniture; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions and similar stuffed furnishings; ... | 936 866 | 946 421 | 1.0% |
| 43 | '17 | Sugars and sugar confectionery | 1 092 473 | 934 140 | -14.5% |
| 44 | '04 | Dairy produce; birds' eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere ... | 873 893 | 911 015 | 4.2% |

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|----|-----|--|---------|---------|-------|
| 45 | '61 | Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted | 685 569 | 823 586 | 20.1% |
| 46 | '69 | Ceramic products | 687 494 | 692 345 | 0.7% |
| 47 | '62 | Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted | 654 044 | 690 206 | 5.5% |
| 48 | '24 | Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes | 658 980 | 649 206 | -1.5% |
| 49 | '41 | Raw hides and skins (other than furskins) and leather | 638 274 | 619 709 | -2.9% |
| 50 | '96 | Miscellaneous manufactured articles | 523 177 | 592 276 | 13.2% |

Source: South African Revenue Services (SARS) trade statistics. June 2021.

Table A2: Top 50 exports of goods, by quantity, with explanations, Q1 2021

| NO. | HS CODE | PRODUCT DESCRIPTION | MAJOR IMPORTER | EXPLANATION | QUANTITY: Q1 2020 | QUANTITY: Q1 2021 | UNIT | PERCENT GROWTH | CHANGE IN RANK |
|-----|-----------|--|----------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | '27011200 | Bituminous coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated | India | Decline in export quantity is within normal variance. No change in rank. | 18 128 510 212 | 15 406 829 216 | Kilograms | -15.0% | 0 |
| 2. | '26011200 | Agglomerated iron ores and concentrates (excluding roasted iron pyrites) | China | Not significant | 10 434 140 027 | 10 039 882 857 | Kilograms | -3.8% | 0 |
| 3. | '26011100 | Non-agglomerated iron ores and concentrates (excluding roasted iron pyrites) | China | Decline in export quantity is within normal variance. No change in rank. | 7 680 348 325 | 6 043 731 470 | Kilograms | -21.3% | 0 |
| 4. | '26020000 | Manganese ores and concentrates, including ferruginous manganese ores and concentrates, with a ... | China | Increase in export quantity within normal variance. No change in rank. | 4 406 876 418 | 5 161 231 376 | Kilograms | 17.1% | 0 |

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|----|-----------|--|--------|---|---------------|---------------|-----------|------------------|------|
| 5. | '26100000 | Chromium ores and concentrates | China | Not significant | 3 532 158 268 | 3 438 802 661 | Kilograms | -2.6% | 0 |
| 6. | '72024100 | Ferro-chromium, containing by weight > 4% of carbon | China | Significant increase in export quantity since Q4 2020. Product was selected for analysis in Q4 2020. | 859 216 415 | 1 245 733 921 | Kilograms | 45.0% | 0 |
| 7. | '01064900 | Live insects (excluding bees) | Zambia | Possible data error | 20 711 321 | 1 010 958 367 | Units | 4781.2% | 89 |
| 8. | '27090000 | Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude | China | Abnormal growth in Q1 2021. Limited country data to warrant analysis in this quarter. Ongoing monitoring. | 55 366 | 808 314 872 | Kilograms | 1459848.1% | 2174 |
| 9. | '15081090 | Crude groundnut oil: other | China | Abnormal growth in Q1 2021. Limited country data to warrant analysis in this quarter. Ongoing monitoring. | – | 787 361 019 | Kilograms | N/A ⁸ | 7061 |

⁸ There were no imports of the product in the first quarter of 2020, thus a growth rate cannot be calculated.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|--|----------|---|-------------|-------------|--------------|------------|------|
| 10. | '73089099 | Structures and parts of structures, of iron or steel, n.e.s. (excluding bridges and bridge-sections, ... | Italy | Abnormal growth in Q1 2021. Possible data error in reporting of quantity exported to Italy in Q1 2021. Data also only available from Q1 2019. | 12 038 034 | 742 551 759 | Kilograms | 6068.4% | 126 |
| 11. | '44071100 | Pine "pinus spp." sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled, whether or not planed, sanded ... | Botswana | Abnormal growth in Q1 2021. Data only available from Q2 2017. Limited data to warrant analysis. Ongoing monitoring. | 906 129 | 642 536 865 | Cubic meters | 70810.1% | 635 |
| 12. | '44012200 | Wood in chips or particles (excluding those of a kind used principally for dyeing or tanning ... | Japan | Not significant | 426 960 420 | 438 774 403 | Kilograms | 2,8% | -2 |
| 13. | '44039990 | Wood in the rough, whether or not stripped of bark or sapwood, or roughly squared (excluding ... | Guinea | Abnormal increase in export quantity to Guinea. However, value of export is low to warrant analysis (R14 million in Q1 2021). | 13 827 | 358 662 104 | Cubic meters | 2593825.7% | 3287 |
| 14. | '27011100 | Anthracite, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated | Vietnam | Increase in export quantity on Q1 2021. Value too low to warrant analysis. | 468 684 381 | 325 617 218 | Kilograms | -30.5% | -5 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|--|------------------------------|---|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------|-----|
| 15. | '10059090 | Maize (excluding seed for sowing): other | Zimbabwe | Decline in export quantity within normal variance. | 395 581 179 | 307 608 570 | Kilograms | -22.2% | -4 |
| 16. | '08061000 | Fresh grapes | Netherlands | Increase in export quantity within normal variance. No change in rank. | 244 215 279 | 283 487 690 | Kilograms | 16.1% | 0 |
| 17. | '27101202 | Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which >= 90% by volume "including ... | Botswana | Decline in export quantity within normal variance. | 295 587 941 | 262 487 347 | Litres | -11.2% | -4 |
| 18. | '25232900 | Portland cement (excluding white, whether or not artificially coloured) | Botswana | Export quantities have been on a steady increasing trend since 2019. Product analysed in previous quarters. | 181 792 840 | 254 352 770 | Kilograms | 39.9% | 0 |
| 19. | '47020000 | Chemical wood pulp, dissolving grades | India | Decline with normal variance. Product analysed in previous quarter. | 263 362 454 | 239 838 446 | Kilograms | -8.9% | -4 |
| 20. | '27101235 | Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which >= 90% by volume "incl. ... | Ship stores and bunkers, UAE | Significant decline, with most exports going to ship stores and bunkers. Therefore product not selected. | 565 524 497 | 236 077 680 | Litres | -58.3% | -12 |

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|-----|-----------|--|-------------|---|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------|----|
| 21. | '27101230 | Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which \geq 90% by volume "including ... | Botswana | Significant decline, and drop in rank. Product selected for analysis. | 305 947 609 | 227 772 984 | Litres | -25.6% | -9 |
| 22. | '6140000 | Titanium ores and concentrates | Netherlands | Product analysed in previous quarters. Increased from Q1 2020, but experienced decline from the previous quarter (Q4 2020). | 127 524 521 | 157 577 064 | Kilograms | 23.6% | -2 |
| 23. | '27011900 | Coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated (excluding anthracite and bituminous coal) | Vietnam | Product has been fluctuating over the quarters. Ongoing monitoring to observe if increasing trend continues. | 100 318 778 | 143 873 886 | Kilograms | 43.4% | 2 |
| 24. | '26080000 | Zinc ores and concentrates | China | Not significant | 113 308 505 | 122 854 530 | Kilograms | 8.4% | -1 |
| 25. | '76011000 | Aluminium, not alloyed, unwrought | US | Product selected for analysis. Significant decline based on export quantity and value of product. | 130 256 019 | 117 710 634 | Kilograms | -9.6% | -6 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|---|------------|--|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------|-----|
| 26. | '25301000 | Vermiculite, perlite and chlorites, unexpanded | Mozambique | Product continues on an increasing trend, but value too low to warrant analysis. Ongoing monitoring. | 40 359 666 | 116 452 429 | Kilograms | 188.5% | 34 |
| 27. | '10059010 | Maize (excluding seed for sowing): dried kernels or grains fit for human consumption, not further ... | Mozambique | Not significant | 109 718 106 | 115 146 699 | Kilograms | 4.9% | -3 |
| 28. | '28352690 | Phosphates of calcium (excluding calcium hydrogenorthophosphate "dicalcium phosphate"): other | Lithuania | Product analysed in previous quarter. | 196 676 126 | 113 612 935 | Kilograms | -42.2% | -11 |
| 29. | '26151000 | Zirconium ores and concentrates | China | Products continues on an increasing trend, was selected for analysis in previous quarter. | 64 752 810 | 111 370 532 | Kilograms | 72.0% | 10 |
| 30. | '26180000 | Granulated slag (slag sand) from the manufacture of iron or steel | US | Increase of export quantity with normal variance. Negligible change in rank in Q1 2021. | 96 118 492 | 111 171 471 | Kilograms | 15.7% | -3 |
| 31. | '71039900 | Precious and semi-precious stones, worked, whether or not graded, but not strung, mounted or ... | US | Significant decrease in quantity, but value of exports low to warrant analysis (R3 million). | 288 055 299 | 107 126 889 | Carats | -62.8% | -17 |
| 32. | '72011000 | Non-alloy pig iron in pigs, blocks or other primary forms, containing, by weight, <= 0,5% of ... | US | Product exports increased from Q1 2020, but experienced a significant decline from the past quarter Q4 2020. | 66 371 353 | 101 797 915 | Kilograms | 53.4% | 6 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|--|-------------|---|-------------|------------|-----------|--------|-----|
| | | | | Ongoing monitoring. | | | | | |
| 33. | '29012900 | Hydrocarbons, acyclic, unsaturated (excluding ethylene, propene "propylene", butene "butylene" ... | US | Increase in export quantity within normal variance. | 81 524 000 | 94 941 547 | Kilograms | 16.5% | -1 |
| 34. | '10051000 | Maize seed for sowing | Italy | Significant. Product analysed in previous quarters. | 43 826 335 | 86 887 833 | Kilograms | 98.3% | 19 |
| 35. | '39021090 | Polypropylene, in primary forms: other | Nigeria | Limited data | 96 785 063 | 85 905 587 | Kilograms | -11.2% | -9 |
| 36. | "8083000 | Fresh pears | Netherlands | Not significant | 92 705 719 | 85 094 585 | Kilograms | -8.2% | -7 |
| 37. | '08081000 | Fresh apples | Bangladesh | Not significant | 91 741 657 | 84 310 823 | Kilograms | -8.1% | -7 |
| 38. | "26030000 | Copper ores and concentrates | China | Not significant | 75 515 526 | 76 711 927 | Kilograms | 1.6% | -4 |
| 39. | '11031390 | Groats and meal of maize "corn" other | Zimbabwe | Significant decline. Product was analysed in previous quarters. | 117 821 945 | 75 224 534 | Kilograms | -36.2% | -18 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|--|--------------------|---|------------|------------|-----------|--------|----|
| 40. | '27101252 | Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which >= 90% by volume "including ... | Areas Nes, Namibia | Significant growth, but a large share of exports went to Areas not elsewhere specified. Ongoing monitoring. | 25 830 724 | 72 631 217 | Litres | 181.2% | 45 |
| 41. | '44011100 | Fuel wood, in logs, billets, twigs, faggots or similar forms, coniferous | Eswatini | Significant increase. Product analysed in previous quarters. | 31 988 950 | 66 321 082 | Kilograms | 107.3% | 34 |
| 42. | '17019900 | Cane or beet sugar and chemically pure sucrose, in solid form (excluding cane and beet sugar ... | Mozambique | Significant increase. Product analysed in previous quarters. | 45 689 135 | 58 964 386 | Kilograms | 29.1% | 10 |
| 43. | '10019900 | Wheat and meslin (excluding seed for sowing, and durum wheat) | Zimbabwe | Not significant | 57 095 101 | 57 887 887 | Kilograms | 1.4% | 0 |
| 44. | '08094000 | Fresh plums and sloes | Netherlands | Product selected for analysis. Significant increase in export quantity in Q1 2021. | 40 340 598 | 57 734 943 | Kilograms | 43.1% | 17 |
| 45. | '25291000 | Feldspar | India | Limited data for comprehensive analysis. Continue monitoring. | 46 016 211 | 56 434 000 | Kilograms | 22.6% | 6 |
| 46. | '25231000 | Cement clinkers | Lesotho | Increase in export quantity, but value too low to warrant analysis. | 40 245 655 | 56 257 178 | Kilograms | 39.8% | 16 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|--|------------|---|------------|------------|-----------|--------|-----|
| 47. | '25030000 | Sulphur of all kinds (excluding sublimed sulphur, precipitated sulphur and colloidal sulphur) | Zambia | Ongoing monitoring. Product has been fluctuating since Q1 2019. | 69 770 980 | 54 810 340 | Kilograms | -21.4% | -12 |
| 48. | '07019000 | Fresh or chilled potatoes (excluding seed) | Mozambique | Not significant | 51 080 564 | 53 965 780 | Kilograms | 5.6% | 0 |
| 49. | '25161100 | Granite, crude or roughly trimmed (excluding already with the characteristics of setts, curbstones ... | Poland | Ongoing monitoring | 61 515 026 | 53 425 122 | Kilograms | -13.2% | -8 |
| 50. | '11031310 | Groats and meal of maize "corn": maize meal not further processed other than by the addition ... | Lesotho | Not significant | 54 231 956 | 50 140 825 | Kilograms | -7.5% | -5 |

| ON-GOING MONITORING, DATA ERRORS, OTHER ISSUES AND TRENDS TO WATCH | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| HS Code | Product Description | Description of increase-decrease in quantity, and error or issue | Trends to watch |
| Ongoing monitoring and trends to watch | | | |
| 15081090 | Crude groundnut oil: other | Abnormal increase in export quantity going to China. Crude groundnut oil exports to China amounted to 758 million kg, accounting for 96% of South Africa's total crude groundnut oil exports in the first quarter of 2021. It is not possible to compare with previous quarters as there is limited data, so exports in the following quarter will be monitored to see if the increasing trend continues | If there will be a continuing increasing trend in the following quarters of 2021 |
| Data errors or issues and updates | | | |
| 01064900 | Live insects (excluding bees) | Abnormal increase (4781.2%) in Q1 2021, with all increases going to Zambia. Possible data error in reporting export quantity. In the previous quarter a similar pattern of abnormal increases is observed with all exports going to Zimbabwe instead. | N/A |
| 73089099 | Structures and parts of structures, of iron or steel, n.e.s. (excluding bridges and bridge-sections, ...) | Abnormal increase (6068.4%) in Q1 2021. Possible data error in reporting exports quantity to Italy taking 98% of exports, with quantity reaching 730 million kg in Q1 2021, making Italy the top export market by quantity. However, by value Italy is not even in the Top 20 markets, showing possibility of data error. | N/A |