

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

# **TIPS EXPORT TRACKER**

First Quarter 2022

Compiled by Itumeleng Mokoena
Wendy Nyakabawo, Rapula Diale and Lebogang Pheto

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Trade & Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS) info@tips.org.za I +27 12 433 9340 I www.tips.org.za



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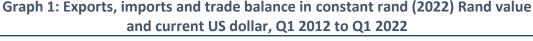
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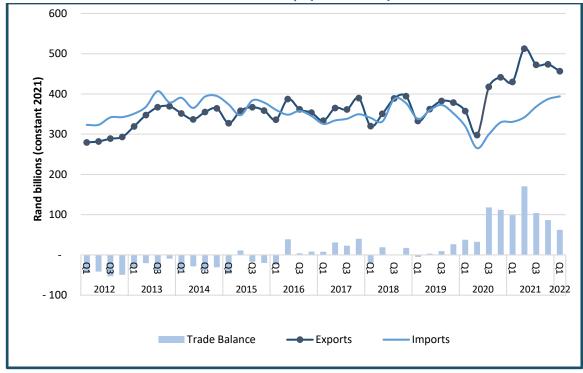


#### OVERVIEW OF EXPORT PERFORMANCE

The growth of South Africa's merchandise exports moderated further in the first quarter of 2022, recording an increase of 6.2% year-on-year amounting to R456 billion, down from a 7.3% increase in Q4 2021 (see Graph 1). The slow growth was driven by poor quarterly performance, with exports declining by 3.7% from Q4 2021. In contrast, merchandise imports saw a significant increase of 19.2% year-on-year, amounting to R394 billion, as well as an increase of 1.8% from Q4 2021. The increase in imports is attributable to the surge in mineral prices, particularly the petroleum prices, exacerbated by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. With the growth of imports outpacing exports, South Africa's trade balance narrowed further in Q1 2022, recording a surplus of R62 billion, down from R87 billion in Q4 2021. Although slowing down, South Africa's trade balance remains higher since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic than at any other time over the past decade. This is because the pandemic boosted the prices of the mining exports for South Africa while sluggish global growth and disruption to the international supply chain suppressed imports.<sup>1</sup>

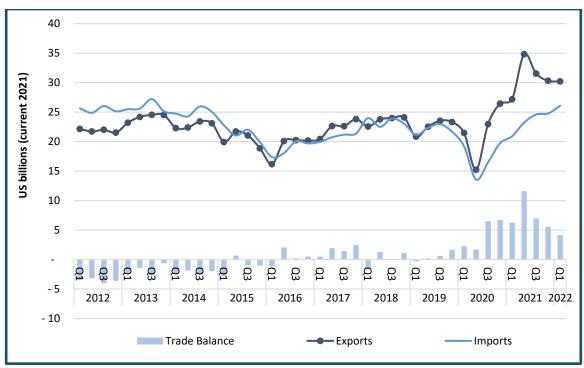
In United States (US) dollar terms, South Africa's exports increased by 11.2% from Q1 2021, amounting to US\$ 30 billion, while on a quarterly basis, exports declined by 0.3% from Q4 2021. Imports also increased by 24.8 % year-on-year, amounting to US\$26 billion, and increased by 5.3% from the previous quarter.





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> TIPS. 2022. The Real Economic Bulletin (REB) Q1 2022. Available at: https://www.tips.org.za/manufacturing-data/the-real-economy-bulletin/quarterly-bulletin. Accessed in July 2022.





Source: South African Revenue Service (SARS) Statistics. Downloaded from sars.gov.za in July 2022.

In Q1 2022, precious stones, ores, mineral fuels, vehicles, and iron and steel remained the top five exports for South Africa, accounting for 64% of total export value. As shown in Table 1, nickel continued to experience exponential growth, increasing by 256.5%, from R2 billion in Q1 2021 to R7 billion in Q1 2022. The sharp increase in nickel is attributable to the unprecedented surge in nickel prices in Q1 2022 as a result of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. With Russia as one of the top nickel producers, its invasion of Ukraine saw nickel prices skyrocket, driven primarily by the fear of supply shortages.<sup>2</sup>

Pharmaceutical products sustained impressive growth for the quarter under review, increasing by 149.8% from R1.7 billion in Q1 2021 to R4.3 billion in Q1 2022. The growth of pharmaceutical exports is mainly driven by the elevated demand from Belgium. On the other hand, chemical products is the only export product that experienced a significant decline for the quarter under review declining by 52.6%, from R9.4 billion in Q1 2021 to R4.5 billion in Q1 2022 (see Table 1).

Table 1: Top 20 sectors, Q1 2021 to Q1 2022

	Table 1: Top 20 3cctors, Q1 2021 to Q1 2022											
		VALUE (		THE TOTAL	ANNUAL	TOP						
RAND) EXPORTS						GROWTH RATE	EXPORT MARKET					
HS Code	Sector	2021-Q1	2022-Q1	2021-Q1	2022-Q1	2021-Q1 to 2022-Q1						
'71	Precious stones	102.0	105.3	25.1%	23.1%	3.2%	Japan and US					
'26	Ores	67.5	69.2	16.6%	15.2%	2.5%	China					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Investing News Network. 2022. Nickel Price Update: Q1 2022 in Review. Available at: https://investingnews.com/nickel-price-update-q1-2022/. Accessed in August 2022.



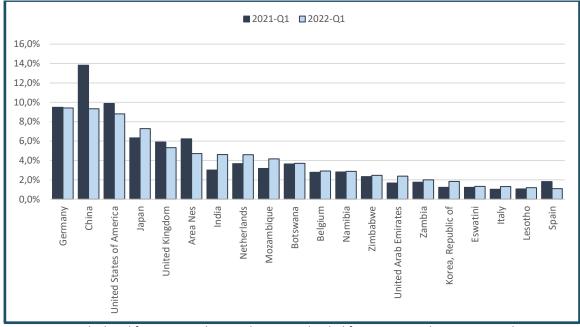
'27	Mineral fuels and oils	31.5	8.9	7.7%	10.7%	55.3%	India
'87	Vehicles	39.0	42.1	9.6%	9.2%	8.0%	Germany
'72	Iron and steel	20.2	26.8	5.0%	5.9%	32.3%	China
'84	Machinery (industrial)	22.8	24.9	5.6%	5.5%	9.5%	Germany
'08	Fruit and nut	14.1	15.4	3.5%	3.4%	9.3%	Netherlands
'76	Aluminium	6.3	7.4	1.6%	1.6%	16.5%	Netherlands and US
'75	Nickel	2.0	7.0	0.5%	1.5%	256.5%	Italy, Japan, US
'85	Electrical machinery and equipment	5.7	6.4	1.4%	1.4%	11.8%	Botswana, Namibia
'39	Plastics	5.3	5.9	1.3%	1.3%	11.3%	Zimbabwe
'29	Organic chemicals	4.6	5.9	1.1%	1.3%	26.9%	US and Belgium
'10	Cereals	2.6	5.5	0.6%	1.2%	115.3%	Taipei
'22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	4.3	5.0	1.1%	1.1%	16.1%	United Kingdom
'28	Inorganic chemicals; organic	3.6	4.9	0.9%	1.1%	36.1%	Belgium
'73	Articles of iron or steel	3.7	4.8	0.9%	1.1%	30.0%	Namibia
'38	Chemical products	9.4	4.5	2.3%	1.0%	-52.6%	US
'30	Pharmaceutical products	1.7	4.3	0.4%	1.0%	149.8%	Belgium
'47	Wood pulp	2.7	3.4	0.7%	0.7%	27.7%	China
'74	Copper	3.4	3.4	0.8%	0.7%	-1.4%	China

Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from www.trademap.org in July 2022.

In terms of market share, Germany became South Africa's top export market, accounting for 9.4% of total exports valued at R42.9 billion in Q1 2022.

In previous quarters, Germany was consistently the third largest export market for South Africa after China and the US. However, due to the massive decline of exports to China and the US in Q1 2022, Germany became South Africa's top export market. From Q1 2021 to Q1 2022, South Africa's exports by value to Germany increased by 11.5%, driven by an impressive year-on-year increase in exports of vehicles (28.8%) and precious stones (24.1%). Furthermore, the top five South African exports to Germany remain unchanged for Q1 2022, with vehicles (35.8%), precious stones (30.7%), ores (16.1%), industrial machinery (8.7%), and chemical products (1.4%) at the top of the export basket.





Graph 2: Market share in top markets, Q1 2021 and Q1 2022

Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from www.trademap.org in July 2022.

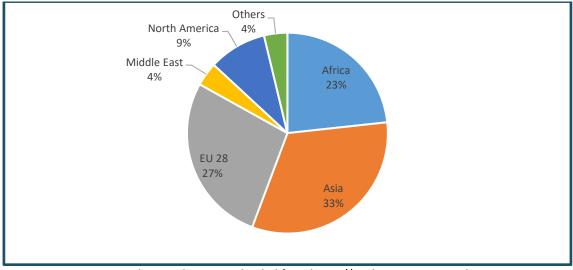
China slipped to the second largest export market for South Africa as a result of a significant decline in exports in Q1 2022. South Africa's exports to China declined by 24.2% year-on-year, from R56 billion in Q1 2021 to R43 billion in Q1 2022. From Q4 2021, exports to China declined by 0.2%. The top five South African exports to China – ores (70.4%), iron and steel (9.7%), copper (5.9%), precious stone (2.8%) and wool (2.1%), – all experienced a year-on-year decline. Precious stones experienced the most significant decline of 53%, from R2.5 billion in Q1 2021 to R 1.1 billion in Q1 2022, followed by wool which declined by 27.2% over the same period. The decline of South Africa's exports to China was likely due to stringent lockdown measures that China imposed in some of its areas in the first quarter of 2022<sup>3</sup> as well as reports of slowing growth in China.<sup>4</sup>

The US became the third largest export market for South Africa in Q1 2022, accounting for 8.8% of total export value, amounting to R40 billion. The annual growth of South African exports to the US was marginal for the quarter under review, increasing only by 0.1%. From Q4 2021, exports to the US saw a significant decline of 22.5%. The poor quarterly performance is a result of a decline in four of the top five South African exports to the US. More specifically, vehicle exports experienced the most significant decline of 33.1%, followed by precious stones with a decline of 31.2%. In contrast, Nickel is the only product among the top five that experienced a quarterly growth of 136.9%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Hancock, T. 2022. China lockdown cost at least \$46 billion a month, academic says. Available at: https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-03-29/china-lockdowns-cost-at-least-46-billion-amonth-academic-says. Accessed in August 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Tooze, A. 2022. China on the tightrope. Available at: https://adamtooze.substack.com/p/chartbook-145-china-on-the-tightrope?s=r&utm\_medium=web. Accessed in September 2022.





Graph 3: Share of South Africa's exports to regional markets in Q1 2022

Source: Trade Map data. Downloaded from https://trademap.org in April 2022.

Regionally, Asia is South Africa's largest regional export market, accounting for 33% of total export value, amounting to R147.9 billion in Q1 2022. The European Union regained its spot as the second largest regional market for South African exports, accounting for 27% of the total export value that amounted to R124 billion, up from 24% recorded in Q4 2022. Africa slipped to the third largest regional market for South Africa, accounting for 23% of the total export value that amounted to R106 billion.

Within the African continent, Mozambique overtook Botswana to become South Africa's largest export market for the quarter under review. Mozambique accounted for 17.9% of total export value to the region, which amounted to R18.9 billion. However, it should be noted that the share of South African exports to Mozambique is boosted by exports passing through the Mozambican ports to other export markets such as China. Notably, for the quarter under review, top South African exports to Mozambique consisted of chromium ores and concentrates at R3.1 billion, followed by ferrochromium at R3 billion, and non-agglomerated iron ores and concentrates at R2.5 billion. These are likely to be exports passing through to China, with South African exporters using Mozambican ports to avoid Transnet's logjam. Indeed, South African exporters have increased the use of Mozambican ports because of the disruption to Transnet infrastructure due to theft and inefficiencies from the state-owned company.<sup>5</sup>

Botswana's share of exports shrunk by 0.8%, and the country dropped to become South Africa's second-largest export market in Q1 2022. Namibia remained the third largest export market in the region, accounting for 12.4% of the total export value, followed by Zimbabwe with 10.6% and Zambia with 8.6%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Cape Business News. 2022. South Africa's trade surplus increases mainly due to an increase of precious metals and stone export. Available at: https://www.cbn.co.za/industry-news/international-trade/south-africas-trade-surplus-increases-mainly-due-to-an-increase-of-precious-metals-and-stones-export/. Accessed September 2022.



#### SIGNIFICANT PRODUCT GROWTH IN EXPORTS AND ANALYSIS

## Significant growth in waste and scrap of alloy steel

HS 72042900: Waste and scrap of alloy steel (excluding stainless steel, and waste and scrap, radioactive, or waste and scrap from batteries and electric accumulators)

Waste and scrap of alloy steel come from various sources such as manufacture or mechanical workings of metals and metal goods, which are not usable due to breakage, damage, wear or other reasons. Other sources of waste and scrap of alloy steel include old ship containers, car bodies, demolished buildings, and from home in the form of steel cans from food, pet food, aerosols and others which can easily be recycled. Reports of state infrastructure targeted as a source of metal that is on-sold as scrap by criminals, has recently seen the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the dtic) publish a notice with proposed measures to curb this. The destruction of infrastructure for scrap metal has imposed substantial costs to the economy. In 2020, the repair cost of infrastructure and restoration of disrupted services because of stolen copper was approximately R10 billion. Stolen steel lattices alone are estimated to have caused damage of R100 million in 2021. TIPS research on this issue is available here: *Measures to prevent theft of scrap metal*.

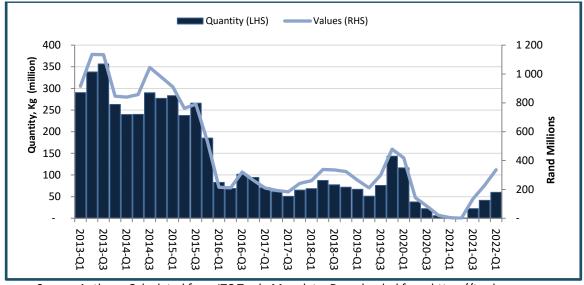
Over the past decade, South Africa's exports of waste and scrap of alloy steel peaked at 356 million kg in the third quarter of 2013, which was followed by a significant decline in export quantities as a result of the implementation of the price preference system in September 2013 with the objective of reducing the export of scrap for use in the domestic market<sup>8</sup> (also see TIPS Export Tracker Q4 2019). Export quantities reached levels as low as 918 kg in the second quarter of 2021 but have shown a slow but steady increase in the past three quarters, prompting further government responses. The first quarter of 2022 saw South Africa exporting 59.9 million kg of waste and scrap of alloy steel valued at R335 million, a significant increase compared to 900 kg worth R3.9 million exported in Q1 2021, representing a year-on-year growth of over 6000%.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Southern Africa's Freight News. 2022. Section XV: Base Metals and Articles of Base Metals. Available at: https://www.freightnews.co.za/customs/tariffs/194561/waste-and-scrap-alloy-steel. Accessed in August 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The dtic. 2022. [Government Gazette] Draft policy proposals on measures to restrict and regulate trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metals waste, scrap and semi-finished ferrous and non-ferrous metal products to limit damage to infrastructure and the economy. Available at: www.dtic.gov.za. Accessed in September 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The dtic. 2019. Proposed export duty on ferrous and non-ferrous waste and scrap. Available at: http://www.xa.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2019-10-18-ITAC-gazette-on-export-duties-on-scrap.pdf . Accessed in August 2022.





Graph 4: South Africa's exports of waste and scrap of alloy steel

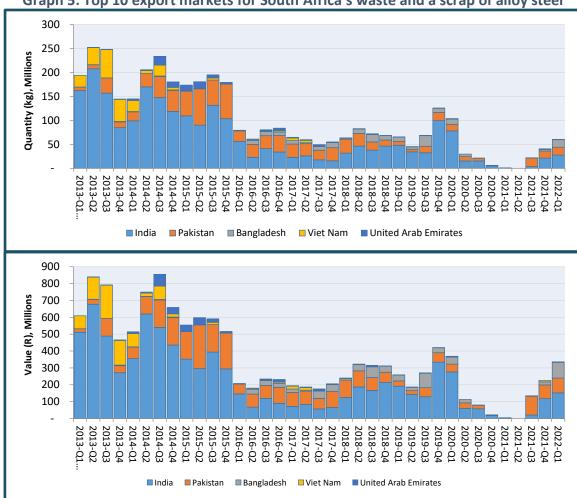
Source: Authors. Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from https://trademap.org and sars.gov.za. Accessed in August 2022.

In Q1 2022, the top export markets for South Africa's waste and scrap of alloy steel included India (46.3%), Pakistan (27%), Bangladesh (26%), Vietnam (0.4%) and United Arab Emirates (0.3%). The increased exports in South Africa's waste and scrap of alloy steel exports in the first quarter of 2022 takes place in the context of an increase in demand from all of its top export markets. There has also been a 28% increase in the unit price from R4.37/kg in Q1 2021 to R5.60/kg in Q1 2022.

All of South Africa's top export markets for waste and scrap of alloy steel experienced abnormally high growth in demand of over 5000%, with India showing the highest increase from 360 thousand kg valued at R1.6 million in Q1 2021 to 27 million kg worth R151 million in Q1 2022. Exports to Pakistan were up from 300 thousand kg valued at R1.3 million in Q1 2021 to 16 million kg worth R87 million in Q1 2022. South Africa's export trends on waste and scrap of alloy steel will be monitored in the following quarters following the recent gazette notice by the dtic that intends to combat metal theft. The gazette notice has proposed various phased measures to reduce metal theft, including a six-month export prohibition on all ferrous and non-ferrous waste; followed by an amendment to the regulations in the Second-Hand Goods Act No. 6 of 2009, implementation of a permit system for scrap exports, and a ban on the use of cash in the metal transactions.9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> the dtic. 2022. [Government Gazette] Draft policy proposals on measures to restrict and regulate trade in ferrous and non-ferrous metals waste, scrap and semi-finished ferrous and non-ferrous metal products to limit damage to infrastructure and the economy. Available at: www.dtic.gov.za. Accessed in September 2022.





Graph 5: Top 10 export markets for South Africa's waste and a scrap of alloy steel

Source: Authors. Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from https://trademap.org and sars.gov.za. Accessed in August 2022.

#### Significant growth in phosphate of calcium

HS 28352690: Phosphates of calcium (excluding calcium hydrogen orthophosphate "dicalcium phosphate"); other

Calcium phosphates are a family of compounds containing calcium and phosphates in varying ratios. Generally, calcium phosphates are used in calcium supplements, which build and maintain bone structure, maintain the pH balance in the blood, and assist in reducing stomach acidity.<sup>10</sup> Other industrial applications of calcium phosphates include the production of antacids, fragrances, phosphoric acid and fertilisers.<sup>11</sup>

South Africa's exports of calcium phosphates have fluctuated considerably over the past decade, reaching their peak in 2017 and thereafter plummeting to historic lows in 2019. However, since 2020, the exports of calcium phosphate have been on an upward trajectory (see Graph 6). In Q1 2022, South African exports of calcium phosphates

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> OEC. n.d. Calcium phosphates except hydrogen-orthophospgate. Available at: https://oec.world/en/profile/hs/calcium-phosphates-except-hydrogen-orthophosphate. Accessed in August 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Medical News Today. 2022. Calcium phosphate definition. Available at: https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/calcium-phosphate#definition. Accessed in August 2022.



increased by 103%, from 113 million kg valued at R195 million in Q1 2021 to 231 million kg valued at R573 million in Q1 2022. The increase in calcium phosphates exports is due to the elevated demand for the product from Netherlands and Lithuania, particularly in Q4 2021. While the evidence is unclear for the Netherlands, Lithuania's increased demand for calcium phosphates is likely for the use of fertilisers. This is because one of the largest phosphate fertiliser manufacturers in Europe – AB Lifosa – is located in Lithuania.

■ Qauntity (LHS) Value (RHS) 450 700 400 600 350 500 300 Qauntity, kg (million) 400 250 200 300 150 200 100 100 50 2015-Q3 2013-03 2020-03 2015-Q1 2017-Q1 2017-03 2018-Q1 2018-03 2020-Q1 2021-03 2012-Q3 2013-Q1 2014-Q3 2016-Q1 2012-Q1 2014-Q1 2021-Q1 2019-Q1

Graph 6: Exports of phosphates of calcium (excluding calcium hydrogen orthophosphate "dicalcium phosphate"); other

Source: Authors. Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from https://trademap.org and sars.gov.za. Accessed in August 2022.

The Netherlands is the largest export market for South Africa's exports of phosphates of calcium, accounting for 43% of total exports valued at R241 million in Q1 2022. Exports of calcium phosphates to the Netherlands have fluctuated considerably, with no exports recorded in some quarters. As aforementioned, the increase in exports of calcium is driven by strong demand for the product in the fourth quarter of 2021. Exports to the Netherlands experienced 81% growth from Q4 2021. Similarly, Lithuania, the second largest export market for South African calcium phosphates, recorded an increase of 120% over the same period. The rest of the market share for South Africa's calcium is split between Japan (16%), India (13%) and Belgium (4%) for the quarter under review.



400 000 350 000 Qauntity, kg (million) 300 000 250 000 200 000 150 000 100 000 50 000 2012-0.4 2013-0.1 2013-0.2 2013-0.2 2013-0.4 2014-0.1 2014-0.4 2014-0.4 2014-0.4 2015-0.1 2015-0.2 2016-Q3 2016-Q4 2017-Q2 2017-Q3 2017-Q4 2018-Q1 2018-Q2 2018-Q3 2018-Q4 2019-Q1 2019-Q2 2019-Q3 2017-Q1 2020-Q1 2020-Q2 ■ Netherlands ■ Lithuania ■ Japan ■ India ■ Botswana ■ Belgium ■ Zambia ■ Zimbabwe ■ Malawi ■ Congo, Democratic Republic of the 700 000 600 000 (R), millions 500 000 400 000 300 000 200 000 100 000 2017-02 2017-03 2017-04 2018-01 2018-02 2018-02 2018-04 2019-01 2019-02 2019-03 2012-02 2012-03 2012-04 2013-01 2013-01 2013-02 2013-04 2014-04 2014-04 2014-04 2014-03 2014-04 2015-03 2015-03 2015-Q4 2016-Q1 2016-Q2 2016-Q3 2016-Q4 2017-Q1 2019-Q4 2020-Q1 2020-Q2 2020-Q3 2020-Q4 2021-Q1 ■ Netherlands ■ Lithuania ■ Japan ■ India ■ Belgium ■ Botswana ■ 7amhia ■ Congo, Democratic Republic of the ■ Zimbabwe ■ Malawi

Graph 7: Top 10 export markets for South Africa's phosphates of calcium (excluding calcium hydrogen orthophosphate "dicalcium phosphate"); other

Source: Authors. Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from and sars.gov.za. Accessed in August 2022.

#### SIGNIFICANT SLUMPS AND ANALYSIS

### Significant slump in mineral or chemical nitrogen fertilisers

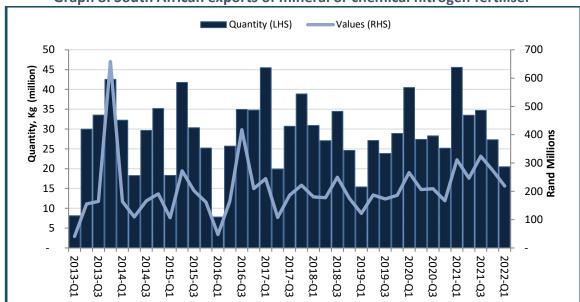
HS 31029000: Mineral or chemical nitrogen fertilisers (excluding urea; ammonium sulphate; ammonium nitrate; sodium nitrate; double salts and mixtures of ammonium nitrate with ammonium sulphate or calcium; mixtures of urea and ammonium nitrate in aqueous or ammoniacal solution; mixtures of ammonium nitrate and calcium carbonate or other non-fertilising inorganic elements; in tablets or similar in packages <= 10 kg)

Mineral fertilisers, also known as chemical fertilisers, are not fully produced from natural materials but result from a chemical process. Mineral or chemical nitrogen fertilisers are made from ammonia, produced from a chemical process known as the Haber-Bosch



process.<sup>12</sup> The use of mineral or chemical nitrogen fertiliser is linked to an increased supply of food, feed and other bio-based raw materials. However, the use of nitrogen fertiliser is also associated with negative environmental effects and has contributed to the depletion of fossil fuel reserves with ongoing efforts to produce green ammonia underway (see Patel, 2020).<sup>13</sup>

South Africa's mineral or chemical nitrogen exports fell in the first quarter of 2022, declining by 55% from 45 million kg valued at R311 million in Q1 2021 to 20 million kg worth R218 million in Q1 2022. With the exports of overall fertilisers up by 53.6 % year-on-year, this decline is likely due to importers switching to cheaper fertilisers. For instance, over the same period, exports of ammonium sulphate, which are R1.47/kg cheaper than chemical nitrogen, experienced a growth of 438%, from four million kg valued at R23 million to 13 million kg valued at R123 million.



Graph 8: South African exports of mineral or chemical nitrogen fertiliser

Source: Authors. Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from https://trademap.org and sars.gov.za in August 2022.

The top five export markets account for 98% of South Africa's total export quantity of mineral or chemical nitrogen fertiliser, with Zambia accounting for 50.5%, followed by Zimbabwe (25.1%), Namibia (8.1%), Eswatini (7.6%) and Botswana (6.7%). The decrease in demand from Zambia has had a significant impact on South Africa's mineral nitrogen fertiliser exports. As presented in Graph 9, South Africa's mineral nitrogen exports to Zambia have steadily declined over the past four quarters, falling by 71% from 35.9 million kg valued at R242 million in Q1 2021 to 10.3 million kg worth R108 million in Q1 2022. A 56% increase in the unit price from R6.83/kg in Q1 2021 to R10.69/kg in

<sup>13</sup> Patel, M. 2020. Green Hydrogen: A potential export commodity in a new global marketplace. Available from www.tips.org.za.

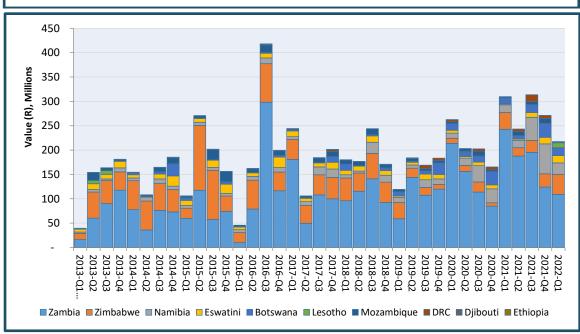
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Haber–Bosch process is an artificial nitrogen fixation process and is the main industrial procedure for the production of ammonia today.



Q1 2022 could be among the driving factors for declining demand. Export quantities to Namibia fell by 22.6%, from 2.1 million in Q1 2021 to 1.6 million kg in Q1 2022. According to secondary sources, it is expected that the price of fertiliser will continue on an increasing trend sustained by the war in Ukraine, as Ukraine and Russia together export 28% of fertilisers made from nitrogen and phosphorous. Farmers are likely to reduce the use of fertiliser in crop production as a response to higher price increases. <sup>14</sup> Therefore, the product will be monitored in the next quarters to see if this trend persists.

50 45 Quantity (kg), Millions 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 2014-Q1 2013-Q4 2013-Q3 2015-Q4 2015-Q3 2015-Q2 2015-Q1 2014-Q4 2014-Q3 2016-Q1 2016-Q2 2019-Q3 2019-Q1 2018-Q4 2018-Q3 2018-Q3 2018-Q2 2018-Q1 2017-Q4 2017-Q3 2017-Q2 2017-Q3 2017-Q3 2017-Q3 2017-Q1 2016-Q4 2022-Q1 2021-Q4 2021-Q3 2021-Q2 2021-Q1 2020-Q4 2020-Q3 2020-Q2 2014-Q2 2019-Q4 ■ Zambia ■ Zimbabwe ■ Namibia ■ Eswatini ■ Botswana ■ Lesotho ■ Mozambique ■ DRC ■ Djibouti ■ Ethiopia

Graph 9: South Africa's top 10 export markets for mineral or chemical nitrogen fertiliser



Source: Authors. Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from https://trademap.org and sars.gov.za in August 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Food price tracker (11th monthly publication), Market Observatory of the Centre for Competition, Regulation and Economic Development, at the University of Johannesburg, March 2022.

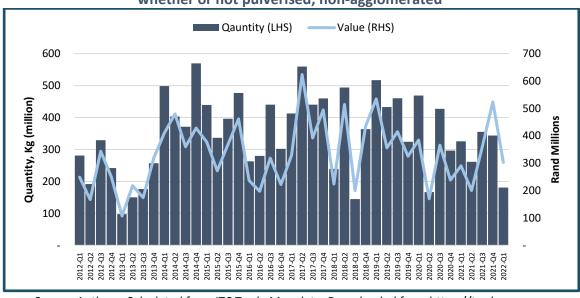


### Significant slump in anthracite, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated

HS: 27011100 Anthracite, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated

Anthracite is the highest-ranked coal. When not pulverised it is a lump of a hard, shiny, black and brittle rock-like material. Compared to other ranks of coal, such as bituminous or lignite, anthracite contains the highest fixed carbon content, low-moisture content and low volatile material, making it the highest energy density coal. It is usually used in specialised industrial processes, particularly those that require low smoke fuel. Historically, anthracite has been used in blast furnaces and other typical coal processes. However, unlike the lower-ranked coals, anthracite is rare coal and is thus often used in specialised processes.

Overall, South Africa's anthracite exports have fluctuated considerably over the past decade. In Q1 2022, anthracite exports by quantity declined by 44%, from 326 million kg valued at R290 million in Q1 2021 to 181 million kg valued at R302 million in Q1 2022. However, the value of exports is higher for the quarter under review because of the increase in anthracite prices. The unit price of anthracite increased from R0.90/kg in Q1 2021 to R2.15/kg in Q1 2022. The current quarterly performance is also not impressive as exports of anthracite declined by 47% from Q4 2021. This decline is attributable to subdued demand from Brazil, which generally accounts for about a third of South African exports of anthracite.



Graph 10: South African exports of anthracite, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated

Source: Authors. Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from https://trademap.org and sars.gov.za in August 2022.

In Q1 2022, the top export markets for South Africa's anthracite included India (33%), Brazil (25%), Ukraine (22%) and Eswatini (18%). The significant decline in exports of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Grammelis, P., Margaritis, N. and Karampinis, E., 2016. Solid fuel types for energy generation: Coal and fossil carbon-derivative solid fuels. In Fuel flexible energy generation (pp. 29-58). Woodhead Publishing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Di Gianfrancesco, A., 2017. The fossil fuel power plants technology. In Materials for ultra-supercritical and advanced ultra-supercritical power plants (pp. 1-49). Woodhead publishing.



anthracite in Q1 2022 was mainly declining demand from the previous largest importer – Brazil. In the previous quarters, Brazil was consistently the largest export market for South Africa's anthracite. From Q1 2021 to Q1 2022, the quantity of anthracite exported to Brazil declined 55%, from 106 million kg in Q1 2021 to 45 million kg in Q1 2022. The quarterly export performance is equally poor, with anthracite exports to Brazil declining by 55% from Q4 2022. Furthermore, there is no annual growth for exports to India, given that South Africa did not increase anthracite exports to the country in Q1 2021 and Q2 2021. Nonetheless, some growth in India took place during the last quarter, whereby exports to India increased between Q4 2021 and Q1 2022 by 18%.

600 Quantity, kg ( million) 500 400 300 200 100 2015-Q3 2015-Q4 2016-Q3 2016-Q4 2017-03 2017-04 2018-01 2018-02 2018-03 2018-04 2016-Q1 2016-Q2 2019-Q3 2019-Q4 2017-Q1 India Brazil ■ Ukraine Eswatini ■ Saudi Arabia ■ United Arab Emirates ■ Namibia ■ Syrian Arab Republic ■ Madagascar ■ Mauritius 700 600 500 Rand Million 400 300 200 100 2012-Q1 2012-03 2013-Q1 2013-03 2014-Q1 2014-Q3 2015-01 2015-03 2016-Q1 2016-Q3 2017-Q1 2017-03 2018-03 2019-Q1 2019-Q3 2020-Q1 2020-03 2021-Q1 2021-Q3 2022-Q1 ■ India ■ Brazil ■ Ukraine Eswatini ■ United Arab Emirates ■ Namibia Saudi Arabia ■ Syrian Arab Republic ■ Madagascar ■ Zimbabwe

Graph 11: South Africa's top 10 export markets for anthracite, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated

Source: Authors. Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from https://trademap.org and sars.gov.za in August 2022.



## **Annexure**

Table A1: South Africa's Top 50 exports by value, Q1 2022

ank	HS Code	Product Description	Export Value	Growth rate (%)	
			2021-Q1	2022-Q1	
	'71	+-Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad	101 974 751	105 265 696	3.2%
	'26	Ores, slag and ash	67 481 691	69 195 858	2.5%
	'27	Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral	31 476 800	48 883 458	55.3%
	'87	Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling stock, and parts and accessories thereof	39 042 795	42 148 467	8.0%
	'72	Iron and steel	20 245 909	26 786 486	32.3%
	'84	Machinery, mechanical appliances, nuclear reactors, boilers; parts thereof	22 760 897	24 912 852	9.5%
	'08	Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons	14 088 985	15 400 222	9.3%
	'76	Aluminium and articles thereof	6 336 644	7 380 811	16.5%
	'75	Nickel and articles thereof	1 961 708	6 993 192	256.59
	'85	Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television	5 688 785	6 357 974	11.8%
	'39	Plastics and articles thereof	5 327 475	5 931 329	11.3%
	'29	Organic chemicals	4 630 089	5 877 850	26,9%
	'10	Cereals	2 561 402	5 515 332	115.39
	'22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	4 318 395	5 013 535	16.1%
	'28	Inorganic chemicals; organic or inorganic compounds of precious metals, of rare-earth metals,	3 631 226	4 943 306	36.1%
	'73	Articles of iron or steel	3 723 053	4 841 255	30.0%
	'38	Miscellaneous chemical products	9 429 937	4 472 756	-52.6%
	'30	Pharmaceutical products	1 737 084	4 339 518	149.89
	'47	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or	2 660 170	3 397 679	27.7%
	'74	Copper and articles thereof	3 437 536	3 388 496	-1.4%



1				
'25	Salt; sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement	1 952 912	2 654 550	35.9%
'33	Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery, cosmetic or toilet preparations	2 058 845	2 317 421	12.6%
'20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants	2 732 477	2 314 989	-15.3%
'44	Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal	1 901 771	2 191 522	15.2%
'31	Fertilisers	1 411 045	2 167 372	53.6%
'90	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical	2 022 736	2 107 912	4.2%
'48	Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard	2 019 924	2 102 233	4.1%
'15	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal	6 184 581	1 980 322	-68.0%
'21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	1 852 829	1 962 394	5.9%
'03	Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates	2 053 205	1 854 287	-9.7%
'34	Soap, organic surface-active agents, washing preparations, lubricating preparations, artificial	1 447 064	1 798 814	24.3%
'40	Rubber and articles thereof	1 400 754	1 753 626	25.2%
'99	Commodities not elsewhere specified	561 791	1 599 107	184.6%
'51	Wool, fine or coarse animal hair; horsehair yarn and woven fabric	1 799 877	1 484 973	-17.5%
'12	Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal	1 061 417	1 391 591	31.1%
'23	Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder	966 479	1 307 075	35.2%
'32	Tanning or dyeing extracts; tannins and their derivatives; dyes, pigments and other colouring	1 025 668	1 287 184	25.5%
'02	Meat and edible meat offal	1 011 174	1 261 464	24.8%
'94	Furniture; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions and similar stuffed furnishings;	946 421	1 176 389	24.3%
'19	Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; pastrycooks' products	1 009 244	1 151 529	14.1%
'04	Dairy produce; birds' eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere	911 015	927 491	1.8%
'81	Other base metals; cermets; articles thereof	473 868	923 957	95.0%
'07	Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers	958 806	883 435	-7.9%
'61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	823 586	838 957	1.9%
'88	Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof	1 203 877	817 768	-32.1%
	The state of the s		I.	



'41	Raw hides and skins (other than furskins) and leather	619 709	802 453	29.5%
'82	Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof of base metal	579 905	796 865	37.4%
'17	Sugars and sugar confectionery	934 140	786 655	-15.8%
'11	Products of the milling industry; malt; starches; inulin; wheat gluten	1 024 711	776 280	-24.2%
'86	Railway or tramway locomotives, rolling stock and parts thereof; railway or tramway track fixtures	567 131	704 480	24.2%
'62	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	690 206	692 911	0.4%

Table A2: Top 50 exports of goods, by quantity with explanations, Q1 2022

No	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	MAJOR IMPORTER	EXPLANATION	2021-Q1	2022-Q1	UNIT	PERCENT GROWTH	CHANGE IN RANK
1	'27011200	Bituminous coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	India	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance. No change in rank.	15 406 829 216	16 849 841 456	Kilograms	9.4%	0
2	'26011200	Agglomerated iron ores and concentrates (excluding roasted iron pyrites)	China	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance. No change in rank.	10 039 882 857	10 199 639 601	Kilograms	1.6%	0
3	'26011100	Non-agglomerated iron ores and concentrates (excluding roasted iron pyrites)	China	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance. No change in rank.	6 043 731 470	6 304 844 326	Kilograms	4.3%	0
4	'26020000	Manganese ores and concentrates, incl. ferruginous manganese ores and concentrates, with a	China	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance. No change in rank.	5 161 231 376	5 745 423 350	Kilograms	11.3%	0
5	'26100000	Chromium ores and concentrates	China	Increase in quantity exported is within	3 438 802 661	3 927 752 485	Kilograms	14.2%	0



				normal variance. No change in rank.					
6	'27011900	Coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated (excluding anthracite and bituminous coal)	India	Significant increase in quantity exported. Product was analysed in previous trackers.	143 873 886	1 156 862 410	Kilograms	704.1%	17
7	'72024100	Ferro-chromium, containing by weight > 4% of carbon	China	Decrease in quantity exported is very significant and should be seen against the increase in chrome ore exports.	1 245 733 921	864 809 537	Kilograms	-30.6%	-1
8	'10059090	Maize (excluding seed for sowing): Other	Taipei	Significant increase in quantity exported. The product was analysed in the previous tracker.	307 608 570	769 450 919	Kilograms	150.1%	7
9	'44012200	Wood in chips or particles (excluding those of a kind used principally for dying or tanning	Japan	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	438 774 403	467 390 140	Kilograms	6.5%	3
10	'08061000	Fresh grapes	Netherlands	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	283 487 690	309 461 783	Kilograms	9.2%	6
11	'27101235	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which >= 90% by volume "including	Ship stores and bunkers	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	236 077 680	248 650 116	Litres	5.3%	9
12	'47020000	Chemical wood pulp, dissolving grades	India	Decrease in quantity exported is	239 838 446	235 887 439	Kilograms	-1.6%	7



				within normal variance.					
13	28352690	Phosphates of calcium (excluding calcium hydrogen orthophosphate "dicalcium phosphate"): Other	Netherlands	Significant increase in quantity exported. The product selected for analysis.	113 612 935	231 177 468	Kilograms	103.5%	15
14	'27101202	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which >= 90% by volume "including	Botswana	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance.	262 487 347	227 400 497	Litres	-13.4%	3
15	'27101230	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which >= 90% by volume "including	Botswana	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance.	227 772 984	216 006 322	Litres	-5.2%	6
16	'25232900	Portland cement (excluding white, whether or not artificially coloured)	Botswana	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance. Small change in rank.	254 352 770	182 321 060	Kilograms	-28.3%	2
17	'27011100	Anthracite, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	India / Brazil	Significant decline in quantity exported. Product selected for analysis	325 617 218	180 758 363	Kilograms	-44.5%	-3
18	'26140000	Titanium ores and concentrates	US.	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	157 577 064	172 753 576	Kilograms	9.6%	4
19	'10059010	Maize (excluding seed for sowing): Dried kernels or grains fit for human consumption, not further	Vietnam	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	115 146 699	152 675 706	Kilograms	32.6%	8



20	'72011000	Non-alloy pig iron in pigs, blocks or other primary forms, containing, by weight, <= 0,5% of	Netherlands	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	101 797 915	152 111 931	Kilograms	49.4%	12
21	'25101000	Natural calcium phosphates and natural aluminium calcium phosphates, natural and phosphatic	Belgium	There is no sufficient data to make an analysis. However, natural calcium export growth should be seen in the context of growth of other phosphates, given that they have similar applications, particularly in the production of fertilisers.	3 864	149 973 409	Kilograms	3881199.4%	4225
22	'76011000	Aluminium, not alloyed, unwrought	Netherlands	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance.	117 710 634	147 210 905	Kilograms	25.1%	3
23	'36036000	Electric detonators (excl. grenade detonators)	Ghana	First time the product is exported. Consider monitoring.	-	117 665 931	N/A	0	6751
24	'26080000	Zinc ores and concentrates	China	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance. No change in rank.	122 854 530	111 537 340	Kilograms	-9.2%	0
25	'71039900	Precious and semi-precious stones, worked, whether or not graded, but not strung, mounted or	US	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance.	107 126 889	107 056 785	Carats	-0.1%	6



26	'26180000	Granulated slag (slag sand) from the manufacture of iron or steel	US	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance. Small change in rank.	111 171 471	104 250 985	Kilograms	-6.2%	4
27	'10019900	Wheat and meslin (excluding seed for sowing, and durum wheat)	Lesotho	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	57 887 887	102 878 659	Kilograms	77.7%	16
28	'08081000	Fresh apples	Bangladesh	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	84 310 823	100 406 396	Kilograms	19.1%	9
29	'27101207	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals which >= 90% by volume "including	Ship stores and bunkers	Significant increase in quantity exported. Analysis was completed in Q4 2021.	28 410 840	94 795 244	Litres	233.7%	42
30	'08083000	Fresh pears	Netherlands	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance. Small change in rank.	85 094 585	90 740 429	Kilograms	6.6%	6
31	'26151000	Zirconium ores and concentrates	China	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance. Small change in rank.	111 370 532	88 911 579	Kilograms	-20.2%	-2
32	'44011100	Fuel wood, in logs, billets, twigs, faggots or similar forms, coniferous	Eswatini	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	66 321 082	85 772 487	Kilograms	29.3%	9
33	'29012900	Hydrocarbons, acyclic, unsaturated (excluding ethylene, propene "propylene", butene "butylene"	US	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance. No change in rank.	94 941 547	82 511 072	Kilograms	-13.1%	0



34	'25161100	Granite, crude or roughly trimmed (excluding already with the characteristics of setts, curbstones	Italy	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	53 425 122	75 987 417	Kilograms	42.2%	15
35	'25301000	Vermiculite, perlite and chlorites, unexpanded	Mozambique	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance.	116 452 429	71 927 875	Kilograms	-38.2%	-9
36	'72044900	Waste and scrap of iron or steel (excluding slag, scale and other waste of the production of	India	Significant increase in quantity exported. Product was analysed in the previous tracker.	26 709 552	69 355 187	Kilograms	159.7%	41
37	'28092090	Phosphoric acid; polyphosphoric acids, whether or not chemically defined: other	Netherlands	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	49 781 466	64 367 232	0	29.3%	14
38	'39021090	Polypropylene, in primary forms: other	Nigeria	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance.	85 905 587	64 183 485	0	-25.3%	-3
39	'08094000	Fresh plums and sloes	Netherlands	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	57 734 943	63 768 574	Kilograms	10.5%	5
40	'25231000	Cement clinkers	Lesotho	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	56 257 178	60 978 153	Kilograms	8.4%	6
41	'27012000	Briquettes, ovoids and similar solid fuels manufactured from coal	Mozambique	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	30 954 114	60 489 621	Kilograms	95.4%	24
42	'72042900	Waste and scrap of alloy steel (excluding stainless steel, and waste and scrap, radioactive,	India	Significant increase in quantity exported. Product	900 138	59 979 417	Kilograms	6563.4%	610



				selected for analysis.					
43	'22042941	Wine of fresh grapes, incl. fortified wines, and grape must whose fermentation has been arrested	United Kingdom	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	41 548 422	59 804 307	litres	43.9%	15
44	'44031100	Wood in the rough, treated with paint, stains, creosote or other preservatives, coniferous	US	Data error.	36 547	56 830 646	Cubic meters	155400.2%	2479
45	'25132000	Emery; natural corundum, natural garnet and other natural abrasives, whether or not heat-treated	US	Significant increase in quantity exported. Product was selected in the previous quarter.	7 638 734	56 379 721	Kilograms	638.1%	122
46	'25030000	Sulphur of all kinds (excluding sublimed sulphur, precipitated sulphur and colloidal sulphur)	Zambia	Decrease in quantity exported is within normal variance.	54 810 340	54 108 154	Kilograms	-1.3%	1
47	'31023000	Ammonium nitrate, whether or not in aqueous solution (excluding that in pellet or similar forms,	Zambia	Increase in quantity exported is within normal variance.	38 388 325	51 700 612	Kilograms	34.7%	13
48	'23040000	Oilcake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting	Zimbabwe	Significant increase in quantity exported. Product was selected in the previous quarter.	23 223 419	50 931 523	Kilograms	119.3%	35
49	'10051000	Maize seed for sowing	Italy	Significant decline in quantity exported. Product was selected for analysis in the previous quarters.	86 887 833	50 048 199	Kilograms	-42.4%	-15



50	'72104990	Flat-rolled products of iron	Belgium	Increase in quantity	33 903 109	49 994 991	0	47.5%	12
		or non-alloy steel, of a		exported is within					
		width of >= 600 mm, hot-		normal variance.					
		rolled or cold-rolled							

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				
'36036000	Electric detonators (excl. grenade detonators)	This is the first time the product was exported by South Africa, and most of it was going to Ghana.	Analyse growth patterns over the coming quarters.				
'72024100	Ferro-chromium, containing by weight > 4% of carbon	This is significant decrease in quantity exported in Q1 2022, particularly exports to China.	Analyse the patterns in the next quarters to check if the patterns continues.				
Data errors or issues and updates							
'44031100	Wood in the rough, treated with paint, stains, creosote or other preservatives, coniferous	Reporting error. Abnormal increase in quantity exported by 1555400.2% from Q1 2021 to Q2 2022. However, there is no corresponding increase in value over the same period. Mirror data is not available to cross-reference the data.	N/A				