Import Tracker
Quarter 2 2018

Report prepared for the Department of Trade and Industry

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Trade & Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS) is a research organisation that facilitates policy development and dialogue across three focus areas: trade and industrial policy, inequality and economic inclusion, and sustainable growth

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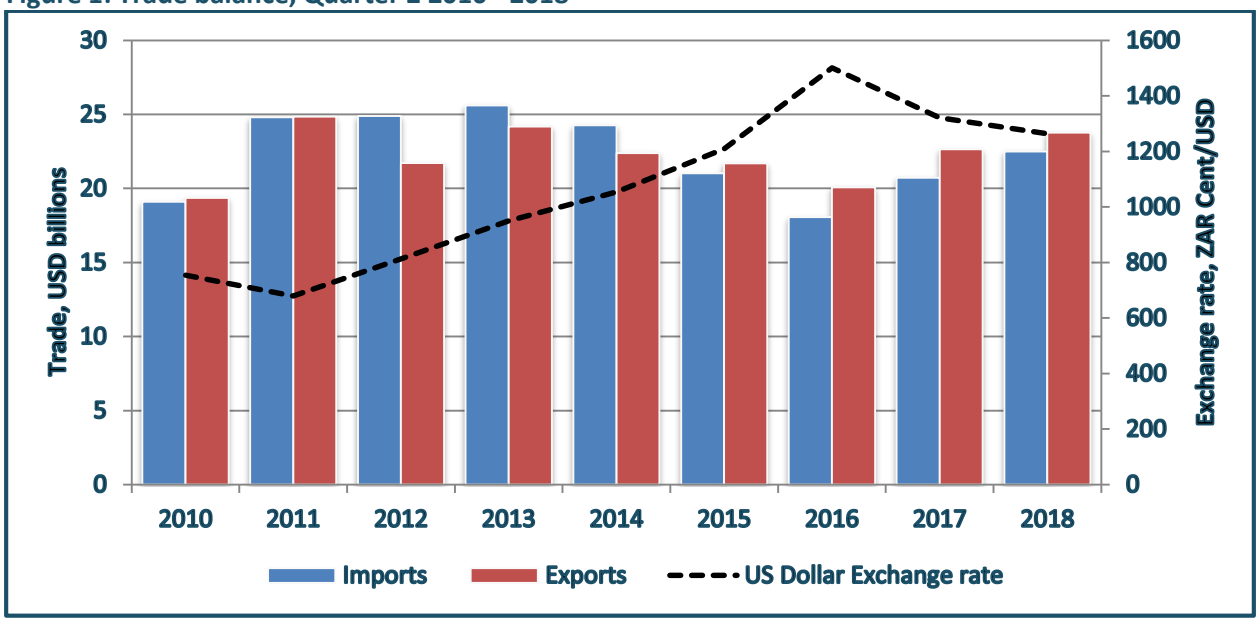
Trade context

Quarter 2 2018 continued a trend of general recovery in trade volumes, which began in 2016. In common with the previous three years, 2018 also featured a trade surplus for the quarter, although the 5% surplus is lower than the previous two years (8% in 2017, and 10% in 2016). Year-on-year growth for imports for the quarter was 9%, while exports grew 5% over the same period, indicating a progressive narrowing of the trade surplus. This may be in part driven by the continuing strengthening of the Rand. Export growth was primarily driven by growth in platinum, manganese, and inorganic chemical exports; although machinery, aluminium, and plastics also contributed to growth. Two key manufacturing sectors – vehicles and iron and steel – both experienced declining exports year-on-year for the quarter.

Figure 1: Trade balance, Quarter 2 2010 - 2018



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

Almost half (48%) of import growth was driven by increases in petroleum imports. “Printed books, newspapers, pictures and other products of the printing industry” was the second largest contributor to import growth for the quarter, although the 898% year-on-year growth is almost exclusively driven by the unusual high level of imports of “Unused postage, revenue or similar stamps” (HS 49070010), which is discussed under the major imports section. Machinery (11% growth), plastics (5% growth) and pharmaceutical (5% growth) imports also saw significant growth on a year-on-year basis.

Major imports

A list of South Africa’s 100 largest import commodities by value is included as Annex 1. The ranking is dominated by seven categories of products: petroleum and other liquid fuels, ICT equipment (including cellphones and computers), automotive and automotive components, aircrafts and aircraft components, medical equipment, major production metals (such as copper and aluminium), and select food and beverage products (such as rice and chemical inputs).

“Unused postage, revenue or similar stamps” (HS 49070010), has seen unusually high levels of imports in the last few quarters. The item is now the fifth largest import item by value, and has moved up 3 959 places in the ranking of import products since Q2 2017. This has now been joined by a surge in “Coin of legal tender” (HS 71189000), which surged 1 833 places in the ranking of imports by value, and seems to be linked to the existing surge in imports of denominated paper. Analysis of both products can be found in Finding 1 in the next section.

Import surges

The 50 product lines with the most rapid growth in import quantity are listed in Annex 2. The table summarises the reason for the surges, and highlights where further analysis will be completed. Analysis of import surges can be found in the following section.

Explanation of import surges

Finding 1: Surges continue in Portland cement, paper products, fertiliser, and denominated paper

The report for Quarter 1 2018 identified five import surges for further monitoring, as highlighted in Table 1.

Table 1: Ongoing monitoring of import surges from Q1 2018

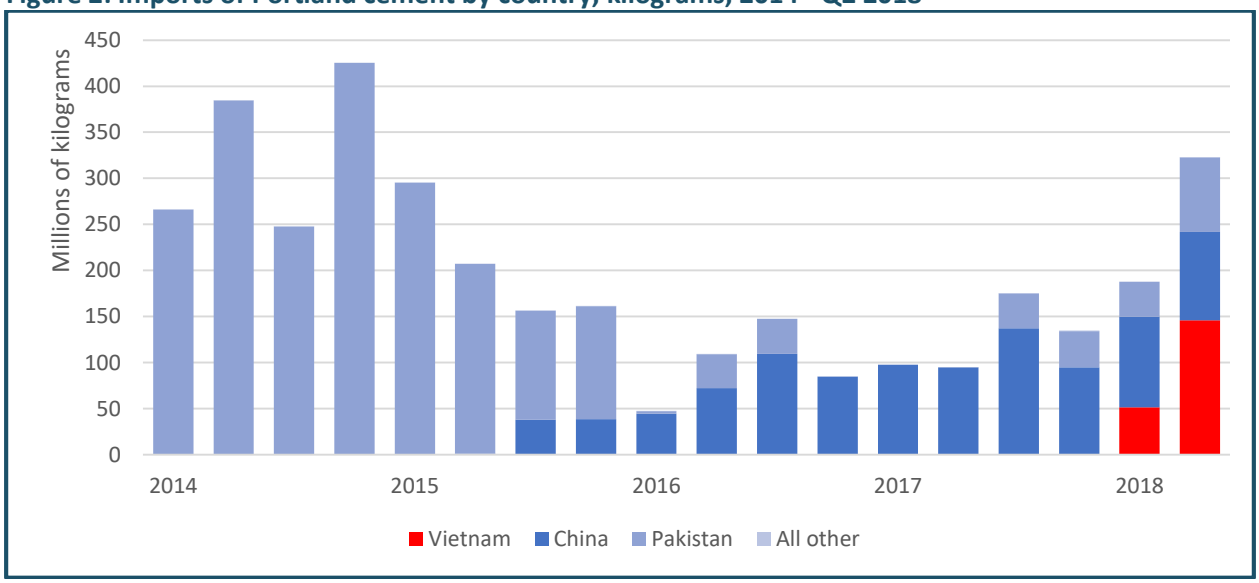
HS Code	Description	Status of surge	Explanation
25232900	Portland cement	Accelerating	Lifting of Vietnamese export restrictions on cement exposes South Africa to Vietnamese overproduction.
49070010	Denominated paper	Ongoing	Unexplained nine-month trend that requires attention. Ongoing surge represents a money laundering risk.
Various	Specialist paper products	Accelerating	Restructuring at Mondi, with a shift in certain products to import from Russia. The trend is likely to continue in the foreseeable future, and includes a surge in a new product line: kraftliner paper.
Various	Fertiliser inputs	Ongoing	Likely due to shifting demand patterns in the agricultural sector, as well as seasonal demand for fertiliser.
71102900	Processed palladium	Slowing	A large surge in processed palladium imports has slowed significantly.

Two ongoing surges remain particularly important: imports of Portland cement and denominated paper, a shorthand way of referring to postage stamps, revenue stamps, banknotes, and other paper products that have a specific value.

Portland cement imports accelerated significantly in Quarter 2 2018, with most of the change being driven by surging imports from Vietnam, as can be seen in Figure 2. As noted in the report for Quarter 1, this appears to be driven by the January 2018 lifting of an export tax by Vietnamese authorities, as well as the establishment of a VAT rebate programme for Vietnamese cement exporters. Both initiatives aim to promote exports, and alleviate chronic overproduction in the Vietnamese cement sector. While the average import price for cement remained largely unchained in Q2, Vietnamese cement saw a 38% decline in average import price – although further data is needed before this can be established as a trend of declining prices.

The Q2 figures seem to indicate that the surge was not a once-off occurrence, and may indicate the start of a long-term presence for Vietnamese cement firms in the local market. With China maintaining its import level, and imports from Pakistan accelerating to levels not seen since the implementation of anti-dumping tariffs, the Vietnamese surge risks displacing local production.

Figure 2: Imports of Portland cement by country, kilograms, 2014 - Q2 2018

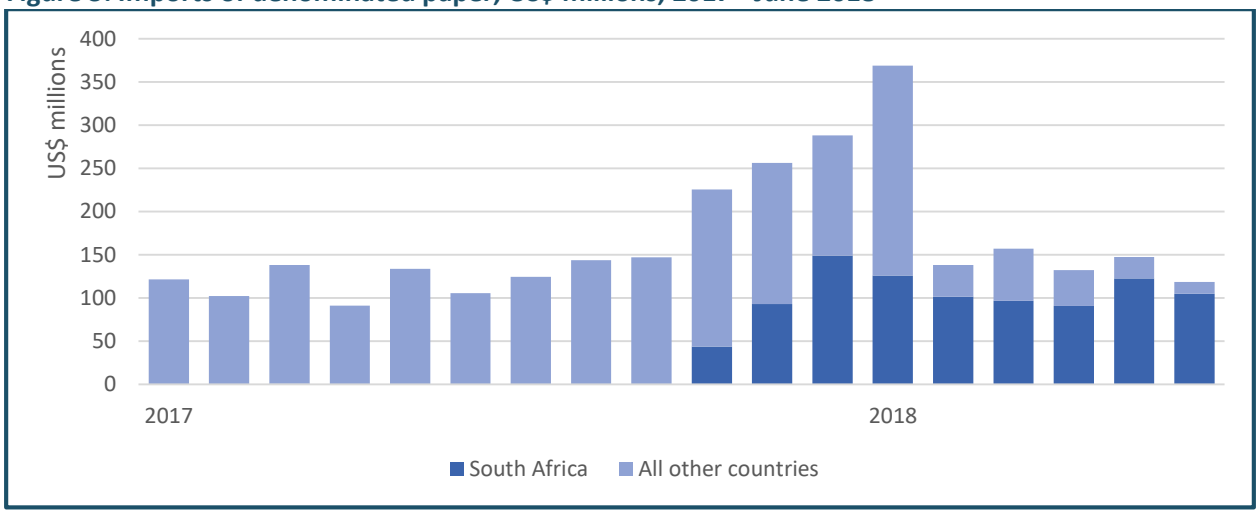


Source: Author's working based on ITC Trade Map data

Q2 continues to see a major role for denominated paper, which is now the fifth largest import commodity by value. This strange import trend has been ongoing for nine months, largely without explanation. For the past five quarters, South African imports of this HS code have been significantly larger than the rest of the world combined, as can be seen in Figure 3. For the first time, Quarter 2 saw a matching spike in "Coin of legal tender", which is similarly highly unusual.

One possible explanation for the imports could be US dollars entering the country en route to Zimbabwe, to support the dual currency system. However, this does not reflect in the export data, and would require better alignment between the way these movements of cash are captured. This would also not align with official Zimbabwean policy, which is to issue bond notes rather than rely further on US dollars. Regardless, there is no clear explanation for what currently seems to be an average of $100 million entering the country on a monthly basis.

Figure 3: Imports of denominated paper, US$ millions, 2017 - June 2018



Source: Author's working based on ITC Trade Map data

Surges in specialist paper products, notably newsprint, continue as expected, as restructuring at Mondi has likely changed the long-term import pattern of this product. A new surge in paper products, namely kraftliner (also known as containerboard) from Poland, may also be linked to restructuring at Mondi. The company's major containerboard operation is located in the Northern Polish town of Świecie, and recently received a €94 million investment, aimed at "providing 100 000 tonnes per annum of softwood pulp forward integrated to 80 000 tonnes per annum of lightweight kraftliner and increased share of kraft top liner".[1] Reorganisation of Mondi's South African containerboard operation, which is produced at the Richards Bay plant, was announced in October 2017, when "containerboard operations of South Africa were merged into Packaging Paper".[2] While this shift cannot be confirmed at this time, there is nevertheless reason to believe Mondi's continued reorganisation may be driving the surge in kraftliner imports.

Table 2: Possible restructuring of Mondi production

HS code	Description	Mondi brand name	South Africa location	Import location
48010000	Newsprint	IQ/Maestro	Merebank	Syktyvkar
47032100	Bleached chemical wood pulp	Baycel	Richards Bay	Syktyvkar
48041100	Unbleached kraftliner (containerboard)	ProVantage Kraftliner	Richards Bay	Świecie, Poland

Fertiliser inputs continue to grow, with monocalcium phosphate experiencing the most rapid growth for the quarter. Ongoing fertiliser imports are likely related to shifting agricultural demand, with high seasonality in the data being one possible explanation. Imports of semi-processed palladium, which experienced a highly unusual surge in Quarter 1, slowed in Q2. While imports are slightly above trend, they are only 7% of the import levels seen in Quarter 1 2018.

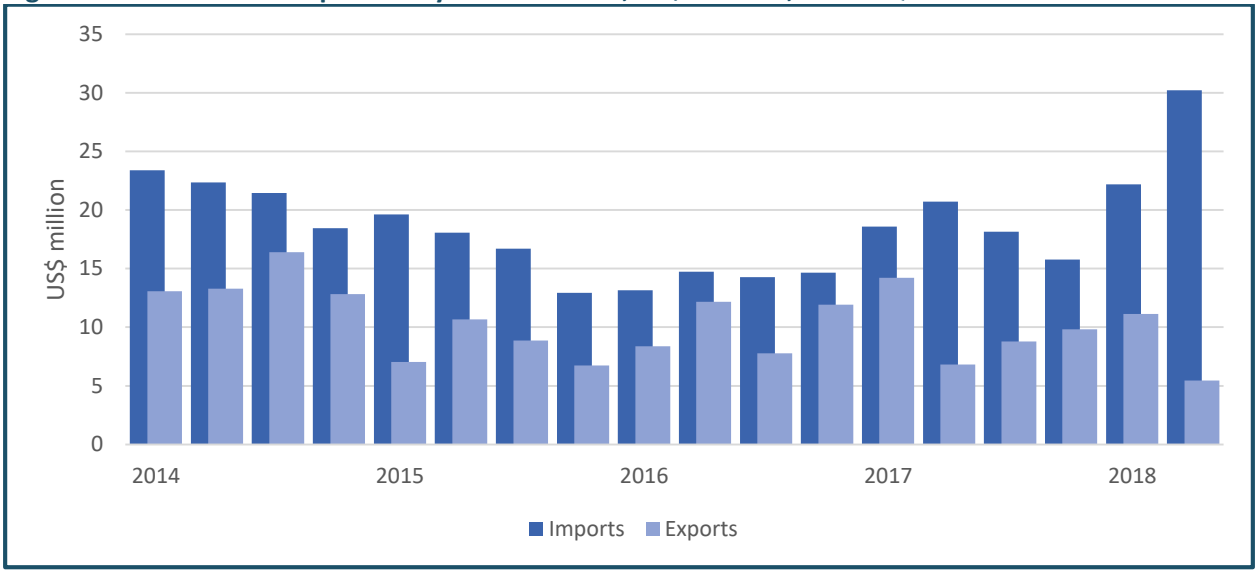
Finding 2: Surges in Styrene-butadiene rubber likely results from the closure of Karbochem

Styrene-butadiene (SBR) are a category of synthetic rubbers primarily used in the manufacture of tyres. The product is the most heavily imported of the numerous synthetic rubber compounds used in South Africa, and comprises over 50% of the country's synthetic rubber bundle. Eight percent of both natural and synthetic rubber used in South Africa in turns feeds into the tyre industry, which is underpinned by six firms across three locations: Port Elizabeth (Continental, Bridgestone and Goodyear), Ladysmith (Sumitomo and Dunlop), and Brits (Bridgestone). While these firms have always relied on a mix of imports and local production of synthetic rubber, the past two quarters have seen a rapid deterioration of the balance of trade in the broader synthetic rubber space, as can be seen in Figure 4. Total synthetic rubber imports have increased 46% year-on-year to Quarter 2, while imports of SBR specifically have increased by 108% over the same period.

[1] Mondi group, "Our history", https://www.mondigroup.com/en/about-mondi/our-history/

[2] Mondi group, "Trading update 11 October 2017", https://www.mondigroup.com/media/8544/mondi-trading-update-october-2017-10-oct-vfinal.pdf

Figure 4: South African imports of synthetic rubber, US$ millions, 2014 - Q2 2018



Source: Author's working based on ITC Trade Map data

While the causes of the spike in synthetic rubber production cannot be clearly confirmed, it is likely that the surge results from the ongoing closure of the country's only synthetic rubber producer, Karbochem. The company previously had the capacity to produce 10 000 metric tons/year of solution-grade styrene butadiene rubber, 34 000 metric tons/year of emulsion-grade styrene-butadiene rubber, and 47 000 metric tons/year of polybutadiene rubber.[3] The company employed 400 people across its two sites in Newcastle and Sasolburg.[4]

In April 2018, Karbochem informed suppliers and clients of its intention to cease the production of synthetic rubber at both sites, citing aging equipment and an economic environment that was not conducive to the level of investment needed to keep the two facilities viable. Both are older facilities, with infrastructure largely dating back to apartheid-era efforts to promote synthetic rubber manufacture to offset the impact of international isolation. Karbochem plans to exit the synthetic rubber market entirely, with chairman Abraham Brink noting that this "process necessarily includes the shutdown of the manufacturing facilities in Sasolburg and Newcastle, which in turn will result in job losses not only in the production units themselves but all departments of the company."[5] This will result in the loss of 250 jobs, 130 in the Newcastle plant and 120 in Sasolburg.

Finding 3: Surges in beer and malt may result from changes in Heineken's production structure

Imports of beer and malt for the manufacture of beer both surged in Quarter 2 2018, growing by 131% and 108% respectively. Shifts in the import market for alcohol are often difficult to explain, and are at

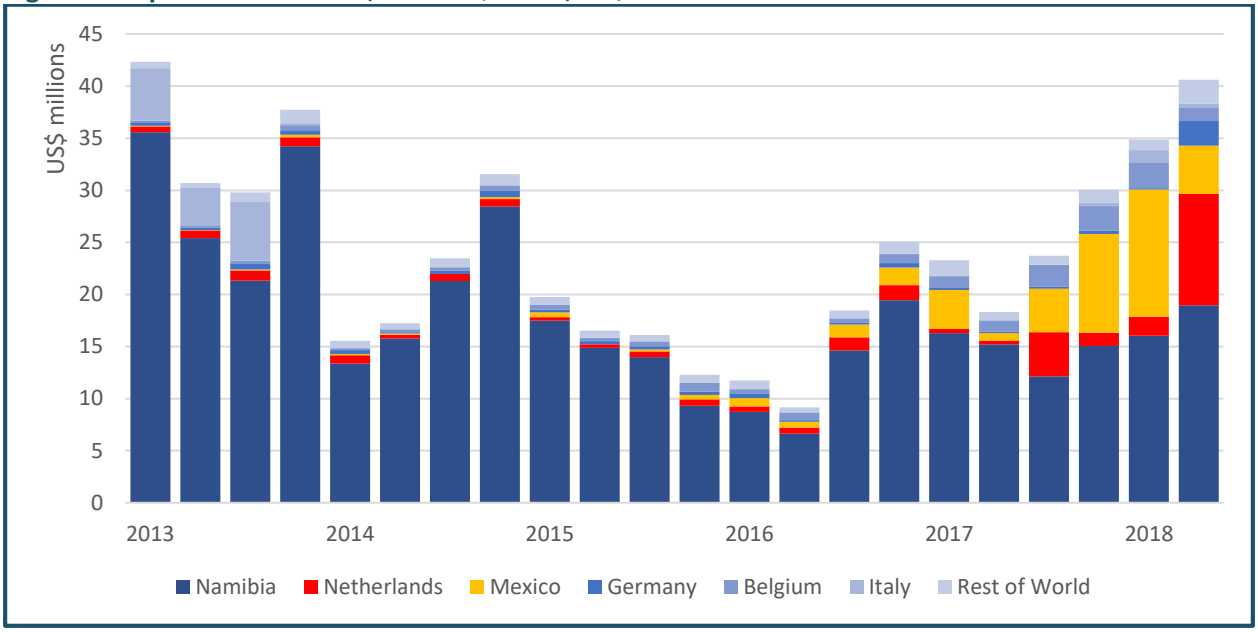
[3] Chemical week, 12 April 2018, "South Africa synthetic rubber producer halts production, commercial activities", https://chemweek.com/CW/Document/94880/South-Africa-synthetic-rubber-producer-halts-production-commercial-activities

[4] Who Owns Whom, January 2018, "Manufacture of Plastics and Plastics products"

[5] Rubber & Plastics News, 17 April 2018, "South Africa's Karbochem stops synthetic rubber production", http://www.rubbernews.com/article/20180417/NEWS/180419950/south-africas-karbochem-stops-synthetic-rubber-production

times an indicator of growing disposable income in the country, a positive sign for the general health of local demand. As can be seen in Figure 5, imports of malt beer have been relatively depressed since 2014, but have begun a process of recovery, with a more stable upward trend developing since Quarter 2 2017.

Figure 5: Imports of malt beer, 2013 - Q2 2018, US$ millions



Source: Author's working based on ITC Trade Map data

While there is no clear driver of the import surge, the composition of imports by origin country indicates that the surge may result from a renewed focus on the South African market by the world's second largest producer, Heineken. This is evidenced by the growth in imports from two sources – Mexico and the Netherlands – and the fact that these two seem to be interrelated (with declines in Mexican imports in quarter 2 being offset by imports by Holland).

The two countries are among the largest production locations for the company, with Mexico in particular being the subject of major recent expansion projects. The decline in imports in 2015, notably from Namibia, coincided with the company's decision to restructure its Southern African operations, reducing production at Namibian Breweries, in favour of production at the newly built Sedibeng brewery in Gauteng.[6] Growing imports from the Netherlands and Mexico return imports to levels seen when Heineken was still importing from Namibia, and may indicate a different production structure for the company in the South African market.

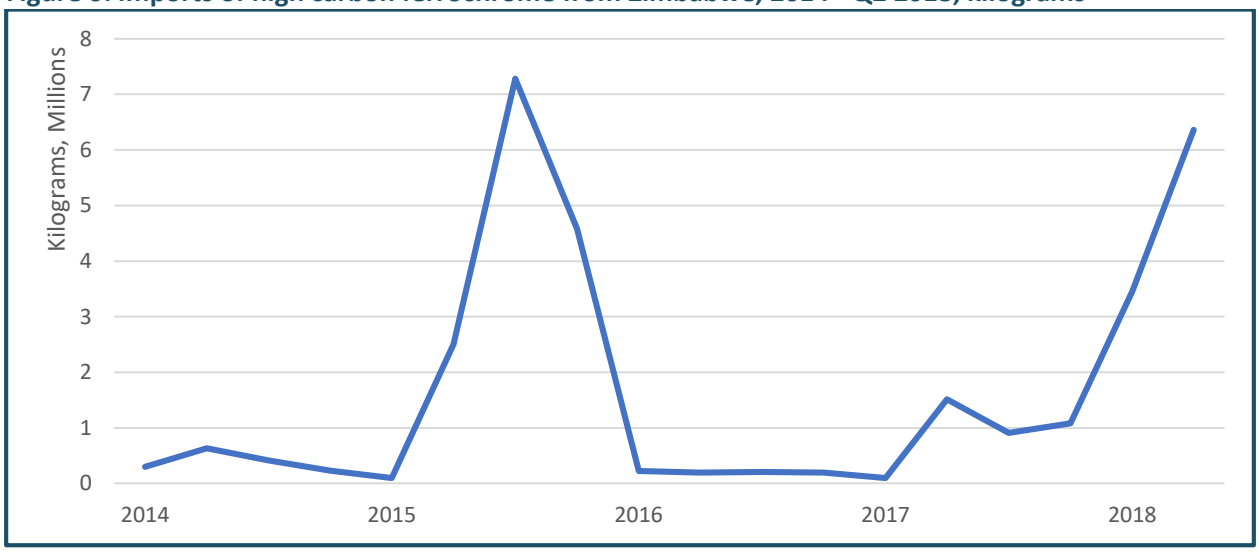
Finding 4: Surges in chrome and ferrochrome imports result from a recovery in Zimbabwe

Imports of high-carbon ferrochrome surged by 330% in Quarter 2 of 2018, resulting in the highest recorded quarterly imports of ferrochrome. These imports are still a fraction of South Africa's exports of ferrochrome, but are nevertheless significant for the fact that they impact a strategic industry and are

[6] Heineken company, 28 July 2015, "Heineken N.V. announces restructuring of South African and Namibian operations", https://www.theheinekencompany.com/media/media-releases/press-releases/2015/07/1941607

highly unusual for the general import trend. Virtually all imports of the product originate from Zimbabwe, which has experienced increased export volumes to South Africa, as can be seen in Figure 6.

Figure 6: Imports of high carbon ferrochrome from Zimbabwe, 2014 - Q2 2018, kilograms



Source: Author's working based on ITC Trad Map data

Imports likely result from the recovery of the Zimbabwean ferrochrome sector. South Africa and Zimbabwe together control most of the world's reserves of chromium ore, the essential component in ferrochrome, and Zimbabwe has long had established ferrochrome capacity off the back of these mineral supplies. Ferrochrome manufacture in the country declined rapidly from around 2010, when a combination of badly managed export restrictions, political interference in ownership in the sector, and aggressive expansion from Chinese producers resulted in widespread closures in ferrochrome smelting capacity.

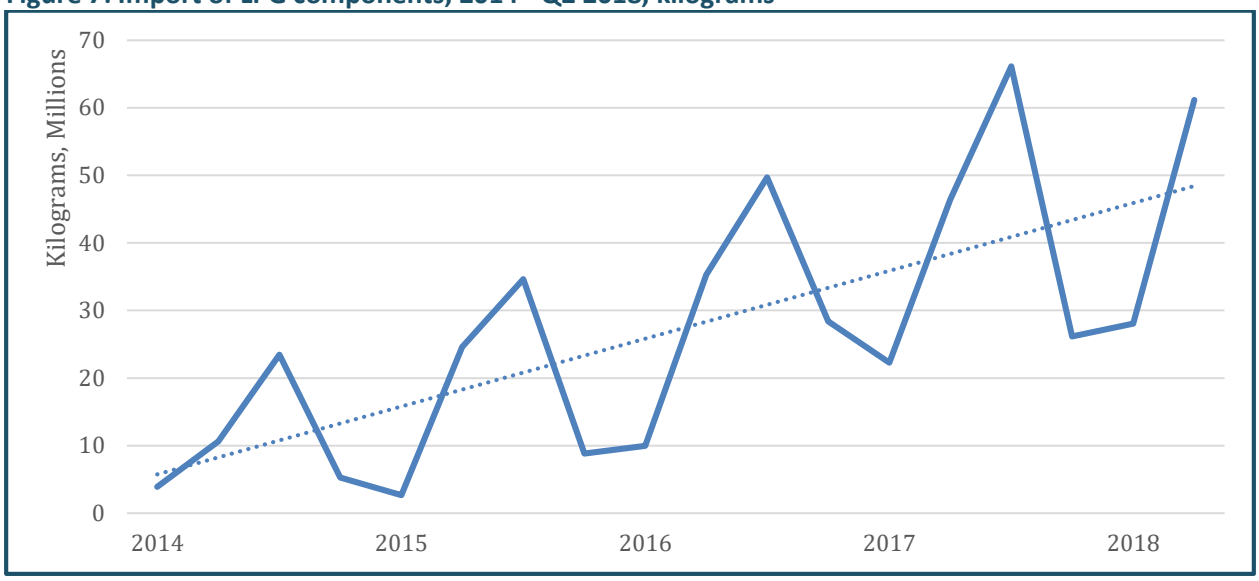
Greater stability in the sector have, however, led to increasing volumes. The most recent surge is likely driven by US$1 billion investments by Sinosteel in its Zimbabwean subsidiary Zimasco. The investment is meant to increase existing ferrochrome production capacity from 120 000 tonnes to 300 000 tonnes a year, as well as a general recovery in the industry which is slowly bringing idle capacity back online.[7] The imports into South Africa likely do not reflect demand in the local market, but may be incorrect capturing of trade meant for re-export, and based on the export data it is most likely to the Chinese stainless steel market.

Finding 5: Surges in LPG inputs result from ongoing growth in the local market

A range of HS lines typically associated with liquid petroleum gas (LPG), saw a spike in Q2 2018. While one of these lines – propane (HS 27111200) – saw a particularly rapid spike, the bundle of propane inputs of propane, butane, and other liquefied gaseous hydrocarbons grew at a rate consistent with overall growth in the industry. Year-on-year growth to Q2 was 32%, up from 31% in 2017. As can be seen in Figure 7, growth in LPG components is highly seasonal, but follows a regular upward trend.

[7] Bloomberg, 14 May 2018, "Sinosteel Will Invest $1 Billion to Boost Zimbabwe Output", https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-05-14/sinosteel-boosts-zimbabwe-ferrochrome-output-in-1-billion-deal

Figure 7: Import of LPG components, 2014 - Q2 2018, kilograms



Source: Author's working based on ITC Trade Map data

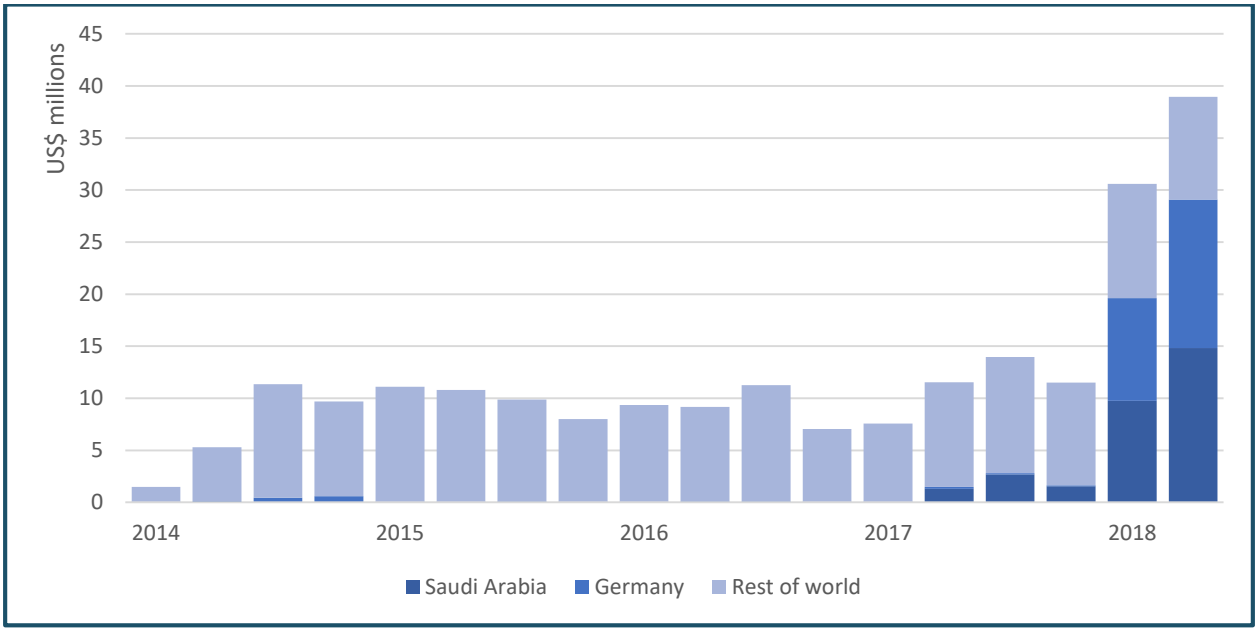
LPG is manufactured in South Africa, as a by-product of petroleum refinery, but shortages in the industry are typical in winter months, and imports generally complement, rather than displace, local production. Imports have been traditionally limited by a cap on the price of LPG, known as the Maximum Refinery Gate Price (MRGP), which is linked to the petroleum price and does not track international prices. Nevertheless, importers seem to be managing the new pricing regime in a number of ways, including introducing more imports of propane (rather than butane) and finding new sources such as Equatorial Guinea, which has large offshore oil and gas reserves. Large-scale investments in new LPG import facilities, as well as general growth in the local market for LPG, seem to be driving growth in imports.

Finding 6: Surges in aluminium products are highly anomalous

Highly unusual data trends in the import of specific types of "Plates, sheets and strip, of aluminium alloys" (HS 76069290) have been flagged for the Quarter. Import quantities grew 303.6% year-on-year, while import values grew 238% over the same period – a trend that also indicates declining prices. The shift continues from a similar trend in Quarter 1, and cannot be easily explained by changes to the local market, nor does it have any of the tell-tale signs of incorrect capturing of data.

The import surge is cause for particular concern for two reasons. First, increased protectionism in the global market for aluminium products, notably in the United States, has created a high risk of the diversion of exports to countries like South Africa, whether in the form of dumping or simply to offload additional stock. Second, and more worryingly, is that both of the countries indicated as the originating market for the product – namely Germany and Saudi Arabia, as seen in Figure 8 – are causes for concern. Saudi Arabia does not report trade data, and thus imports from the country cannot be verified; it is also not a historical source of imports for South Africa (see figure below). Exports to South Africa in the German data are 0.001% as large as those reported in the South African import data. This may result from differences in the classification of the product in the different data sets, with some evidence that this may be the case. It is therefore clear that Germany has increased its exports to South Africa over the period.

Figure 8: Imports of plates, sheets and strip, of aluminum alloys, of a thickness of > 0,2 mm, 2014 - Q2 2018



Source: Author's working based on ITC Trade Map data

Given the sensitivity around this product and that South Africa has domestic capacity which has been impacted by the US tariffs, all aluminium products have been flagged for further monitoring.

Finding 7: Data errors and other issues

A number of surges result from normal trends for various products. These are flagged in Annex 2.

Two surges appear to result from challenges with the trade data. A surge in imports of manganese dioxide batteries (HS 85061090) appears to result from a mistake in data entry that occurred on one shipment from China to the port of Cape Town in April 2018. This error has been reported to the SARS trade data team. An apparent surge in animal feed (HS 230990) results from changes in the quantity measure used by the European Union, and particularly Italy. A shift from denominating exports in tons, to using kilograms, incorrectly reflects in the data as a thousand-times increase in imports.

Data Annex

Annex 1: Top 100 import products, by value, Quarter 2 2018

HS Code	Product Description	Import value, Rand billion	Change in rank, Q2 2017 - Q2 2018
27090000	Crude oil	32,28	No change
98010030	Automotive components: for motor cars	12,34	No change
27101230	Diesel	8,54	No change
98010040	Original equipment components: for goods vehicles	7,57	No change
49070010	Postage stamps, revenue stamps and banknotes	4,03	3 959
87032290	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity 1 000 cm3 to 1 500 cm3	3,77	3
85171210	Cellphones	3,19	-2
27101202	Light oils and preparations: Petrol	3,16	2
85176290	Telecoms equipment (excluding cellphones): other	2,98	-3
84713000	Laptops, and similar	2,90	1
87032390	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity 1 500 cm3 to 3 000 cm3	2,75	-3
98010045	Original equipment components: for goods vehicles	2,57	No change
71023100	Unworked non-industrial diamonds	2,10	3
28182000	Aluminium oxide	1,89	1
87032190	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity not exceeding 1 000 cm3	1,73	-1
87033290	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity 1 000 cm3 to 2 500 cm3	1,64	-3
87033390	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity exceeding 2 500 cm3	1,46	No change
84439900	Parts and accessories of printers, copying machines and facsimile machines, not elsewhere specified (n.e.s.)	1,32	6
84314990	Parts for industrial machinery, eg. Cranes, bulldozers	1,29	8
84715000	Computer central processing units (CPUs), and related	1,27	5
33021000	Alcoholic and other solutions used in the food and drink industries	1,25	No change
85177090	Parts for telecoms equipment	1,20	1
87041090	Dumpers for off-highway use	1,15	-5
10063000	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice	1,14	-5
87042181	Cars and related vehicles: double-cab trucks	1,13	16
90189000	Medical instruments and appliances	1,12	4
88024000	Aeroplanes and other powered aircraft: weight > 15.000 kg	1,12	-20
98010015	Automotive components: for motor cars	1,09	12
87082900	Automotive components: for taxis, buses, and some industrial equipment	1,06	3
27111100	Natural gas, liquefied	0,89	6
84295200	Self-propelled bulldozers, etc: With 360 degree revolving supertsurcture	0,82	11
71081300	Gold	0,82	-3
27160000	Electrical energy	0,82	13
27011900	Coal (excluding anthracite and bituminous coal)	0,82	23
38220000	Diagnostic or laboratory reagents (pharmecutical chemicals)	0,81	4

23040000	Soya oilcake and other solid residues	0,81	14
87032490	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity exceeding 3 000 cm3	0,78	-17
85044000	Static converters	0,71	-12
87089990	Automotive components: for taxis, buses, and some industrial equipment	0,71	4
98010025	Original equipment components: for buses and taxis	0,70	-6
64041990	Footwear with soles of rubber or plastics and uppers of textile materials	0,68	-3
27040000	Coke and semi-coke of coal	0,65	-20
84433100	Printers and fax machines	0,64	8
88033000	Parts of aeroplanes or helicopters, n.e.s.	0,64	-7
84798990	Machines and mechanical appliances, n.e.s.: Other	0,62	21
69091900	Ceramic wares for chemical or other technical uses	0,61	7
94019090	Parts of seats, n.e.s.: Other	0,61	-3
84733000	Parts and accessories of automatic data-processing machines	0,61	6
84717000	Storage units for automatic data-processing machines	0,60	-4
27131200	Petroleum coke, calcined	0,54	72
31021000	Urea, whether or not in aqueous solution	0,54	5
64029900	Footwear with outer soles and uppers of rubber or plastics	0,53	-3
22030090	Beer made from malt: Other	0,53	77
84295190	Self-propelled front-end shovel loaders: Other	0,51	92
95030090	Tricycles, scooters, pedal cars and similar wheeled toys	0,51	3
39269090	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s	0,49	5
76069290	Plates, sheets and strip, of aluminium alloys, of a thickness of > 0,2 mm	0,49	189
85443000	Ignition wiring sets and other wiring sets for vehicles, aircraft or ships	0,49	-3
74081100	Wire of refined copper, with a maximum cross-sectional dimension of > 6 mm	0,48	-28
85451100	Electrodes of graphite or other carbon, for electric furnaces	0,47	210
21069090	Food preparations, n.e.s.: Other	0,45	2
33049990	Beauty or make-up preparations and preparations for the care of the skin	0,45	6
22083010	Whiskies: In containers holding 2 li or less	0,44	-1
73269090	Articles of iron or steel, n.e.s.	0,44	-12
84749000	Parts of machinery for working mineral substances of heading 8474, n.e.s.	0,41	17
87042183	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods, as specified	0,41	15
27011200	Bituminous coal	0,41	-39
71023900	Diamonds, worked, but not mounted or set	0,40	20
17011300	Raw cane sugar	0,39	-34
61091000	T-shirts, singlets and other vests of cotton, knitted or crocheted	0,39	5
72259200	Flat-rolled products of alloy steel other than stainless, of a width of >= 600 mm	0,39	103
29349900	Nucleic acids and their salts, whether or not chemically defined	0,38	17
72026000	Ferro-nickel	0,38	26
85437000	Electrical machines and apparatus, having individual functions, n.e.s. in chapter 85	0,37	6
84834000	Gears and gearing for machinery	0,36	-4

84291100	Self-propelled bulldozers and angledozers, track laying	0,36	18
84099990	Parts suitable for use principally with compression-ignition internal combustion engine	0,35	-5
17019900	Cane or beet sugar and chemically pure sucrose, in solid form	0,35	29
87083090	Brakes and servo-brakes and their parts	0,34	19
84295900	Self-propelled mechanical shovels	0,34	26
90318000	Instruments, appliances and machines for measuring or checking	0,33	2
84839000	Toothed wheels, chain sprockets and other transmission elements	0,33	13
71189000	Coin of legal tender	0,33	1833
84219990	Parts of machinery and apparatus for filtering or purifying liquids or gases, n.e.s.: Other	0,32	30
28151200	Sodium hydroxide "caustic soda" in aqueous solution	0,32	35
85414010	Photosensitive semiconductor devices	0,31	16
87042190	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods, as specified	0,31	177
85235210	Cards incorporating one or more electronic integrated circuits	0,31	-15
28362000	Disodium carbonate	0,31	50
84089090	Compression-ignition internal combustion piston engine, as specified	0,31	-30
39072090	Polyethers, in primary forms	0,31	53
84295120	Self-propelled front-end shovel loaders: Other	0,31	-15
30022000	Vaccines for human medicine	0,30	-46
10051000	Maize seed for sowing	0,30	68
33029090	Mixtures of odoriferous substances and mixtures	0,30	14
84139100	Parts of pumps for liquids, n.e.s.	0,30	21
39069090	Acrylic polymers, in primary forms	0,30	6
87012020	Road tractors for semi-trailers: Of a vehicle mass exceeding 1 600 kg	0,30	25
49019900	Printed books, brochures and similar printed matter	0,30	5
90183900	Needles, catheters, cannulae and the like, used in medical sciences	0,29	5

Annex 2: Surges in import products, by quantity, with explanation, Quarter 2 2018 (sorted by explanation)

HS Code	Product Description	Explanation	Real Growth	Percent Growth
28331900	Sodium sulphates	Chemical inputs – detergents, paper and pulp	16071299,41	135,1
31022100	Ammonium sulphate	**Chemical inputs – Fertiliser inputs**	20897106,27	74,1
31024000	Mixtures of ammonium nitrate with calcium carbonate for use as fertilisers	**Chemical inputs – Fertiliser inputs**	9075833	115,4
28365000	Calcium carbonate	**Chemical inputs – Fertiliser inputs**	8684236,56	45,5
28020000	Sulphur, sublimed or precipitated	**Chemical inputs – Fertiliser inputs**	61072360,17	202,8
28342100	Nitrate of potassium	**Chemical inputs – Fertiliser inputs**	4466562,2	402,4
31042000	Potassium chloride for use as fertiliser	**Chemical inputs – Fertiliser inputs**	27745777,75	43,3
28352610	Phosphates of calcium: Monocalcium phosphate	**Chemical inputs – Fertiliser inputs**	9330820,55	4030,6
28331100	Disodium sulphate	Chemical inputs – Other	11573917,53	306,8
28362000	Disodium carbonate	Chemical inputs – Other	35100593,65	38,2
38170010	Mixed alkylbenzenes and mixed alkylnaphthalenes	Chemical inputs – Other	5411208,28	47,4
85061090	Manganese dioxide cells and batteries (excluding spent): Other	**Data error – error in shipment from China**	30788416	333,7
23099092	Preparations of a kind used in animal feeding (excluding dog or cat food put up for retail sale)	**Data error – rebasing of European data**	7393876,3	117,0
27011900	Coal	Import commodity – coal	218245312,8	151,9
27011100	Anthracite	Import commodity – coal	42626956,6	53,1
27090000	Crude oil	Import commodity liquid fuel	350090709	7,4
84133000	Fuel, lubricating or cooling medium pumps for internal combustion piston engine	Not significant – denomination of quantity highly volatile	4441564	608,0
71039900	Precious and semi-precious stones, worked	Not significant – highly volatile	8652012,12	131,6
26140000	Titanium ores and concentrates	Not significan – lumpy imports	14098081,33	21901633,3
16041317	Prepared or preserved sardines, sardinella and brisling or sprats	Not significant – not unusual for trend	5487953,28	113,0
20097900	Apple juice	Not significant – not unusual for trend	5128400,79	65,3
29173600	Terephthalic acid and its salts	Not significant – not unusual for trend	8994509,04	41,1
72287000	Angles, shapes and sections of alloy steel other than stainless, n.e.s.	Not significant – not unusual for trend	5388937,39	416,7
85167900	Electro-thermic appliances, for domestic use	Not significant – not unusual for trend	11319688	572,5

23040000	Oilcake and other solid residues, resulting from the extraction of soya-bean oil	Not significant – small percentage growth	47096755,50	38,8
27131200	Petroleum coke, calcined	Not significant – small percentage growth	23146800	34,6
17019900	Cane or beet sugar and chemically pure sucrose, in solid form	Not significant – small percentage growth	16693398,86	40,2
23023000	Bran, sharps and other residues of wheat	Not significant – small percentage growth	13540446,2	47,7
85235210	Cards incorporating one or more electronic integrated circuits	Not significant – small percentage growth	11053067	18,3
84248900	Mechanical appliances, whether or not hand-operated, for projecting, dispersing or spraying liquids or powders, n.e.s.	Not significant – small percentage growth	9487732	23,4
90183900	Needles, catheters, cannulae and the like, used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary sciences	Not significant – small percentage growth	5964017	63,2
82121000	Non-electric razors of base metal	Not significant – small percentage growth	5387026	23,1
98010040	Original equipment components, for motor vehicles not exceeding 2000 kg	Not significant – small percentage growth	5058363,36	8,8
23063000	Oilcake and other solid residues, resulting from the extraction of sunflower seeds	Not significant – small percentage growth	4799936	28,5
25081000	Bentonite	Not significant – small percentage growth	4573646,87	21,3
29053100	Ethylene glycol "ethanediol"	Not significant – small percentage growth	4283512,14	42,0
72259200	Flat-rolled products of alloy steel other than stainless, of a width of >= 600 mm	Not significant – small percentage growth	15707666,06	83,7
48010000	Newsprint	**Ongoing monitoring** – **Mondi restructuring**	12673028,31	1888,8
47032100	Semi-bleached or bleached coniferous chemical wood pulp, soda or sulphate (excl. dissolving grades)	**Ongoing monitoring** – **Mondi restructuring**	9698450,45	54,8
48041100	Unbleached kraftliner, uncoated, in rolls of a width > 36 cm	**Ongoing monitoring** – **Mondi restructuring**	4908862,25	304,1
25232900	Portland cement	**Ongoing monitoring** – **Removal of Vietnamese export restrictions**	227675524,1	239,6
76069290	Plates, sheets and strip, of aluminium alloys, of a thickness of > 0,2 mm (other than square or rectangular): Other	**Selected for analysis** – **Anomalous imports from Saudi Arabia**	9125489,89	303,6
40021990	Styrene-butadiene rubber	**Selected for analysis** – **Closure of synthetic rubber manufacturer Karbochem**	5226314,48	527,6
22030090	Beer made from malt: Other	**Selected for analysis** – **Heineken restructuring**	22195245,5	131,2
11072020	Roasted malt: Of barley	**Selected for analysis** – **Heineken**	15590700,17	107,6

		restructuring		
27111900	Gaseous hydrocarbons, liquefied, n.e.s.	**Selected for analysis – LPG seasonal demand**	17599884,02	131,1
27111200	Propane, liquefied	**Selected for analysis – LPG seasonal demand**	16403313	183119,3
26100000	Chromium ores and concentrates	**Selected for analysis – Revival of Zimbabwe chrome industry**	9267462,66	24,5
72024100	Ferro-chromium, containing by weight > 4% of carbon	**Selected for analysis – Revival of Zimbabwe chrome industry**	5206653,57	330,6
44012100	Coniferous wood in chips or particlles	Unexplained	20033371,04	334,9