

TIPS IMPORT TRACKER

FOURTH QUARTER 2020

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TIPS TRACKERS

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SECTION 1: FOURTH QUARTER TRADE TRENDS

IMPORT TRENDS

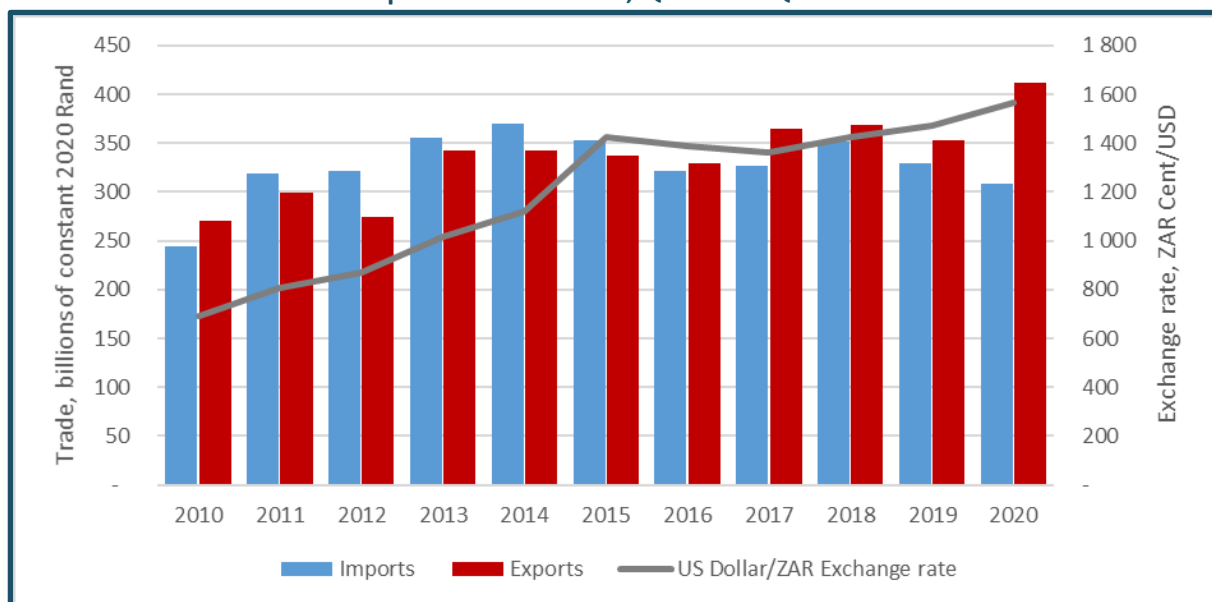
Trade context

Although declining slightly compared to the third quarter of 2020, South Africa maintained a high trade surplus in the fourth quarter of 2020, at R103 billion. Year-on-year, this marks a more than 300% increase in the trade surplus compared to the fourth quarter of 2019. The surplus is the result of low imports and high exports (Graph 1). This has been the case over the last three quarters in particular as South Africa and its trade partners continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic that began spreading in January 2020.

Crude oil and automotive-related imports have yet to fully recover, with both still at 51% and 8% lower than in the fourth quarter of 2019. This correlates with lower imports from Saudi Arabia and Germany, from where these two products in particular are sourced. With the exception of China, whose recovery from the pandemic began earlier, the four other countries that made up the top five import sources showed lower year-on-year imports compared to the fourth quarter of 2019. Nevertheless, with imports from China at 17% higher year-on-year, the value of total imports from the top five sources increased by about 2% to R140 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020, from R138 billion in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Imports of crude oil increased to R20 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020, slightly up from the previous quarter, but nevertheless 51% lower than in the fourth quarter of 2019. Diesel also shows a decline, from R6.5 billion in the fourth quarter of 2019 to R5.6 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020. Further, there are slight improvements in the automotive sector, with imports of auto components for motor cars and goods vehicles increasing by 13% and 59% respectively.

Graph 1: Trade balance, Q4 2010 – Q4 2020



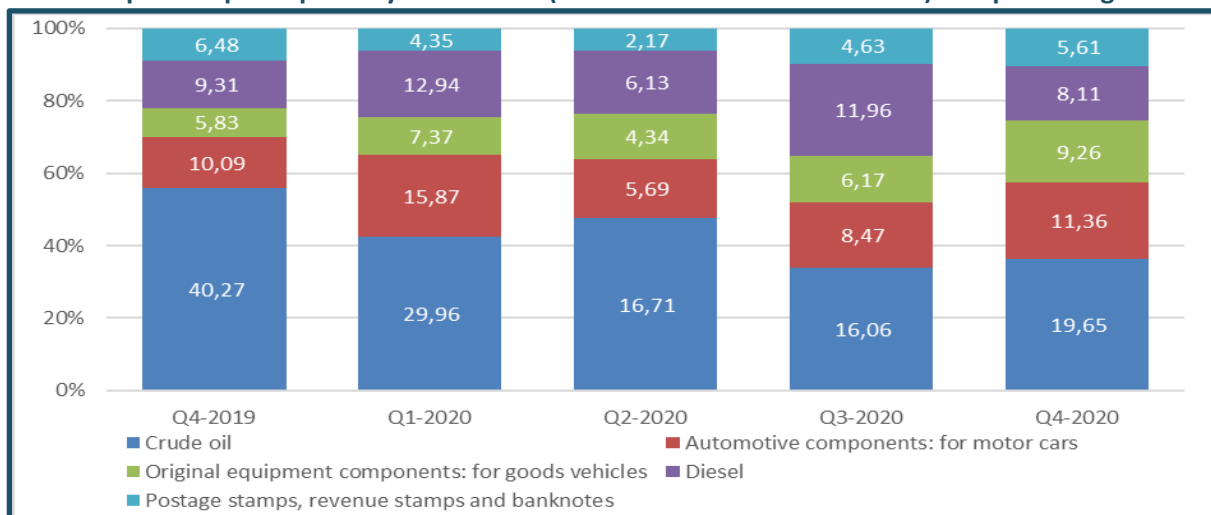
Source: Calculated from South African Reserve Bank (SARS) Trade Statistics and South African Reserve Bank (SARB).

The composition of the top five export products remained unchanged from the previous quarter, with all but one item showing a decline in value compared to the fourth quarter of 2019. Bituminous coal exports declined by 7% year-on-year, to R17 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020. Gold, agglomerated iron ore, unwrought rhodium and unwrought palladium all show increases in export values.

Overall, the value of the top five export products increased by 39% to R102 billion in the year to the fourth quarter of 2020, with gold and unwrought rhodium each increasing by R9 billion.

Graph 2 shows the Top 5 imports by value as extracted from the Top 100 list. As noted in the section above, only automotive components for motor cars and goods vehicles show year-on-year increases in the value of imports. Further, imports of these two products show quarter-on-quarter increases, and show increases between the first and fourth quarters of 2020. Overall, the value of the top five import products declined by 25% year-on-year to R54 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020.

Graph 2: Top 5 imports by Rand value (billions of constant 2020 Rand) and percentage

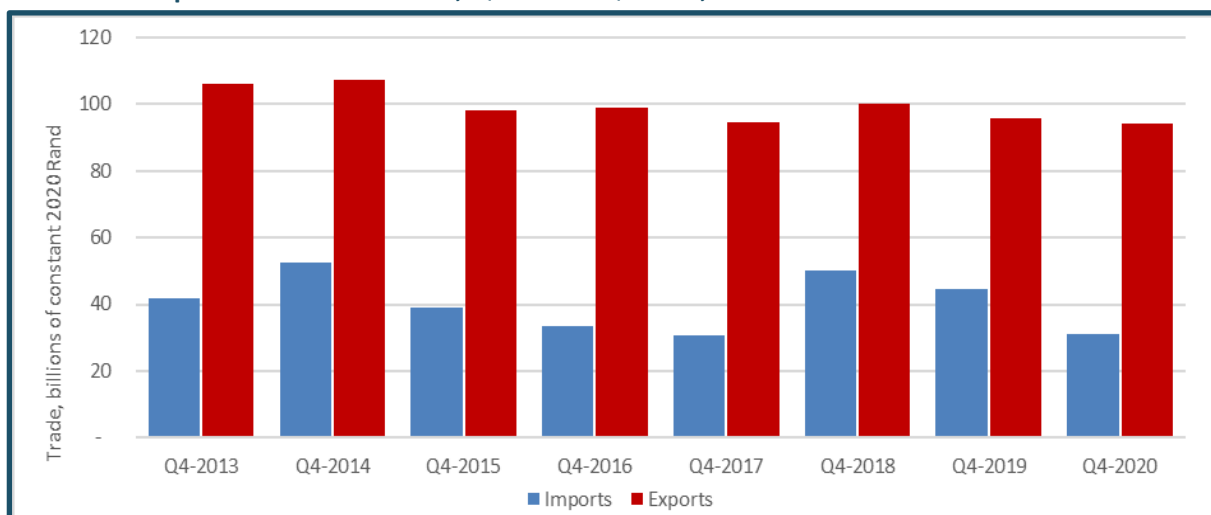


Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in March 2021.

Continental trade

As explained in the [Import Tracker third quarter 2020](#) report, the analysis begins in 2013 because SARS did not comprehensively record trade data from the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) member states prior to 2013. Nevertheless, data for the period between 2013 and 2020 show that South Africa has a trade surplus with the rest of the continent. This is the result of low imports from the rest of the continent, and high exports from South Africa. Between the fourth quarter of 2013 and the fourth quarter of 2020, imports from the continent declined by 26% to R31 billion. Additionally, in the year to the fourth quarter of 2020, imports declined by 31%. Exports have also declined, from R106 billion in the fourth quarter of 2013 to R94 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020 (see Graph 3).

Graph 3: Continental trade, Q4 2010 – Q4 2020, billions of constant 2020 Rand

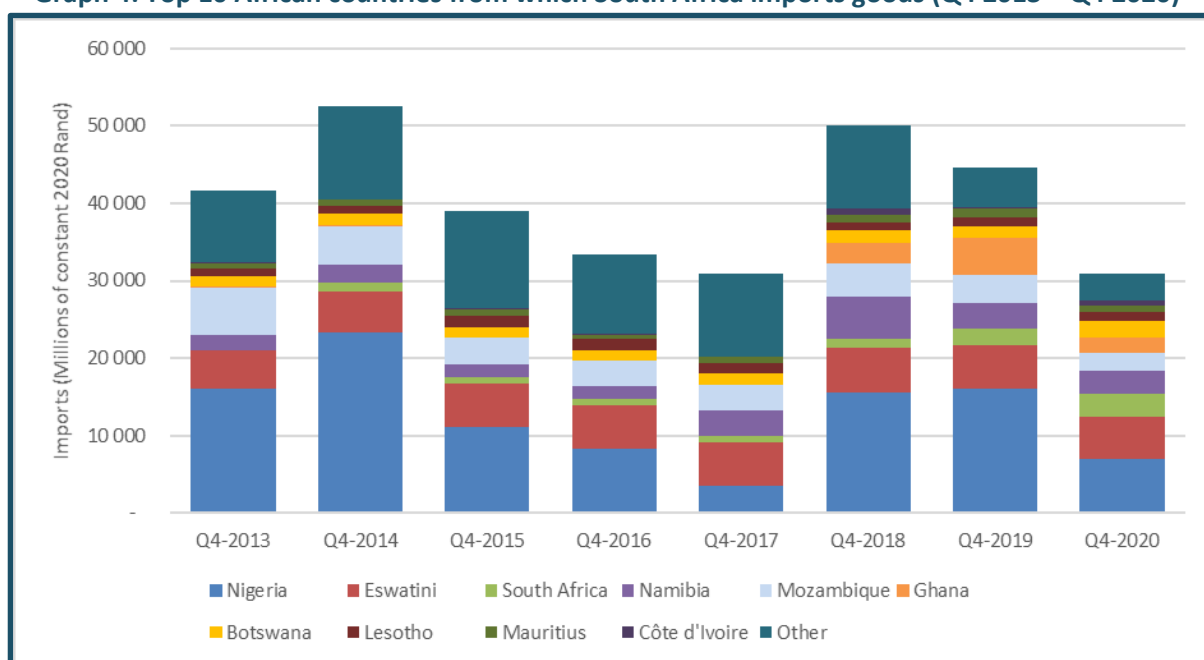


Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in March 2021.

The bulk (22%) of the imports came from Nigeria (see Graph 4), whose share of exports to South Africa has declined from 39% of total continental imports in 2013. In contrast, eSwatini has seen its share of South Africa’s continental imports increase to 17% in the fourth quarter of 2020, from 12% over the same period in 2013. Significantly, 10% of total Imports were re-imports of products originally exported by South Africa. The top 10 countries from which South Africa imported goods (including re-imports) saw their share of total imports increase from 78% in 2013 to 89% in the fourth quarter of 2020.

The bulk (99%) of imports from Nigeria in the fourth quarter of 2020 were mineral fuels, at about R6.9 billion, with the balance being copper (0.4%), organic soap (0.2%) and coffee and tea (0.1%). Similarly, imports from Mozambique were dominated by mineral fuels (mostly natural gas), at 68% of the total imports from the country. That, and edible fruits and prepared feathers (at 9% each), and aluminium (3%) accounted for 88% of total imports from Mozambique over the same period. Namibia is another country that shows minimal diversification of product imports. Natural or cultured pearls accounted for 57% of total imports from the country, followed by live animals (10%), fish (8%) and beverages, spirits and vinegar (6%). eSwatini, the second largest import source in the continent for South Africa exported a much more diversified range of products to South Africa, with essential oils at 29%, sugars and sugar confectionary (21%), various chemicals (12%) and articles of clothing at 11%.

Graph 4: Top 10 African countries from which South Africa imports goods (Q4 2013 – Q4 2020)

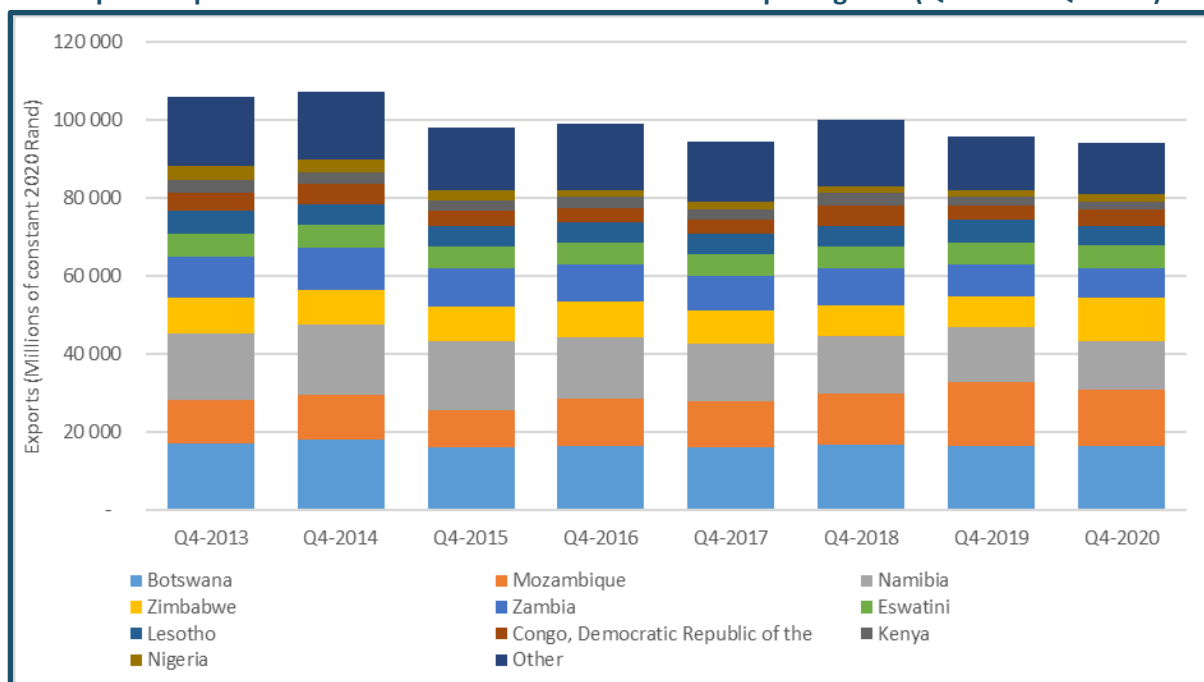


Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in March 2021.

Exports to the continent declined to R94.1 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020, from R105.9 billion in the fourth quarter of 2013. Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia and Zimbabwe accounted for 58% of total exports to the continent in the fourth quarter of 2020, up from 51.4% in the fourth quarter of 2013 (see Graph 5). At individual country level, South Africa shows more diversification in its product range, however, when the countries are taken together, the product range becomes less diverse. For instance, exports of mineral fuels to Botswana accounted for 15% of total exports to that country, followed by natural and cultured pearls at 11%. Additionally, exports to Mozambique were dominated by ore, slag and ash (36%), followed by mineral fuels at 9%. The top exports to Namibia and Zimbabwe were dominated by machinery and mechanical appliances at 10% and 15% respectively, followed by vehicles at 10% and 11% respectively. However, taken together, three of the top four items to these

countries are mineral fuels, machinery and mechanical appliances, as well as vehicles, suggestive of a somewhat less diverse top export product range for South Africa.

Graph 5: Top 10 African countries to which South Africa exports goods (Q4 2013 – Q4 2020)



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

Major imports

The Top 100 imports by Rand value amounted to R140.2 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020, up 11% from the third quarter of 2020. Annexure 1 shows the Top 100 imports by Rand value for the fourth quarter of 2020. The Top 100 import items can be classified into seven broad categories: 1) petroleum and other liquid fuels; 2) information and communications technology (ICT) equipment; 3) food and beverage products; 4) production metals; 5) medical equipment; 6) aircraft and aircraft components; and 7) automotive (including automotive components).

Numerous products showed significant changes in rank in the fourth quarter of 2020 (see Annexure 1). These products included DC motors and DC generators of an output greater than 375kW at R2.03 billion; non-irradiated fuel elements (R1.23 billion); parts for transmission and reception apparatus for radio or television broadcasting (R0.53 billion); as well as injection or compression-type moulds for rubber or plastics (R0.57 billion).

Import surges

Annexure 2 provides a list of the Top 50 imports by quantity for the fourth quarter. This Annexure distinguishes between trends that are not significant, data errors, and increases selected for analysis. Of the 50 products, four were selected for analysis, while four were part of ongoing monitoring, with another seven flagged for possible data errors. Some 17 products showed lower quantities compared to the same quarter in 2019 (see Table 1).

Table 1: Decline in imports between Q4 2019 and Q4 2020

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	REAL DECLINE, QUANTITY	UNIT	PERCENT DECLINE, QUANTITY	PERCENT DECLINE OR INCREASE RAND
27090000	Crude oil	-2 064 901 871	Kilograms	-36%	-51%
27111100	Natural gas, liquefied	-36 408 786	Kilograms	-5%	-34%
10063000	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	-20 814 504	Kilograms	-7%	25%
25232900	Portland cement	-38 233 411	Kilograms	-13%	-14%
23040000	Oilcake and other solid residues resulting from the extraction of soya-bean oil	-1 451 810	Kilograms	-1%	32%
31054000	Ammonium dihydrogenorthophosphate	-3 877 793	Kilograms	-4%	17%
31042000	Potassium chloride for use as fertiliser	-92 777 961	Kilograms	-52%	-58%
28151200	Sodium hydroxide in aqueous solution	-49 120 394	Kilograms	-40%	-52%
17011300	Raw cane sugar, in solid form	-5 734 898	Kilograms	-7%	1%
27011900	Coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	-255 934 279	Kilograms	-81%	-85%
98010030	Automotive components: for motor cars	-6 762 468	Kilograms	-13%	13%
85235210	Cards incorporating one or more electronic integrated circuits "smart cards": Digital	-22 859 936	Units	-34%	-16%
25201000	Gypsum; anhydrite	-24 124 613	Kilograms	-35%	187%
28331100	Disodium sulphate	-9 391 637	Kilograms	-18%	0%
08039010	Fresh or dried bananas (excl. plantains): Fresh	-6 373 040	Kilograms	-15%	14%
28365000	Calcium carbonate	- 22 723 289	Kilograms	-39%	-18%
85423900	Electronic integrated circuits	- 9 861 012	Kilograms	-26%	-11%

The next section provides explanations for the surges in Annexure 2.

Explanation of import surges

Finding 1: Ongoing monitoring of previously identified surges

Table 2 shows products that have previously been selected for analysis, and are now monitored for changes in the trend.

Table 2: Ongoing monitoring of import surges from Q1 2019

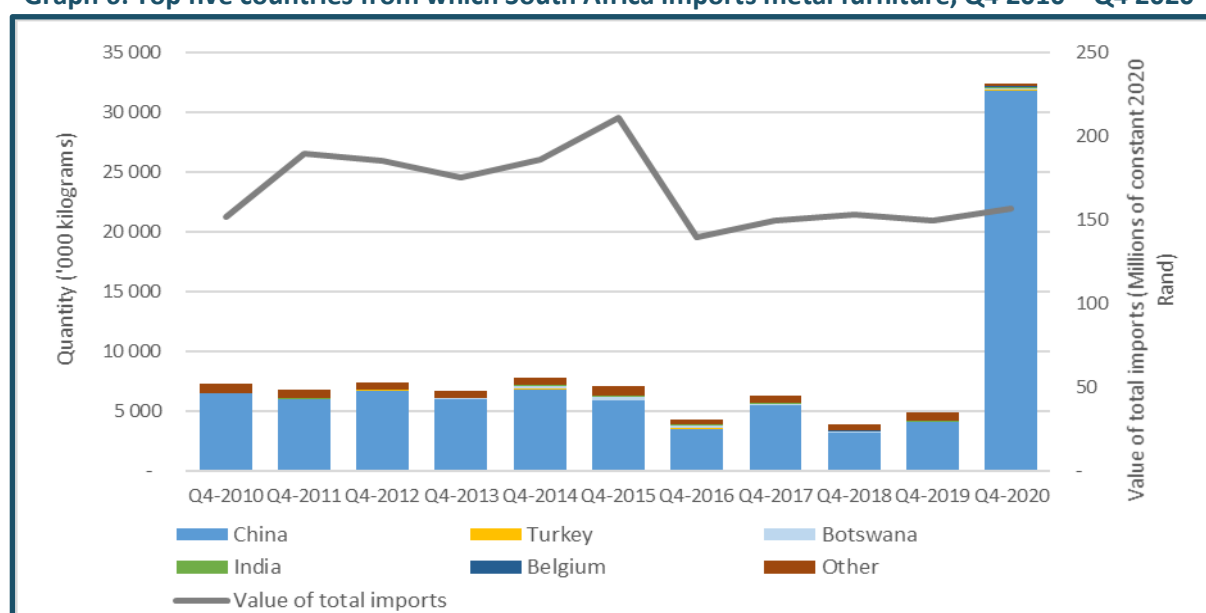
HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	STATUS OF SURGE	EXPLANATIONS
25232900	Portland cement	Declining	Imports of Portland cement declined between the third and fourth quarters of 2020. This decline, however, marks a return to the regular trend of imports for this product. In the third quarter of 2020, there was a surge in imports from Pakistan. As of the fourth quarter of 2020, imports from Pakistan had returned to the regular trend.
44123900	Plywood consisting solely of sheets of wood <= 6 mm thick	Inconsistent	Imports of this product mainly come from Brazil. Over the past two years, the trend has been inconsistent, with sporadic surges in some quarters. Imports surged to 255 million cubic metres in the fourth quarter of 2020. The surge was thought to be the result of disputes between Brazilian and American plywood manufacturers, which resulted in Brazil looking for a new market in South Africa. A court case was still ongoing in the US in June 2020, with American manufacturers accusing Brazilian manufacturers of exporting unsafe plywood.
44079100	Oak "Quercus spp.", sawn or chipped lengthwise of a thickness of > 6 mm	Inconsistent	As with imports of plywood, oak imports remain inconsistent, surging every other quarter. During surges, the bulk of the imports come from China. This product, along with various wood products, has previously been flagged for possible data errors given the high-quantity surge without a corresponding increase in the value of the imports. There is a possibility of an error in converting from kilograms (per China's data) to cubic metres (per South Africa's data). If not an error, there is also a possibility that something could be amiss, particularly as these surges have been noted in four of the past six quarters.
85392125	Tungsten halogen filament lamps: For motor vehicles	Inconsistent	The surge in the fourth quarter is due to high imports from Poland, which do not often exceed two million units. However, in the fourth quarter, imports from Poland surged to 66.4 million units.
26180000	Granulated slag "slag sand" from the manufacture of iron or steel	Increasing	The surge in imports of granulated slag began in the first quarter of 2020, with basically all quantities coming from India. This appears to be a new HS code, in which case, imports might continue to rise.

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	STATUS OF SURGE	EXPLANATIONS
25231000	Cement clinkers	Declining	Imports declined for the first time to their lowest since the second quarter of 2019, reaching 8.2 million kilograms. Further, although the bulk of quarterly imports often come from Saudi Arabia or the United Arab Emirates, imports from the fourth quarter of 2020 mainly came from Namibia, which began exporting this product to South Africa in the third quarter of 2020. Beginning in 2018, a Namibian cement producer began producing cement clinkers following years of importing from Egypt.

Finding 2: Metal furniture

Metal furniture (HS 94032000) refers to furniture designed for placement on the floor such as chairs and beds, but can also include wall-fixed furniture like cabinets and bookcases. Notably, this does not include office or medical furniture. Imports of metal furniture surged to 32.4 million kilograms in the fourth quarter of 2020, from 4.6 million kilograms in the fourth quarter of 2019 (see Graph 6). The surge was driven by high imports from China, 98% of total imports of the product in the fourth quarter. Although imported quantities increased by more than 300% between the fourth quarter of 2010 and the fourth quarter of 2020, the value of the imports increased by 3% over the same period, in constant 2020 terms.

Graph 6: Top five countries from which South Africa imports metal furniture, Q4 2010 – Q4 2020



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

Given that this product is listed as not including medical equipment, it is hard to account for the surge. However, as this particular HS code includes variations of furniture, including shelving, it could possibly be COVID-19 related procurement in preparation for large-scale distribution of vaccines.

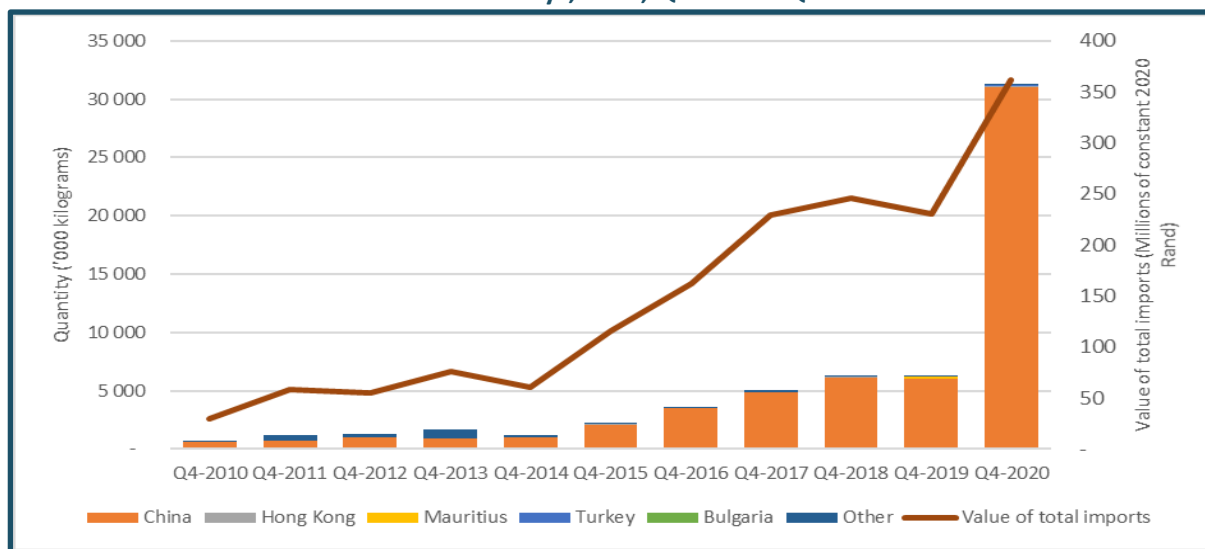
Finding 3: Bars, rods and solid profiles of aluminium alloys, n.e.s.

Bars, rods and solid profiles of aluminium alloys (HS 76042965) refers to aluminium profiles with a maximum cross-sectional dimension not exceeding 370 mm. Aluminium profiles have applications in

various industries including construction, automotives and heavy industry. Due to their use in different industries, aluminium profiles can be customised based on user requirements.

Imports of aluminium profiles have tended to remain below 10 million kilograms. However, imports surged to 31.2 million kilograms in the fourth quarter of 2020, driven by a surge from China (see Graph 7) Imports from China accounted for 99.3% of the total quantity imported in the fourth quarter of 2020, up from 78.2% in the fourth quarter of 2010. The value of the imports also increased, from R29.1 million in the fourth quarter of 2010 to R361.3 million in the fourth quarter of 2020. The surge in imports is driven by local demand, rather than demand from other countries within the continent.

Graph 7: Top five countries from which South Africa imports bars, rods and solid profiles, of aluminium alloys, n.e.s, Q4 2010 – Q4 2020



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

As with the surge of metal furniture imports, it is not clear what is driving the surge in imports of aluminium profiles. One possibility is that this could be due to COVID-19-related demand. As already noted, this product is easily customisable to customer needs, and one area that could be responsible for the surge is protective screens whose use has increased over the past year. However, it is likely that this particular surge is related to preparations for distribution of the vaccines, which still requires protective screens to maintain social distancing. Whereas stores could easily use hung protective screens, vaccination centres will likely require larger protective screens, which can be mounted on the aluminium profiles.

Notably though, in 2016 the International Trade Administration Commission (ITAC) recommended the increase in the ad valorem of aluminium products, including aluminium profiles, from 5% to 15% in an attempt to curb rising imports and protect the local industry, including those within SACU. However, domestic production remains low, with even lower exports.

Finding 4: Semi-bleached or bleached non-coniferous chemical wood pulp, soda or sulphate (excluding dissolving pulp)

Chemical wood pulp (HS 47032900) is derived from “cooking” wood chips with solutions of various chemical in digesters at high pressure and temperatures. In the chemical pulping process, wood exposure to chemicals dissolves and removes lignin (a plant polymer) and other wood components in the manufacture of paper. Chemical wood pulp is used in the production of mainly paper products, including shipping containers, paper bags, printing and writing papers, and other product categories requiring strength. The product is used in white paper grades such as A4 copy paper and white top liner (white printable layer on paper packaging), while semi-chemical pulp goes into the manufacture

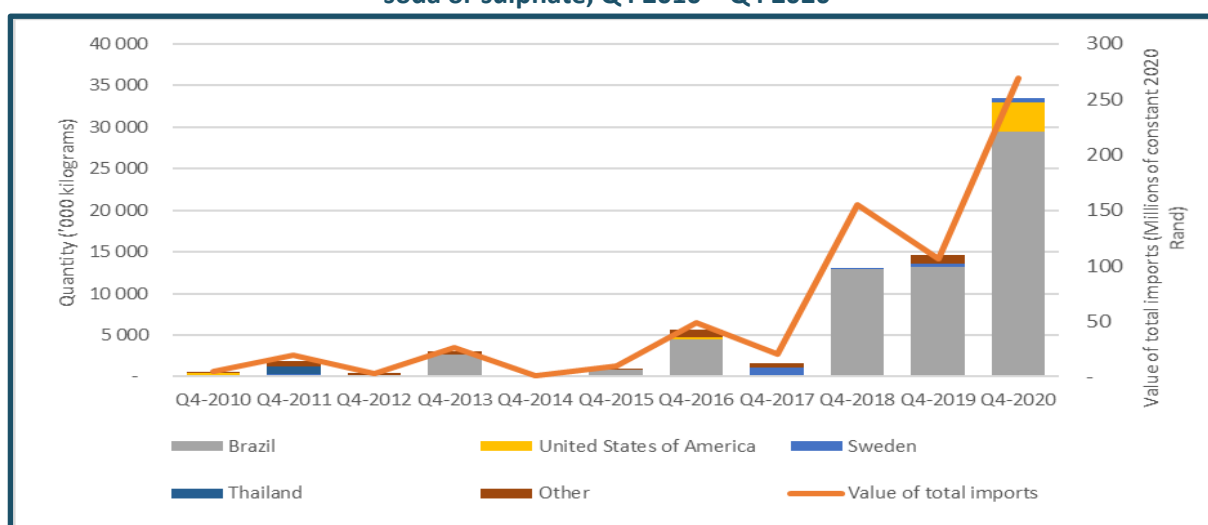
of fluting, which is the middle liner of corrugated board used to make boxes and giving them their crush strength. It is notable that when chemical wood pulp is further processed, purified by bleaching and alkaline extraction creates dissolving pulp, a grade of pulp for purposes other than papermaking, with applications across a range of industries including for viscose staple fibre for clothing and textiles.¹ Research and development around this grade of wood fibre is increasing because of its potential in sustainable manufacturing and wide range of applications.

South Africa has the capacity to manufacture chemical wood pulp, and falls within the top 20 exporters of the product (excluding dissolving pulp). The local industry is dominated by two companies which are vertically integrated within the forestry, wood, pulp and paper value chain. Sappi and Mondi own/operate or lease/manage forest plantations and are also manufacturers of pulp, paper and other related products. Other companies within the industry include Mpact, Bidvest Paperplus, Kimberly-Clark, and Proctor & Gamble. Major companies are continually investing in research and development, in addition to expanding and improving the production capabilities and capacities of their operations. Chemical wood pulp manufacturing and the related sectors are capital and resource intensive. The pulp industry in particular is difficult to enter. Factors contributing to this include the complexity and lengthy process of procuring water licences, and strict compliance with stringent environmental regulations which can impose additional cost implications.²

In the fourth quarter of 2020, imports of chemical wood pulp, soda or sulphate (excluding dissolving pulp) surged by approximately 130%. Graph 8 shows that an aggregate 33 million kilograms of the product was imported, from three countries. Imports came predominantly from Brazil comprising about 88% of total imports, with 29 million kilograms imported from the country. The volumes from Brazil to South Africa increased by 123% from Q4 2019 to Q4 2020. Globally, Brazil is the top exporter of chemical wood pulp, soda or sulphate (excluding dissolving pulp), and South Africa has historically imported the product from the country.

Even though quantities were much lower, other countries from which imports were relatively visible were the United States of America (USA) and Sweden. About three million kilograms were imported from the USA (10.5% of total imports) and 494 000 kilograms were imported from Sweden, which accounts for 1.5% of imports this quarter.

Graph 8: Top four countries from which South Africa imports chemical wood pulp, soda or sulphate, Q4 2010 – Q4 2020



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

¹ <https://www.afandpa.org/our-products/pulp>.

² The manufacture of paper and related products sic code 323. Who Owns Whom. March 2020.

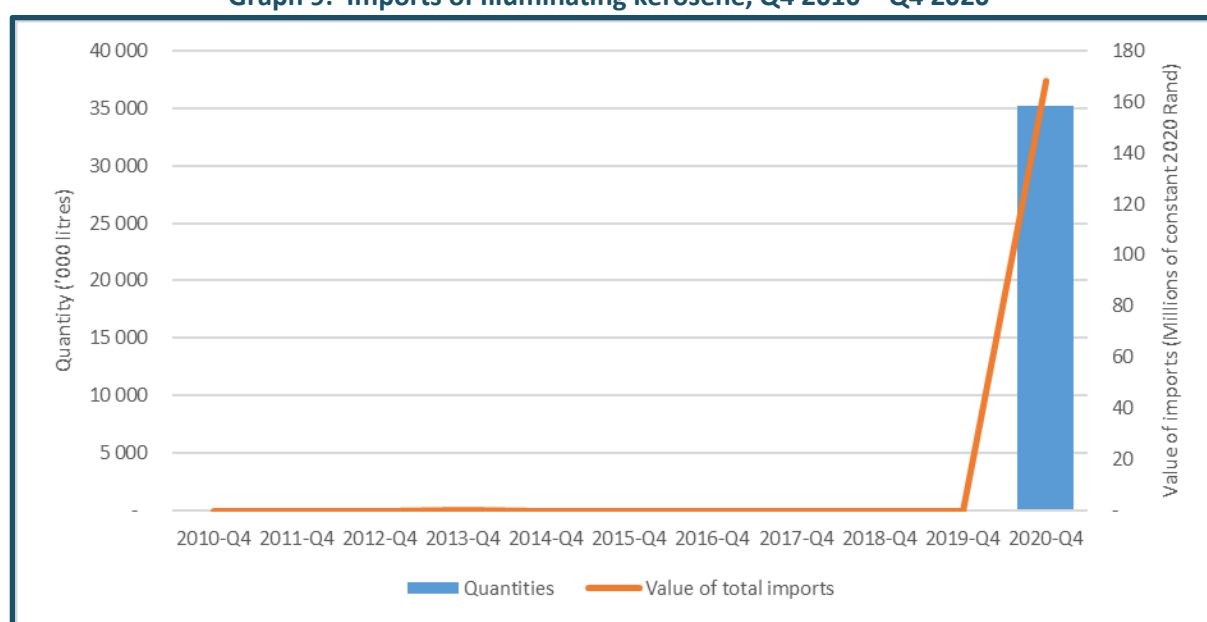
In 2020, South Africa was among the top 20 exporting countries and the main destination was China. While the volumes exported have declined, in the fourth quarter of 2020 they exceeded what was imported by about 16%. The reason for the surge is not clear, and could be a response to anticipated insufficient supply for local consumption as economic activity gradually increases. Companies that manufacture chemical wood pulp had been redirecting manufacturing capacity towards activities and producing products that support efforts against the COVID-19 pandemic. Some suspended operations and capital investments on account of the lockdowns. As the economy opened up and firms resumed operations, manufacturing in the broader wood and wood products, paper, publishing and printing value chain showed positive growth, particularly between the third and fourth quarters. Following a decline in the first part of the year, Sappi and Mondi reported a positive performance in the fourth quarter.³

Finding 5: Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals

Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals (HS 27101226) refers in particular to illuminating kerosene. This product has various applications within households (lighting and cooking for instance), and within industry where it is used as a solvent. In agriculture, it can be used as fuel for tractors for instance.⁴

South Africa is not a frequent importer of illuminating kerosene, but does export the product, often in small quantities. The bulk of the imports (80.8%) came from Oman, with another 19.1% coming from Saudi Arabia, and the balance coming from France. In total, about 35.2 million litres of the product came from Oman. The increase in imports began in the third quarter of 2020, and has continued into the fourth quarter. It is not clear what is driving the surge.

Graph 9: Imports of Illuminating kerosene, Q4 2010 – Q4 2020



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in March 2021.
Note: quantities for the fourth quarters of 2013, 2017, 2018 and 2019 were too low to be visible on the graph. No imports were recorded for the other years.

³ Manufacturing: Production and sales (Preliminary release). December 2020. Statistics South Africa <http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P30412/P30412December2020.pdf>.

⁴ <https://www.tilasto.com/en/topic/energy-and-environment/kerosene/production/kerosene-total-production/oman>.

Finding 6: Data errors and other issues

Table 3 provides a list of possible data errors for the fourth quarter of 2020.

Table 3: Possible data errors and other issues

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	DESCRIPTION OF ERROR
44072500	Dark red meranti, light red meranti and meranti bakau of a thickness of > 6 mm	Error in reporting quantity from Malaysia. The surge in imported quantities is not matched by a corresponding increase in the value of the imports.

SECTION 2: SUMMARY OF IMPORT TRENDS AND SURGES FOR 2020

Trade in 2020 was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This not only changed imported quantities for products that South Africa imports on a regular basis, such as crude oil and automotives and automotive components, it also changed the composition of imported products, with shifts to products needed to fight the pandemic. Over this period, South Africa saw its trade surplus surge to R109 billion for the first time in the past decade, although it declined to R103 billion in the fourth quarter of 2020. The high surplus was the result of low imports, largely impacted by low imports of crude oil, which fell to a low R16.1 billion in the third quarter of 2020; as well as high exports, which were dominated by gold. The items selected for analysis in 2020 fell under various categories, including medical products, food products, wood and paper products, as well as fertiliser products.

The impact of COVID-19 on South Africa began seriously in the second quarter of the year, following the implementation of a hard lockdown at the end of the first quarter of the year. Second quarter trade became the lowest since the second quarter of 2012, with imports falling by 26% and exports falling by 18% in the second quarter of 2020. During that same quarter, imports of textiles materials, medicines and medical instruments, as well as paper and paperboard (largely used in packaging), saw significant increases. In contrast, crude oil, diesel and automotive-related products saw decreased imports as major trade partners began halting production in response to the pandemic.

In the third quarter of the year, the composition of analysed imports shifted away from COVID-19 response-related products towards fertiliser products like ammonium nitrate and potassium chloride, although the latter in particular also has applications in medicine. The increase in imports of fertiliser products coincided with the summer planting season in South Africa, during which crops such as maize and soya-beans are planted. Table 4 shows the status of surges that were analysed between the first and third quarters of 2020. Over that period, 10 products were selected for analysis. Of these, eight show import quantities have returned to pre COVID-19 levels, with another two showing ongoing increases.

Table 4: Status of surge for previously analysed items, Q1 2020 - Q3 2020

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	QUARTER ANALYSED	STATUS OF SURGE IN Q4	QUANTITY AT FIRST ANALYSIS	QUANTITY AS AT Q4 2020	UNIT
10059010	Maize (excluding seed for sowing): Dried kernels or grains for human consumption	Q1	Returned to normal	25 515 558	72 508	Kilograms
26180000	Granulated slag (slag sand) from the manufacture of iron or steel	Q1	Ongoing	58 344 030	55 410 000	Kilograms
44072500	Meranti and meranti bakau, sawn or chipped lengthwise of a thickness of > 6 mm	Q1	Ongoing	119 525 669	428 984 942	Cubic metres
48115990	Paper and paperboard, surface-coloured, surface-decorated or printed: Other	Q2	Returned to normal	27 543 624	11 362 861	Kilograms
63079010	Made-up articles of textile materials, including dress patterns, non-woven, n.e.s.	Q2	Returned to normal	23 220 488	518 965	Kilograms
90189000	Medical instruments and appliances, n.e.s.	Q2	Returned to normal	82 675 804	48 712 112	Units
31023000	Ammonium nitrate, whether or not in aqueous solution	Q2	Returned to normal	26 000 015	480 695	Kilograms
31024000	Mixtures of ammonium nitrate with calcium carbonate or other inorganic non-fertilising substances for use as fertilisers	Q3	Returned to normal	55 905 375	8 491 646	Kilograms
31042000	Potassium chloride for use as fertiliser	Q3	Returned to normal	224 124 806	86 372 472	Kilograms
10063000	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	Q3	Returned to normal	321 056 156	281 257 550	Kilograms

DATA ANNEXURES

Annexure 1: Top 100 import products by Rand value, Q4 2020

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK Q4 2019 - Q4 2020	DESIGNATION STATUS
1	27090000	Crude oil	19.65	No change	Not designated
2	98010030	Automotive components: for motor cars	11.36	No change	Not designated
3	98010040	Original equipment components: for goods vehicles	9.27	2	Not designated
4	27101230	Diesel	8.11	-1	Not designated
5	49070010	Postage stamps, revenue stamps and banknotes	5.61	-1	Not designated
6	85171210	Cellphones	4.40	No change	Not designated
7	85176290	Routers and set-top boxes: Other	2.94	2	Not designated
8	87032390	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity 1 500 cm3 to 3 000 cm3	2.82	No change	Not designated
9	27101202	Light oils and preparations: Petrol	2.60	3	Not designated
10	10063000	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	2.51	5	Not designated
11	87032290	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity 1 000 cm3 to 1 500 cm3	2.45	-4	Not designated
12	98010045	Original equipment components: for goods vehicles	2.23	-1	Not designated
13	87032190	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity not exceeding 1 000 cm3	2.14	-3	Not designated
14	71023100	Non-industrial diamonds unworked or simply sawn, cleaved or bruted	2.13	3	Not designated
15	85013400	DC motors and DC generators of an output > 375 kW	2.03	1650	Not designated
16	33021000	Alcoholic and other solutions used in the food and drink industries	2.01	No change	Not designated
17	28182000	Aluminium oxide (excl. artificial corundum)	1.84	1	Not designated
18	71081300	Gold, in semi-manufactured forms, for non-monetary purposes	1.75	2	Not designated
19	85177090	Parts for telephones, routers and other telecoms devices	1.63	5	Not designated
20	38220000	Diagnostic or laboratory reagents (pharmaceutical chemicals)	1.46	12	Not designated
21	74081100	Wire of refined copper, with a maximum cross-sectional dimension of > 6 mm	1.45	14	Not designated

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK Q4 2019 - Q4 2020	DESIGNATION STATUS
22	84314990	Parts of machinery of heading 8426, 8429 and 8430, n.e.s.: Other	1.42	No change	Not designated
23	90189000	Medical instruments and appliances, n.e.s	1.36	-2	Not designated
24	84715000	Processing units for automatic data-processing machines	1.32	-10	Not designated
25	31021000	Urea, whether or not in aqueous solution	1.28	11	Not designated
26	84439900	Parts and accessories of printers, copying machines and facsimile machines, n.e.s.	1.26	-3	Not designated
27	85044000	Static converters	1.24	3	Not designated
28	84013000	Fuel elements "cartridges", non-irradiated, in casing with handling fixtures, for nuclear reactors	1.23	5418	Not designated
29	84798990	Machines and mechanical appliances, n.e.s.: Other	1.16	30	Not designated
30	87033290	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity 1 000 cm ³ to 2 500 cm ³	1.10	-11	Not designated
31	87082900	Parts and accessories of bodies for tractors and buses	1.08	2	Not designated
32	28439000	Inorganic or organic compounds of precious metals	1.00	292	Not designated
33	87041090	Dumpers for off-highway use: Other	0.96	4	Not designated
34	87089990	Parts and accessories for tractors and buses	0.88	4	Not designated
35	84295200	Self-propelled bulldozers, etc.: With 360 degree revolving superstructure	0.86	11	Not designated
36	88024000	Aeroplanes and other powered aircraft of an of an unladen weight > 15.000 kg	0.85	-23	Not designated
37	87032490	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity exceeding 3 000 cm ³	0.83	-6	Not designated
38	27160000	Electrical energy	0.79	-11	Not designated
39	87033390	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity exceeding 2 500 cm ³	0.78	No change	Not designated
40	27111100	Natural gas, liquefied	0.78	-15	Not designated
41	17011300	Raw cane sugar, in solid form	0.77	1	Not designated
42	27011200	Bituminous coal	0.74	14	Not designated
43	98010015	Automotive components: For tractors and buses	0.71	-9	Not designated

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK Q4 2019 - Q4 2020	DESIGNATION STATUS
44	88033000	Parts of aeroplanes or helicopters, n.e.s. (excl. those for gliders)	0.71	-18	Not designated
45	23040000	Oilcake and other solid residues from the extraction of soya-bean oil	0.70	15	Not designated
46	61091000	T-shirts, singlets and other vests of cotton, knitted or crocheted	0.68	1	100% designated
47	21069090	Food preparations, n.e.s.: Other	0.66	11	Not designated
48	69091900	Ceramic wares for chemical or other technical uses	0.65	-8	Not designated
49	29349900	Nucleic acids and their salts, whether or not chemically defined	0.65	110	Not designated
50	39269090	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s.: Other	0.63	-1	Not designated
51	85299075	Components for transmission and reception apparatus for radio or television, n.e.s.: Display panels	0.61	27	30% – 60% designated, 20% – 100% for components
52	31054000	Ammonium dihydrogenorthophosphate	0.61	9	Not designated
53	84717000	Storage units for automatic data-processing machines	0.60	No change	Not designated
54	84433100	Printers and fax machines	0.58	-11	Not designated
55	22083010	Whiskies: In containers holding 2 li or less	0.57	-7	Not designated
56	84807100	Injection or compression-type moulds for rubber or plastics	0.57	209	Not designated
57	84733000	Parts and accessories of automatic data-processing machines	0.56	-7	Not designated
58	95030090	Tricycles, scooters, pedal cars and similar wheeled toys; dolls' carriages: Other	0.55	-4	Not designated
59	33049990	Beauty or make-up preparations and preparations for the care of the skin: Other	0.54	-8	Not designated
60	84314300	Parts for boring or sinking machinery	0.54	33	Not designated
61	85299020	Components for transmission and reception apparatus for radio-broadcasting or television	0.53	1491	30% – 60% designated, 20% – 100% for components
62	02071210	Frozen chicken, not cut in pieces: Mechanically deboned meat	0.53	119	Not designated

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK Q4 2019 - Q4 2020	DESIGNATION STATUS
63	85437000	Electrical machines and apparatus, having individual functions, n.e.s. in chapter 85	0.52	9	Not designated
64	85258090	Television cameras, digital cameras and video camera recorders: Other	0.52	7	Not designated
65	79011100	Unwrought zinc, not alloyed	0.51	143	Not designated
66	64039990	Footwear with rubber or plastic soles: Other	0.51	9	100% designated
67	62034210	Men's or boys' trousers, bib and brace overalls, breeches and shorts, of cotton: Other, trousers	0.51	7	100% designated
68	87042181	Vehicles for the transport of goods: Other	0.51	-11	Not designated
69	94019090	Parts of seats, n.e.s. : Other	0.49	-14	85% – 100% designated
70	84834000	Gears and gearing for machinery	0.48	No change	Not designated
71	73269090	Articles of iron or steel, n.e.s.: Other	0.48	13	100% designated
72	27101207	Light oils and preparations: Aviation kerosene	0.48	-6	Not designated
73	48115990	Paper and paperboard (excl. bleached and weighing > 150 g/m ² , and adhesives): Other	0.46	-6	Not designated
74	98010025	Original equipment components: For buses and taxis	0.45	-33	Not designated
75	84099990	Parts suitable for use solely or principally with diesel or semi-diesel engine, n.e.s.: Other	0.45	2	Not designated
76	87083090	Brakes and servo-brakes and their parts, n.e.s.: Other	0.44	12	Not designated
77	85443000	Ignition wiring sets and other wiring sets for vehicles, aircraft or ships	0.43	2	90% designated
78	38112100	Prepared additives for oil lubricants containing petroleum oil or bituminous mineral oil	0.43	-14	Not designated
79	84749000	Parts of machinery for working mineral substances of heading 8474, n.e.s.	0.42	-11	Not designated
80	90192000	Ozone therapy or other therapeutic respiration apparatus	0.42	169	Not designated
81	85166000	Electric ovens, cookers, cooking plates and boiling rings, electric grillers and roasters, for domestic use	0.40	58	Not designated
82	84291100	Self-propelled bulldozers and angledozers, track laying	0.40	-19	Not designated

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK Q4 2019 - Q4 2020	DESIGNATION STATUS
83	05040010	Guts, bladders and stomachs of animals (other than fish): Sausage casings	0.39	19	Not designated
84	33029090	Mixtures of odoriferous substances and mixtures, incl. alcoholic solutions: Other	0.39	5	Not designated
85	85371090	Boards and cabinets etc. of apparatus for electricity control or distribution, voltage <= 1.000 V: Other	0.38	-3	Not designated
86	84799000	Parts of machines and mechanical appliances, n.e.s.	0.37	52	Not designated
87	87012020	Road tractors for semi-trailers: Of a vehicle mass exceeding 1 600 kg	0.37	295	Not designated
88	90183900	Needles, catheters, cannulae and the like	0.37	4	Not designated
89	88023000	Aeroplanes and other powered aircraft of an unladen weight > 2.000 kg but <= 15.000 kg	0.37	85	Not designated
90	74031100	Refined copper	0.37	-28	Not designated
91	84089090	Compression-ignition internal combustion piston engine "diesel or semi-diesel engine": Other	0.37	-6	Not designated
92	76042965	Bars, rods and solid profiles, of aluminium alloys, n.e.s.	0.36	68	Not designated
93	84729000	Office machines, n.e.s.	0.36	187	Not designated
94	27131200	Petroleum coke, calcined	0.36	23	Not designated
95	84839000	Toothed wheels, chain sprockets and other transmission elements presented separately	0.35	17	Not designated
96	84304100	Self-propelled boring or sinking machinery for boring earth or extracting minerals or ores	0.35	-5	Not designated
97	90318000	Instruments, appliances and machines for measuring or checking (excluding optical)	0.35	-11	Not designated
98	30022000	Vaccines for human medicine	0.35	-46	Not designated
99	84219990	Parts of machinery and apparatus for filtering or purifying liquids or gases, n.e.s.: Other	0.35	5	Not designated
100	84139100	Parts of pumps for liquids, n.e.s.	0.35	-6	Not designated

Annexure 2: Surges in import products, by quantity, Q4 2020

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION	REAL GROWTH, QUANTITY	UNIT	PERCENT GROWTH	DESIGNATION STATUS
01069000	Live animals	Surge within usual variance	204 020 960 543	Units	3397%	Not designated
27090000	Crude oil	Decline in imports	-2 064 901 871	Kilograms	-36%	Not designated
27101230	Diesel	Import commodity	394 316 153	Litres	33%	Not designated
27111100	Natural gas, liquefied	Decline in imports	-36 408 786	Kilograms	-5%	Not designated
27101202	Light oils and preparations: Petrol	Import commodity	191 277 036	Litres	62%	Not designated
27011200	Bituminous coal	Import commodity	131 253 267	Kilograms	40%	Not designated
44072500	Dark red meranti, light red meranti and meranti bakau of a thickness of > 6 mm	Data error	428 975 282	Cubic meters	4440582%	Not designated
28182000	Aluminium oxide (excluding artificial corundum)	Not significant	45 993 839	Kilograms	13%	Not designated
31021000	Urea, whether or not in aqueous solution	Not significant	39 257 260	Kilograms	15%	Not designated
10063000	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	Decline in imports	-20 814 504	Kilograms	-7%	Not designated
25232900	Portland cement	Decline in imports	-38 233 411	Kilograms	-13%	Not designated
44123900	Plywood consisting solely of sheets of wood <= 6 mm thick	Ongoing monitoring	123 340 325	Cubic meters	94%	Not designated
44079100	Oak "Quercus spp.", sawn or chipped lengthwise of a thickness of > 6 mm	Ongoing monitoring	53 475 631	Cubic meters	82%	Not designated
25030000	Sulphur of all kinds	Not significant	22 228 751	Kilograms	24%	Not designated
23040000	Oilcake and other solid residues resulting from the extraction of soya-bean oil	Decline in imports	-1 451 810	Kilograms	-1%	Not designated
31054000	Ammonium dihydrogenorthophosphate	Decline in imports	-3 877 793	Kilograms	-4%	Not designated
27101207	Light oils and preparations: Aviation kerosene	Not significant	31 677 880	Litres	49%	Not designated
28362000	Disodium carbonate	Not significant	1 376 712	Kilograms	2%	Not designated
31042000	Potassium chloride for use as fertiliser	Decline in imports	-92 777 961	Kilograms	-52%	Not designated
27131200	Petroleum coke, calcined	Not significant	10 986 253	Kilograms	15%	Not designated

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION	REAL GROWTH, QUANTITY	UNIT	PERCENT GROWTH	DESIGNATION STATUS
28151200	Sodium hydroxide in aqueous solution	Decline in imports	-49 120 394	Kilograms	-40%	Not designated
17011300	Raw cane sugar, in solid form	Decline in imports	-5 734 898	Kilograms	-7%	Not designated
85392125	Tungsten halogen filament lamps: for motor vehicles	Ongoing monitoring	67 460 618	Units	1635%	Not designated
84248900	Mechanical appliances for projecting, dispersing or spraying liquids or powders, n.e.s.	Surge within usual variance	50 930 654	Units	261%	Not designated
44121000	Plywood, veneered panel and similar laminated wood, of bamboo	Surge within usual variance	51 570 025	Cubic meters	549%	Not designated
27101235	Light oils and preparations: Residual fuel oils	Surge within usual variance	35 018 599	Litres	137%	Not designated
27011900	Coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	Decline in imports	-255 934 279	Kilograms	-81%	Not designated
02071210	Frozen chicken, not cut in pieces: Mechanically deboned meat	Not significant	18 171 317	Kilograms	43%	Not designated
98010040	Original equipment components: for goods vehicles	Not significant	14 963 199	Kilograms	37%	Not designated
31022100	Ammonium sulphate (excl. that in pellet or similar forms)	Not significant	2 376 024	Kilograms	4%	Not designated
26180000	Granulated slag "slag sand" from the manufacture of iron or steel	Ongoing monitoring	55 409 841	Kilograms	34848957%	Not designated
28141000	Anhydrous ammonia	Surge within usual variance	25 296 450	Kilograms	105%	Not designated
90189000	Medical instruments and appliances, n.e.s	Not significant	11 430 869	Units	31%	Not designated
90183140	Syringes, with or without needles	Not significant	5 479 833	Units	14%	Not designated
98010030	Automotive components: For motor cars	Decline in imports	-6 762 468	Kilograms	-13%	Not designated
85235210	Cards incorporating one or more electronic integrated circuits "smart cards": Digital	Decline in imports	-22 859 936	Units	-34%	Not designated
25201000	Gypsum; anhydrite	Decline in imports	-24 124 613	Kilograms	-35%	Not designated
28331100	Disodium sulphate	Decline in imports	-9 391 637	Kilograms	-18%	Not designated
29173600	Terephthalic acid and its salts	Not significant	571 042	Kilograms	1%	Not designated
85411000	Diodes (excluding photosensitive or light emitting diodes "LED")	Not significant	5 748 326	Units	19%	Not designated

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION	REAL GROWTH, QUANTITY	UNIT	PERCENT GROWTH	DESIGNATION STATUS
08039010	Fresh or dried bananas (excluding plantains): Fresh	Decline in imports	-6 373 040	Kilograms	-15%	Not designated
28365000	Calcium carbonate	Decline in imports	-22 723 289	Kilograms	-39%	Not designated
27101226	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals: Illuminating kerosene	Selected for analysis	35 235 335	Litres	3523533450%	Not designated
47032900	Semi-bleached or bleached non-coniferous chemical wood pulp, soda or sulphate	Selected for analysis	18 879 808	Kilograms	130%	Not designated
94032000	Metal furniture	Selected for analysis	27 534 457	Kilograms	567%	85% – 100% designated
76042965	Bars, rods and solid profiles, of aluminium alloys, n.e.s.	Selected for analysis	24 947 106	Kilograms	396%	Not designated
44029000	Wood charcoal, incl. shell or nut charcoal, whether or not agglomerated	Not significant	4 057 413	Kilograms	16%	Not designated
23023000	Bran, sharps and other residues of wheat	Not significant	285 864	Kilograms	1%	Not designated
85423900	Electronic integrated circuits	Decline in imports	-9 861 012	Kilograms	-26%	Not designated
39181000	Floor coverings of polymers of vinyl chloride	Not significant	9 435 292	Kilograms	51%	Not designated