



TRADE & INDUSTRIAL POLICY STRATEGIES



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

TIPS IMPORT TRACKER

FIRST QUARTER 2023

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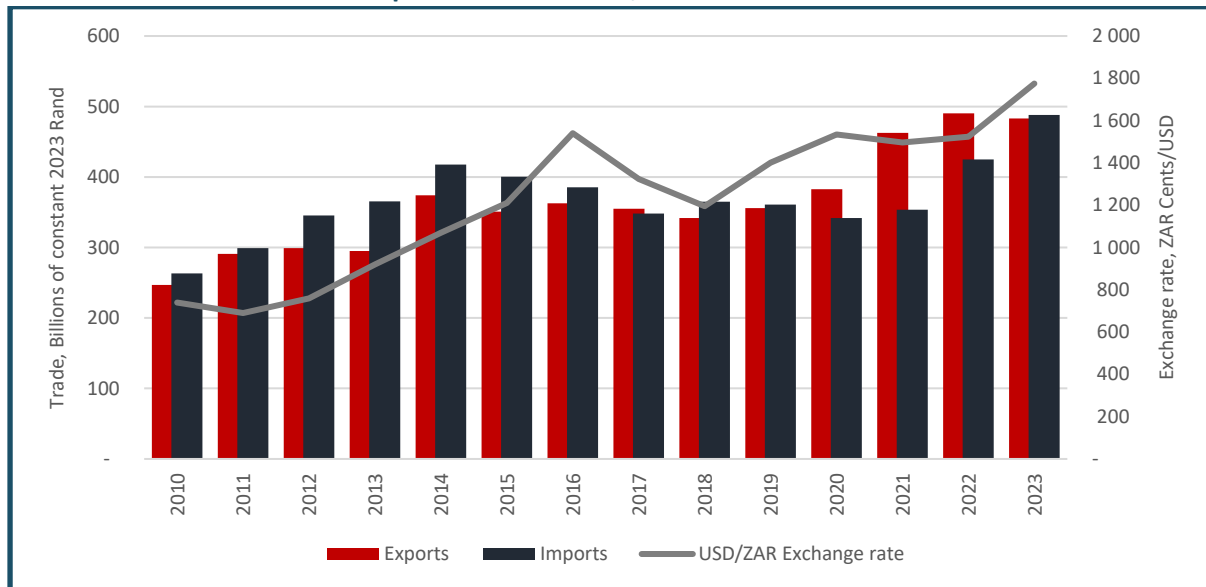
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Trade context

South Africa’s first quarter trade balance declined to a deficit for the first time since the first quarter of 2019, driven in part by a decline in exports, while imports remained relatively high, even with a R5 billion quarter-on-quarter decline. In all, exports declined by R7 billion to R483 billion in the year to the first quarter of 2023, while imports increased by some R63 billion to R488 billion during the same period (see Graph 1).

Graph 1: Trade balance, Q1 2010 – Q1 2023



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

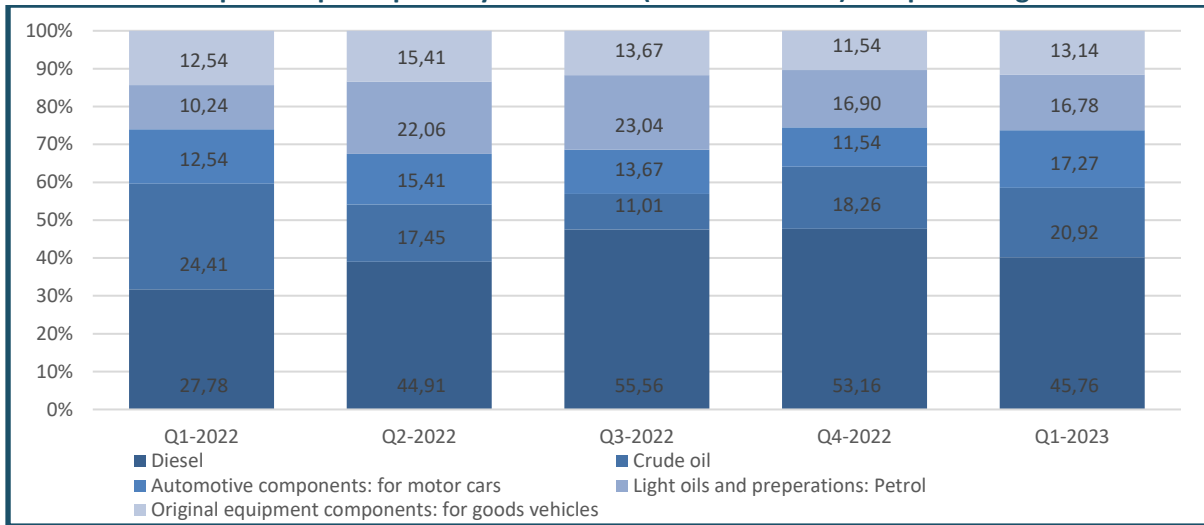
Imports from the top five sources (China, Germany, the United States (US), India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)) amounted to R227 billion (about 47% of total imports) in the first quarter of 2023, up from R178.3 billion in the first quarter of 2022. In real terms, imports from China show the highest growth, rising to R99.3 billion in the year to the first quarter of 2023. Among the top products imported were smartphones at R5.6 billion, lithium-ion accumulators at about R4.9 billion, and data-processing machines at R4.7 billion. Imports from India, which had in past quarters been driven by diesel, were driven by petrol imports at R3.6 billion. Diesel imports declined from a peak of R15.7 billion in the fourth quarter of 2022 to R2.9 billion in the first quarter of 2023.

Diesel continued to dominate South Africa’s imports in the first quarter of 2023, amounting to R45.8 billion, up from R27.6 billion in the first quarter of 2022, but significantly lower than the R55.7 billion from the fourth quarter of 2022. Crude oil was the second-largest import product, although the value of imports declined to R20.9 billion in the year to the first quarter of 2023 (quantities declined to 1.9 billion kilograms from 2.5 billion kilograms over the same period). Other top import products included components for motor vehicles, components for goods vehicles as well as petrol (see Graph 2). The value of the top five import products increased by some 32% to R113.9 billion in the year to the first quarter of 2023.

South Africa’s top five export destinations for the first quarter of 2023 were China, the US, Germany, Japan and Mozambique (these exports – mainly made up of ores – are destined for re-export). Exports to these countries amounted to R178.3 billion, up slightly from R178 billion in the first quarter of 2022. Exports to Germany declined by a notable R11.3 billion (26%), driven by a R4.2 billion fall in exports of coin of legal tender, a R3.5 billion decline in motor vehicle exports, and a combined R2.5 billion decline in platinum and rhodium exports. In addition to Germany, exports to the US and Japan also declined,

by R2.9 billion and R4.5 billion respectively. In contrast, exports to China grew by some R13.5 billion in the year to the first quarter of 2023, driven by a combined R8.3 billion increase in chromium ores and ferro-chromium exports, and a R2.4 billion rise in in chemical wood pulp exports, among others.

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

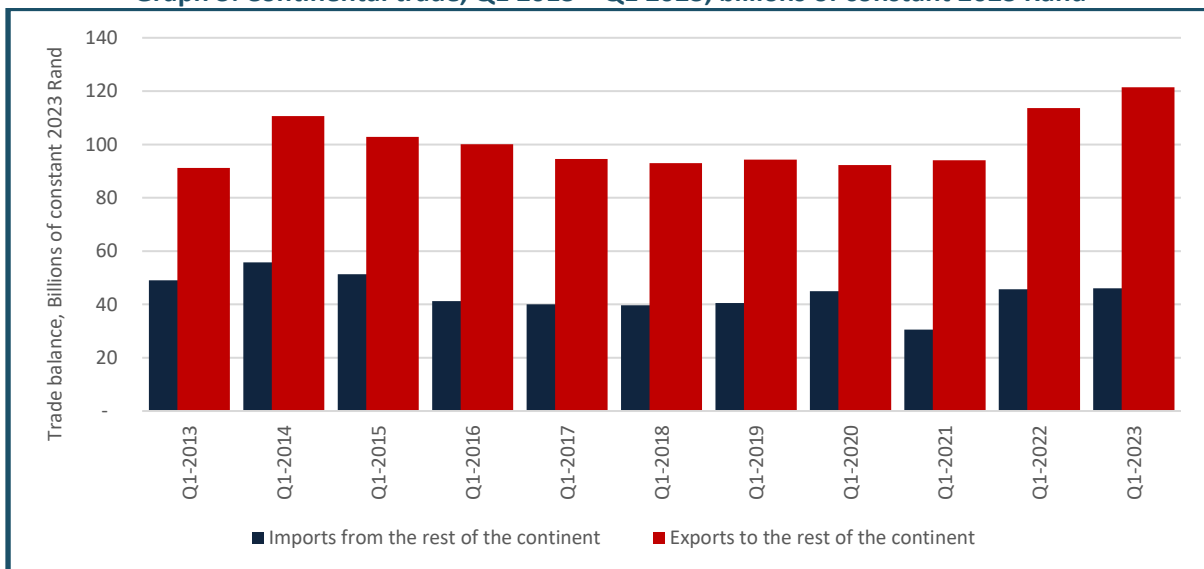


Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in July 2023.

Continental trade

South Africa's imports from the rest of the continent increased slightly in the year to the first quarter of 2023, from R45.6 billion to R46.1 billion. Over the same period, exports to the rest of the continent increased to R121.4 billion from R113.6 billion. The slow growth in imports was in part due to a decline in petroleum imports, particularly crude oil, for which total imports declined by R2 billion. Graph 3 shows trade between South Africa and the rest of the continent.

Graph 3: Continental trade, Q1 2013 – Q1 2023, billions of constant 2023 Rand

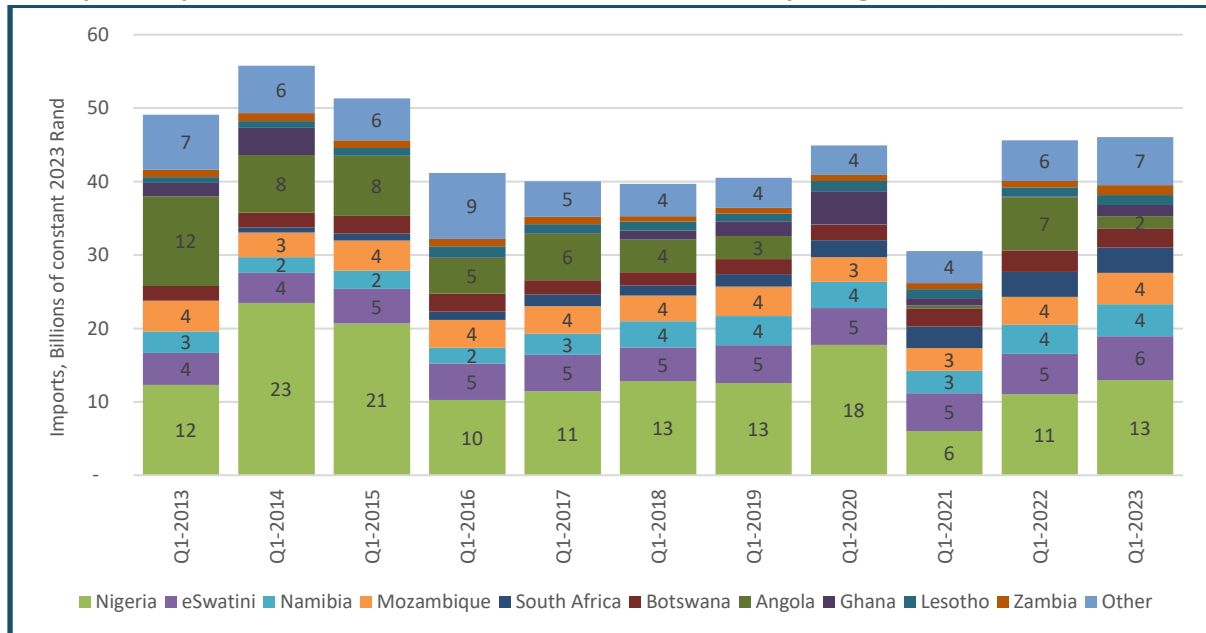


Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in July 2023.

Graph 4 shows the top 10 countries from which South Africa imported goods between 2013 and 2023. In the year to the first quarter of 2023, imports from these 10 countries accounted for 86% of imports from the continent, with Nigeria accounting for 33% of that (and about 28% of total imports from the continent). eSwatini was the second-largest source of imports for the quarter, amounting to R6 billion (R1.6 billion of which was mixtures of odoriferous substances, and R749.7 million in chemical products

and preparations). There were also re-imports, amounting to R3.4 billion, up from R1.9 billion in the previous quarter. Notably, 44% of these imports were COVID-19 vaccines which were re-imported for the first time in this quarter. This was followed by re-imports of currency (mainly Rand notes being returned to South Africa) and rhodium at 9% apiece.

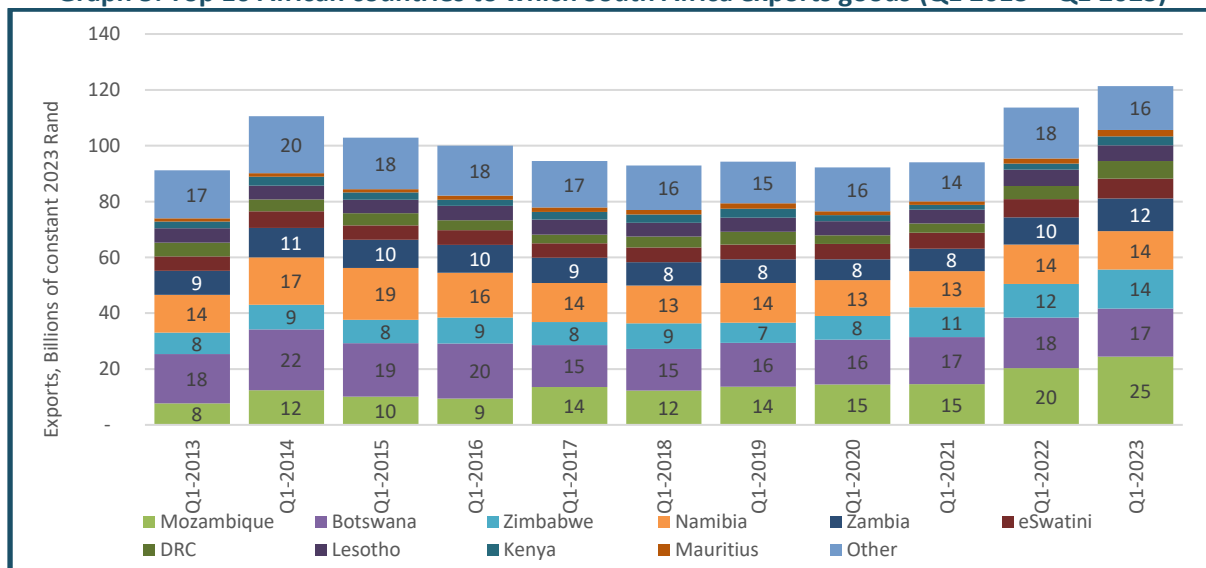
Graph 4: Top 10 African countries from which South Africa imports goods (Q1 2013 – Q1 2023)



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in July 2023.

South Africa’s exports to its top 10 trade partners within the continent amounted to R105.6 billion in the first quarter of 2023, with Mozambique, Botswana and Zimbabwe among the top destinations. The shift in logistics patterns for ore exports remains, and is visible in the growing share of chromium ores and concentrates, and ferro-chromium, exported to Mozambique, but mainly meant for re-export. In 2021, exports of these products to Mozambique amounted to a combined R2.3 billion (18% of exports to Mozambique). These grew to R9.5 billion in the first quarter of 2023 (39% of exports to the country). Exports to Botswana amounted to R24.5 billion in the first quarter of 2023, while exports to Zimbabwe amounted to R13.9 billion (see Graph 5).

Graph 5: Top 10 African countries to which South Africa exports goods (Q1 2013 – Q1 2023)



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in July 2023.

Major imports

The Top 100 imports by Rand value amounted to R283.8 billion in the first quarter of 2023, up from R271.5 billion in the fourth quarter of 2022. Although diesel imports show a 65% year-on-year increase for the period to the first quarter of 2023, quarter-on-quarter imports of the product declined by 14% to R45.8 billion. Lithium-ion accumulators imports rose to R5.2 billion, up from R1.1 billion in the first quarter of 2022. Annexure 1 shows the Top 100 products by Rand value, which can be classified into broad categories such as: 1) petroleum and other liquid fuels; 2) renewable energy-related equipment; 3) information and communications technology (ICT) equipment; 4) food and beverages; 5) production metals; 6) automotives and components; 7) medical equipment; 8) aircraft and aircraft components.

Import surges

2 shows the list of the Top 50 imports by quantity for the first quarter of 2023. The annexure classifies the shift in the trend of imports into the following categories: not significant; selected for analysis; ongoing monitoring; data errors; surge is within usual variance; and decline in imports. For the first quarter of the year, three products were selected for analysis, seven show a decline in imported volumes (far fewer than the 17 seen in the fourth quarter of 2022, 11 are potential data errors, and 15 show growth that is not significant enough to warrant additional analysis for this report.

As noted, seven products show a decline in imported quantities. Notably, imported quantities for Portland cement (a product which is 100% designated for local production) declined by about 3% (or about 5.9 million kilograms), but the value of imports increased by some 18%. Similarly, fuel wood imports fell by 7.1 million kilograms, although the value of imports increased by 22% in the year to the first quarter of 2023 (see Table 1). Other products show a decline in both the volumes imported and the value of those imports. These include crude oil, for which imports declined by 629 million kilograms (and R3.5 billion).

Table 1: Decline in imports between Q1 2022 and Q1 2023

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	REAL GROWTH/DECLINE, QUANTITY	UNITS	PERCENT DECLINE, QUANTITY	PERCENT GROWTH /DECLINE, VALUE
27090000	Crude oil	- 629 116 240	Kilograms	-25%	-14%
10019900	Wheat and meslin (excluding seed for sowing, and durum wheat)	- 153 554 542	Kilograms	-27%	-11%
25232900	Portland cement (excluding white, whether or not artificially coloured)	- 5 948 529	Kilograms	-3%	18%
44011200	Fuel wood, in logs, billets, twigs, faggots or similar forms, non-coniferous	- 7 188 966	Kilograms	-4%	22%
15119090	Palm oil and its fractions, whether or not refined (excluding chemically modified and crude)	- 56 684 578	Kilograms	-38%	-48%
27011900	Coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	- 182 705 254	Kilograms	-70%	-64%
25010090	Salts, including table salt and denatured salt, and pure sodium chloride: Other	- 47 779 658	Kilograms	-42%	-27%

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 of previously identified surges

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	STATUS OF SURGE	EXPLANATION
27101235	Light oils and preparations: Residual fuels	Fluctuating	The trend for this product has been fluctuating since imports surged in the first quarter of 2021 following a disruption in local refinery capacity. Imported quantities peaked at 410 million litres in the third quarter of 2022, fell to 269 million litres in the following quarter, before rising to 309 million litres in the first quarter of 2023. The trend of these imports will likely continue to follow – inversely – the trend of crude oil imports.
27101207	Light oils and preparations: aviation kerosene	Fluctuating	Similar to residual fuel imports, aviation kerosene imports have also fluctuated. Imports fell to 197 million litres in the first quarter of 2023, from 261 million litres in the previous quarter.
28362000	Disodium carbonate	Growing	Imports rose to 195 million kilograms in the first quarter of 2023, up from 112 million kilograms in the previous quarter.
27132000	Petroleum bitumen	Growing	Imports rose to 66 million kilograms in the first quarter of 2023, from 23 million kilograms in the previous quarter.

Finding 2: Ball-point pens

Ball-point pens (HS96081000) are writing implements that dispense ink (commonly dispensed with a light ink paste) through a metal ball at its end. Ball-point pens are generally in high demand globally given their use in different settings, including for office work, households, and education institutions.¹ Ball-point pens have several components. Tungsten carbide, steel or brass is moulded from metallic powder which, through the use of an abrasive paste is shaped into spheres to form the ball-point.² These spheres are then attached to a polymer, plastic, or rubber-based ink reservoir. The pens are finally attached to a plastic holder. In terms of global trade and production, China, France, Germany, and Japan produce more than 80% of ball-point pens for distribution.³ Historically China is the largest exporter of ball-point pens to South Africa.

Imports of ball-point pens surged to 90.8 million units in the first quarter of 2023, from 35.2 million units in the first quarter of 2022 (see Graph 6). The value of imports decreased over this period, from

¹ BIC Crystal Pens: The World's most Popular Pen. April 2015. Ohio State University. Available:

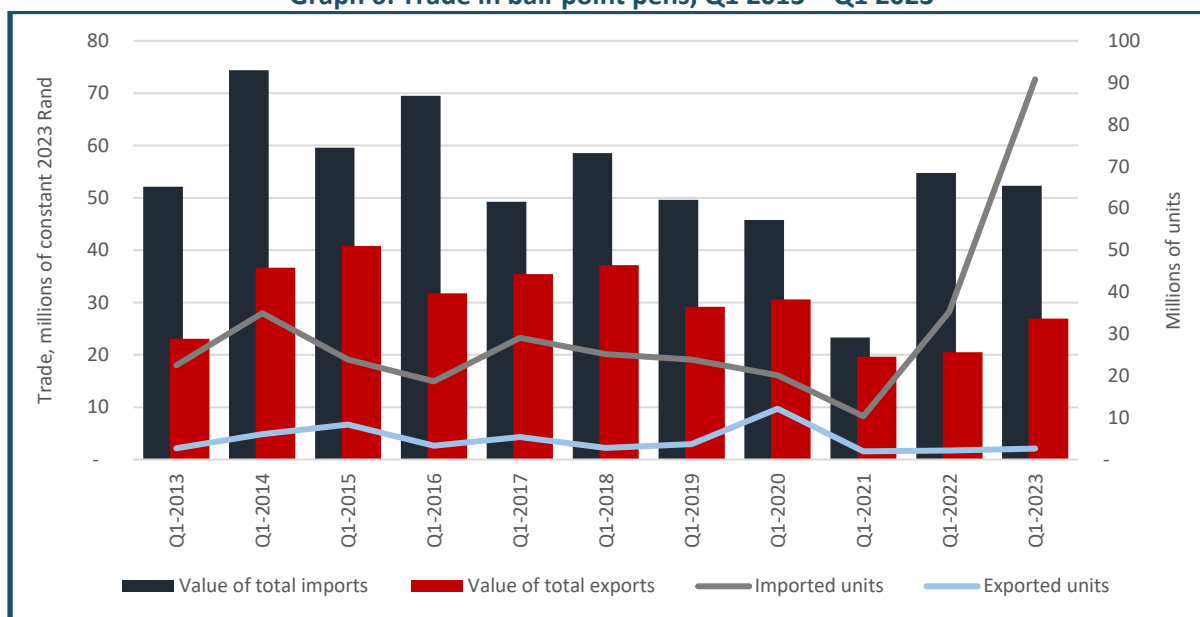
<https://u.osu.edu/bicpens/03-manufacturing/>

² Ibid.

³ World Integrated Trade Solutions. World Bank. 2019. Available: <https://wits.worldbank.org/trade/comtrade/en/country/ALL/year/2019/tradeflow/Exports/partner/WLD/product/960810>

R54.8 million to R52.3 million. The surge in imported units is due to increased imports from Tunisia, which has historically exported less than one million units to South Africa. Over this period, imports from Brazil also surged to 22.8 million units, from a low 25 units in the first quarter of 2018. There is no clear reason for the surge of ball-point pen imports and there is a notable mismatch between the overall import value and the imported quantity. However, the value of imports from these countries shows some growth (though far below imports from countries like China and France), pointing perhaps to a shift in importer preferences to countries that can supply at much lower prices. It stands to be seen whether this trend will continue in the future.

Graph 6: Trade in ball-point pens, Q1 2013 – Q1 2023



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in July 2023.

South Africa is a net importer of ball-point pens, with exports usually below five million units per quarter (although there was a surge to 12 million units in the first quarter of 2020). Much of what South Africa exports goes to other countries within the continent, particularly within the Southern African Customs Union (SACU). About 55% of total exported quantities and 43% of the value of total exports went to SACU member states in the first quarter of 2023.

Finding 3: Roasted malt: of barley

Roasted malt: of barley (HS11072020) is made by dry-toasting malts at high temperatures in a roasting drum, and comes in colours ranging from pale gold to burnt browns.⁴ Barley malt is made from barley, a type of cereal grain used in the food and beverage industry for bread-making and beverage brewing, among other uses. Products of roasted malt of barley include brewed beers such as stout and lager. A notable player in the local beverage industry is AB InBev’s local subsidiary South African Breweries (SAB), which operates seven breweries across the country and converts barley into malt at its 180 000-tonne factory in Caledon in the Western Cape.⁵

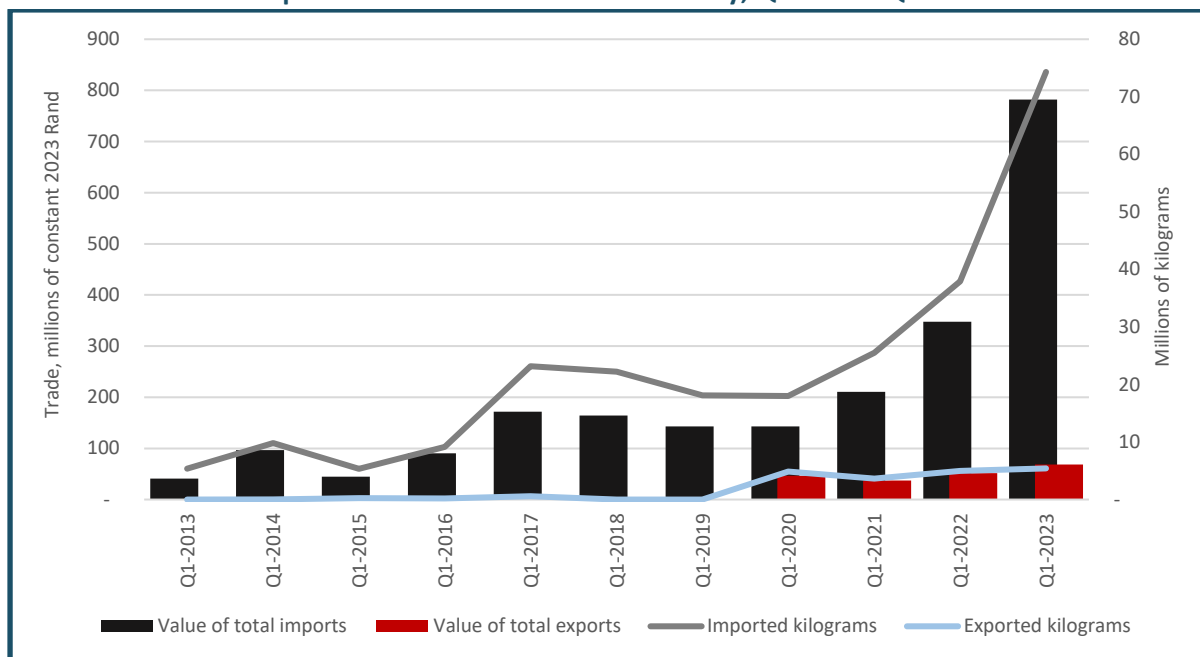
Roasted malt: of barley imports surged by some 36 million kilograms to more than 74 million kilograms in the year to the first quarter of 2023 (see Graph 7). The source of the surge is Belgium, with imports from that country surging by more than 14 million kilograms to 37 million kilograms in this period. The imports value from Belgium grew by R164 million to R374 million. Total exports of the product grew by 460 790 kilograms to more than five million kilograms in the year to the first quarter of 2023 (see

⁴ Giovanisci, M. 2019. Roasted Malt: A DIY guide. Available: <https://www.brewcabin.com/roasted-malt/>

⁵ Who Owns Whom. 2023. The liquor industry in South Africa.

Graph 7). There was a decline in exports to the top export destination, Botswana, by 382 700 kilograms over the same period. In the first quarter of 2023, there were only five export destinations with 33% to Botswana; 25% to Lesotho; 19% to eSwatini; 13% to Namibia; and lastly 10% to Zambia.

Graph 7: Trade in Roasted malt: of barley, Q1 2013 – Q1 2023



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in July 2023.

Growth in imports of this product is a consequence of barley crop failure due to drought in the Western Cape. The barley harvest faced challenges because of the dry summer, which meant wheat kernels left on the ground only germinated during the tilling period. This impacted how much wheat was present in the season’s barley harvest. To account for this, companies like AB InBev changed their wheat to barley ratio concession to account for the higher wheat content, thus lessening the impact on barley farmers supplying the beverage maker.⁶

Finding 4: Salts, including table salt and denatured salt, and pure sodium chloride: not for human consumption

Salt (HS25010010), also known as sodium chloride, is a bulk mineral found mainly in rock salt deposits and brine sources such as sea water. There are various methods for the extraction and production of salt including solar brine, underground mining of rock salts and vacuum evaporation. Salt production is cyclical, and generally takes place in the summer months due to the high temperatures necessary for the process of evaporation and crystallisation. Production is affected by weather conditions, with rain posing the highest risk and, together with cold temperatures, can deter production.⁷

In addition to use in cooking and food processing, salt has a wide range of industrial applications in the chemicals, agriculture, mining and oil and gas sectors. The largest consumer of this particular salt is the chemical industry, where it is used in the manufacturing of several compounds including sodium bicarbonate, sodium hydroxide and chlorine. Large quantities are also used as feedstock in other manufacturing processes and for water softening purposes. Demand in the agricultural industry is

⁶ Graan/Grain SA Magazine. 2022. Barley harvest face some challenges. Available: <https://sagrainmag.co.za/2023/01/03/barley-harvest-face-some-challenges/>

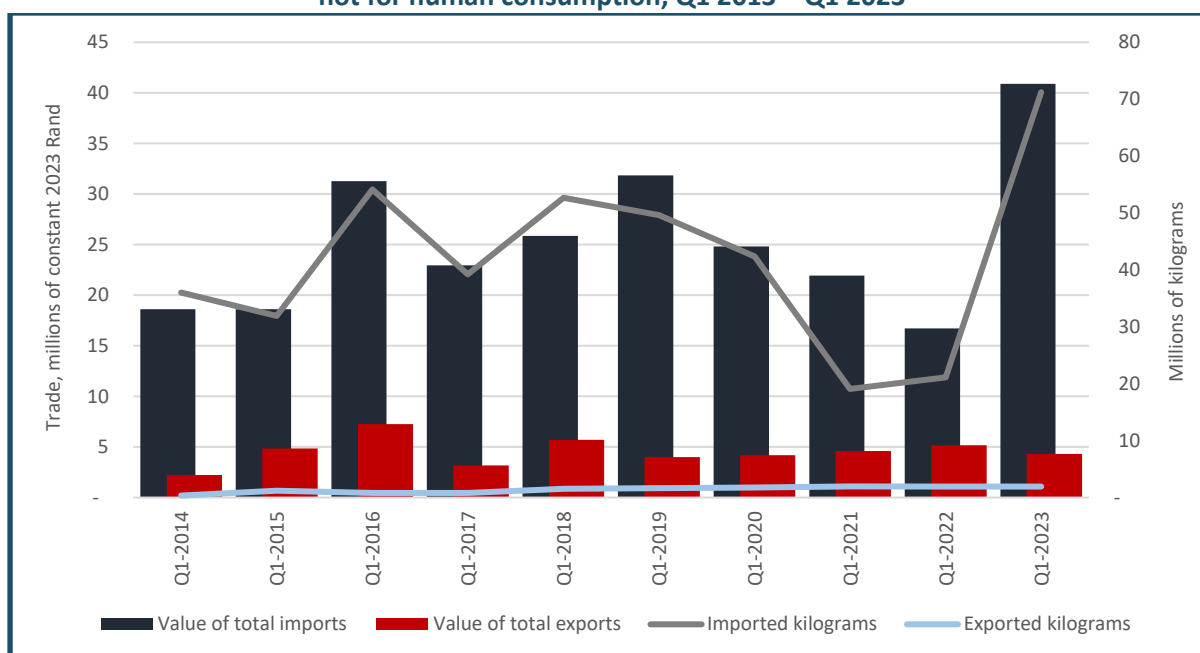
⁷ Who Owns Whom. Manufacture of edible salts, siccode 33591, 2019. www.whoownswhom.co.za

seasonal. It is highest during periods of drought, compared to rainy seasons. In addition, salt is added to cattle feed to regulate sodium intake.⁸

In South Africa salt resources comprise inland saltpans fed by underground brines, coastal saltpans, and seawater. There are 29 salt mines in the country, over half of which are located in the Northern Cape, where a substantial number of large saltpans are found in the Kalahari region. Compared to salt produced inland, sea salt production is more capital-intensive and requires a lead time of up to five years before production is complete. The local industry produces less than half of the salt consumed locally, with the product cheaper to import from Namibia and Botswana. In addition, and perhaps more significant, is that locally manufactured salt is considered to be of low quality (containing less than 95% sodium chloride – a requirement for use in particular sectors like chemicals). Further, small salt producers are constrained by increasing input costs, which limits their ability to expand, thereby growing the local salt industry. Namibia’s Walvis Bay Salt Holdings is the largest solar salt producer in Sub-Saharan Africa, followed by Botswana Ash (Botash). Walvis Bay Salt is a subsidiary of the Bud Group, a South African integrated services, manufacturing and distribution company which also owns Cerebos. The Group also has a 50% share in Botash.⁹

Salt imports surged from R16.7 million in the first quarter of 2022 to R40.9 million in the first quarter of 2023 (see Graph 8), driven by a R27.5 million surge in imports from Namibia. In volumes, imports for the first quarter show a 50.1 million kilograms year-on-year surge. Imports from Namibia surged by a notable 56.2 million kilograms over this period, while imports from Botswana – the next largest source – declined by 5.8 million kilograms.

Graph 8: Trade in salts, including table salt and denatured salt, and pure sodium chloride: not for human consumption, Q1 2013 – Q1 2023



Source: Calculated from ITC Trade Map data. Downloaded from <https://www.trademap.org> in July 2023.

While the surge this quarter is driven by imports from Namibia, the data indicates that Botswana has historically been the main source of salt imports for South Africa. Salt imported from Namibia accounts for 91% of imports for the quarter. Imports from Botswana, which typically account for more than 70% of total imports, show a decline from 12.3 million kilograms in the first quarter 2022 to 6.5 million

⁸ Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE), 2018. Review of the salt industry in South Africa. www.dmr.gov.za

⁹ DMRE and Who Owns Whom.

kilograms in the first quarter of 2023. The decline in imports from Botswana is likely due to the impact of heavy rains in the first half 2023, which also saw South Africa declare a national state of disaster.¹⁰

It is not clear what is driving the surge in imports, besides possibly the rains that affected Botswana. Still, a few factors might be at play. In pharmaceuticals, sodium chloride is listed among critical inputs for the production of COVID-19 vaccines¹¹, in which a few locally operating pharmaceutical companies have been involved. In the renewable energy industry, research and development into the advancement of sodium battery technology is ongoing.¹²

Finding 5: Data errors and other issues

Table 3: Possible data errors

HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION
44123900	Plywood consisting solely of sheets of wood <= 6 mm thick	Error in reporting quantity from Brazil, which reports exports in kilograms, compared to cubic metres as reported by South Africa.
44072500	Dark red meranti, light red meranti and meranti bakau, sawn or chipped lengthwise	Error in reporting quantity from Malaysia.
73182200	Washers of iron or steel (excl. spring washers and other lock washers)	Error in reporting quantity imported from the Czech Republic. Reported imports to South Africa far exceed what Czech Republic reports as total exports.
44123300	Plywood consisting solely of sheets of wood <= 6 mm thick, with at least one outer ply of non-coniferous wood of the species alder, ash etc.	Error in reporting quantity from China, which is reported in kilograms, compared to cubic metres used by South Africa.
29025000	Styrene	Error in reporting quantity imported from Saudi Arabia.
85423100	Electronic integrated circuits as processors and controllers, whether or not combined with memories, converters, logic circuits, amplifiers, clock and timing circuits, or other circuits	Error in converting quantities imported from China – which are reported in kilograms, compared to units as reported by South Africa.
44079100	Oak “Quercus spp.”, sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled	Error in reporting quantities from the US and Canada. Reported imported quantities far exceed what both countries report as total exports.
29053100	Ethylene glycol "ethanediol"	Error in reporting quantity imported from Saudi Arabia. The surge in imports (reported quantities fall beyond the usual trend) is not matched by a corresponding increase in the value of the imports.
44072900	Tropical wood, sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled, of a thickness of > 6 mm	Error in converting quantities imported from Brazil.
28044000	Oxygen	Error in reporting quantity imported from Belgium.
29094100	2,2'-Oxydiethanol “diethylene glycol, digol”	Error in reporting quantity imported from Saudi Arabia.

¹⁰ <https://www.botash.co.za/operations> and <https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2023-02-20-sa-weather-service-issues-alerts-as-government-responds-to-flood-chaos-across-the-country/>

¹¹ <https://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/global-supply-chains-at-work-a-tale-of-three-products-to-fight-covid-19-07647bc5/>

¹² <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/04/12/business/china-sodium-batteries.html>

DATA ANNEXURES

Annexure 1: Top 100 import products by Rand value, Q1 2023

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK, Q1 2022 – Q1 2023	DESIGNATION STATUS
1	27101230	Diesel	45.76	No change	Not designated
2	27090000	Crude oil	20.92	No change	Not designated
3	98010030	Automotive components: For motor cars	17.27	No change	Not designated
4	27101202	Light oils and preparations: Petrol	16.78	1	Not designated
5	98010040	Original equipment components: For goods vehicles	13.14	-1	Not designated
6	85171310	Smartphones for wireless networks	9.32	No change	Not designated
7	87032290	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity 1 000 cm ³ to 1 500 cm ³	7.38	3	Not designated
8	49070014	Unused postage, revenue or similar stamps of current or new issue	7.01	-1	Not designated
9	30049099	Medicaments consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic purposes	6.48	No change	Not designated
10	98010045	Original equipment components: For goods vehicles	5.22	1	Not designated
11	85076000	Lithium-ion accumulators (excluding spent)	5.17	33	Not designated
12	84713090	Data-processing machines, automatic, portable, weighing <= 10 kg	4.90	-4	Not designated
13	87032390	Cars and related vehicles: Cylinder capacity 1 500 cm ³ to 3 000 cm ³	4.71	2	Not designated
14	85044000	Static converters	4.69	7	Not designated
15	87032190	Cars and related vehicles: Cylinder capacity not exceeding 1 000 cm ³	4.12	2	Not designated
16	85176290	Routers and set-top boxes: Other	3.76	-2	Routers not designated; STB 30% designated
17	85414300	Photovoltaic cells assembled in modules or made up into panels	3.53	17	70% designated
18	87041090	Dumpers for off-highway use: Other	2.92	12	Not designated
19	27101235	Light oils and preparations: Residual fuels	2.87	33	Not designated
20	71081300	Gold, in semi-manufactured forms, for non-monetary purposes	2.83	No change	Not designated
21	27101207	Light oils and preparations: Aviation kerosene	2.68	1	Not designated

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK, Q1 2022 – Q1 2023	DESIGNATION STATUS
22	27101226	Light oils and preparations: Illuminating kerosene	2.66	4	Not designated
23	28182000	Aluminium oxide (excluding artificial corundum)	2.58	-5	Not designated
24	71023100	Non-industrial diamonds unworked or simply sawn, cleaved or bruted	2.58	-12	Not designated
25	87033290	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity 1 000 cm3 to 2 500 cm3	2.57	-2	Not designated
26	10019900	Wheat and meslin (excluding seed for sowing, and durum wheat)	2.42	-10	Not designated
27	84715000	Processing units for automatic data-processing machines	2.39	4	Not designated
28	87033390	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity exceeding 2 500 cm3	2.19	8	Not designated
29	88024000	Aeroplanes and other powered aircraft of an of an unladen weight > 15000 kg	2.08	206	Not designated
30	33021000	Mixtures of odoriferous substances and mixtures, incl. alcoholic solutions of a kind used in the food and drink industries	2.01	-6	Not designated
31	27111100	Natural gas, liquefied	1.95	8	Not designated
32	74081100	Wire of refined copper, with a maximum cross-sectional dimension of > 6 mm	1.94	-13	Not designated
33	84314990	Parts of machinery of heading 8426, 8429 and 8430, n.e.s.: Other	1.93	-4	Not designated
34	27040000	Coke and semi-coke of coal, of lignite or of peat, whether or not agglomerated	1.81	50	Not designated
35	84295200	Self-propelled bulldozers, etc: With 360 degree revolving superstructure	1.77	-3	Not designated
36	90189000	Instruments and appliances used in medical, surgical or veterinary sciences, n.e.s.	1.76	1	Not designated
37	10063000	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	1.71	-9	Not designated
38	30024111	Vaccines for human medicine: against severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (sarscov- 2) and its variants	1.65	3	Not designated
39	98010015	Automotive components: for tractors and buses	1.62	14	Not designated
40	15119090	Palm oil and its fractions, whether or not refined	1.59	-27	Not designated
41	87089990	Parts and accessories for tractors and buses	1.53	4	Not designated
42	38249999	Chemical products and preparations of the chemical or allied industries	1.49	-2	Not designated
43	27011200	Bituminous coal	1.46	63	Not designated
44	27160000	Electrical energy	1.41	-11	Not designated
45	87082900	Parts and accessories of bodies for tractors and goods and passenger vehicles	1.36	-2	Not designated

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK, Q1 2022 – Q1 2023	DESIGNATION STATUS
46	84335100	Combine harvester-threshers	1.35	85	Not designated
47	85023900	Generating sets	1.31	92	Not designated
48	28362000	Disodium carbonate	1.23	115	Not designated
49	84439900	Parts and accessories of printers, copying machines and facsimile machines, n.e.s.	1.19	-1	Not designated
50	27101215	Light oils and preparations: Illuminating kerosene	1.18	24	Not designated
51	27101257	Light oils and preparations: Other base oils	1.18	8	Not designated
52	87032490	Cars and related vehicles: cylinder capacity exceeding 3 000 cm ³	1.16	-17	Not designated
53	84089090	Compression-ignition internal combustion piston “diesel or semi-diesel engine”: Other	1.08	56	Not designated
54	85177900	Parts of telephone sets, telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks	1.06	-27	Not designated
55	30024190	Vaccines for human medicine: Other	1.04	74	Not designated
56	84295190	Self-propelled front-end shovel loaders: Other	0.99	61	Not designated
57	84433100	Printers and fax machines	0.97	14	Not designated
58	87042183	Goods vehicles: Other	0.92	34	Not designated
59	38221900	Prepared diagnostic or laboratory reagents whether or not on a backing	0.92	3	Not designated
60	98010025	Original equipment components: For buses and taxis	0.90	-11	Not designated
61	74031100	Copper, refined, in the form of cathodes and sections of cathodes	0.89	-1	Not designated
62	72104990	Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, of a width of \geq 600 mm, hot or cold-rolled	0.89	63	100% designated
63	23040000	Oilcake and other solid residues resulting from the extraction of soya-bean oil	0.88	213	Not designated
64	84798990	Machines and mechanical appliances, n.e.s. : Other	0.88	9	Not designated
65	39269090	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Other	0.86	3	Not designated
66	28439000	Inorganic or organic compounds of precious metals	0.86	-16	Not designated
67	87043181	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods: other, double-cab	0.82	1684	Not designated
68	84304100	Self-propelled boring or sinking machinery for boring earth or extracting minerals or ores	0.82	34	Not designated
69	84749000	Parts of machinery for working mineral substances of heading 8474, n.e.s.	0.81	29	Not designated
70	40118020	New pneumatic tyres, of rubber, of a kind used on construction, mining or industrial handling vehicles and machines	0.81	123	Not designated

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK, Q1 2022 – Q1 2023	DESIGNATION STATUS
71	88073000	Parts of aeroplanes, helicopters or unmanned aircraft, n.e.s. (excluding those for gliders)	0.81	51	Not designated
72	87042190	Goods vehicles of a gross vehicle weight <= 5t: Other	0.81	399	Not designated
73	22030090	Beer made from malt: Other	0.80	55	Not designated
74	11072020	Roasted malt: of barley	0.78	94	Not designated
75	85443000	Ignition wiring sets and other wiring sets of a kind used in vehicles, aircraft or ships	0.78	No change	90% designated
76	27112990	Hydrocarbons in gaseous state, n.e.s. (excluding natural gas): Other	0.75	312	Not designated
77	94019990	Parts of seats, not of wood, n.e.s.: Other	0.74	4	Not designated
78	27101900	Medium oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals, not containing biodiesel, n.e.s.	0.73	57	Not designated
79	85371090	Boards, cabinets and similar combinations of apparatus for electric control or the distribution of electricity, for a voltage <= 1.000 V: Other	0.72	1	Not designated
80	30021500	Immunological products, put up in measured doses, or in forms or packings for retail	0.72	5	Not designated
81	17011300	Raw cane sugar, in solid form, not containing added flavouring or colouring matter	0.71	-14	Not designated
82	71103100	Rhodium, unwrought or in powder form	0.70	2267	Not designated
83	87019500	Tractors, of an engine power > 130 kw	0.70	37	Not designated
84	33049990	Beauty or make-up preparations and preparations for the care of the skin: Other	0.69	3	Not designated
85	84834000	Gears and gearing for machinery ball or roller screws; gear boxes and other speed changers	0.69	27	Not designated
86	27131200	Petroleum coke, calcined	0.68	-8	Not designated
87	01022900	Live cattle (excluding pure-bred for breeding)	0.66	-23	Not designated
88	38170010	Mixed alkylbenzenes and mixed alkylnaphthalenes produced by the alkylation of benzene and naphthalene	0.66	6	Not designated
89	87012120	Road tractors for semi-trailers, with only compression-ignition internal combustion piston engine: of a vehicle mass exceeding 1 600 kg	0.66	157	Not designated
90	38089399	Herbicides, anti-sprouting products and plant-growth regulators	0.66	-29	Not designated
91	38112100	Prepared additives for oil lubricants containing petroleum oil or bituminous mineral oil	0.66	5	Not designated
92	61103000	Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans, waistcoats and similar articles, of man-made fibres, knitted or crocheted (excluding wadded waistcoats)	0.65	-16	100% designated

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	IMPORT VALUE, RAND BILLION	CHANGE IN RANK, Q1 2022 – Q1 2023	DESIGNATION STATUS
93	88023000	Aeroplanes and other powered aircraft of an unladen weight > 2000 kg but <= 15000 kg	0.65	422	Not designated
94	85437000	Electrical machines and apparatus, having individual functions, n.e.s. in chapter 85	0.64	-12	Not designated
95	87034090	Passenger vehicles: Other	0.63	678	Not designated
96	84717000	Storage units for automatic data-processing machines	0.63	-31	Not designated
97	27132000	Petroleum bitumen	0.63	3921	Not designated
98	29173600	Terephthalic acid and its salts	0.62	-12	Not designated
99	28151200	Sodium hydroxide "caustic soda" in aqueous solution "soda lye or liquid soda"	0.62	6	Not designated
100	87085085	Drive-axles with differential, whether or not provided with other transmission components	0.61	76	Not designated

Annexure 2: Surges in import products by quantity Q1 2023

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION	REAL GROWTH/DECLINE, QUANTITY	UNITS	PERCENT GROWTH/DECLINE	DESIGNATION STATUS
1	01064900	Live animals (excluding insects)	Surge within usual variance	- 12 498 695 025	Units	-2%	Not designated
2	27101230	Diesel	Import commodity	732 356 056	Litres	29%	Not designated
3	27090000	Crude oil	Decline in imports	- 629 116 240	Kilograms	-25%	Not designated
4	44123900	Plywood consisting solely of sheets of wood <= 6 mm thick	Data error	1 652 718 297	Cubic metres	220364%	Not designated
5	27101202	Light oils and preparations: Petrol	Import commodity	365 751 065	Litres	39%	Not designated
6	44072500	Dark red meranti, light red meranti and meranti bakau, sawn or chipped lengthwise	Data error	1 194 551 768	Cubic metres	14111657%	Not designated
7	27111100	Natural gas, liquefied	Not significant	17 580 146	Kilograms	3%	Not designated
8	73182200	Washers of iron or steel (excl. spring washers and other lock washers)	Data error	540 071 608	Kilograms	51601%	100% designated
9	27011200	Bituminous coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	Surge within usual variance	236 325 999	Kilograms	98%	Not designated
10	44123300	Plywood consisting solely of sheets of wood <= 6 mm thick, with at least one outer ply of non-coniferous wood of the species alder, ash etc.	Data error	442 432 512	Cubic metres	1415014%	Not designated
11	29025000	Styrene	Data error	415 793 994	Kilograms	4088%	Not designated
12	10019900	Wheat and meslin (excluding seed for sowing, and durum wheat)	Decline in imports	- 153 554 542	Kilograms	-27%	Not designated
13	28182000	Aluminium oxide (excluding artificial corundum)	Not significant	88 863 809	Kilograms	28%	Not designated
14	27101235	Light oils and preparations: Residual fuels	Ongoing monitoring	199 714 067	Litres	182%	Not designated
15	27040000	Coke and semi-coke of coal, of lignite or of peat, whether or not agglomerated	Surge within usual variance	190 330 366	Kilograms	179%	Not designated
16	85423100	Electronic integrated circuits as processors and controllers, whether or not combined with memories, converters, logic circuits, amplifiers, clock and timing circuits, or other circuits	Data error	238 693 840	Units	4196%	Not designated

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION	REAL GROWTH/DECLINE, QUANTITY	UNITS	PERCENT GROWTH/DECLINE	DESIGNATION STATUS
17	10063000	Semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed	Not significant	1 865 107	Kilograms	1%	Not designated
18	44124900	Laminated veneered lumber ""LVL"", with both outer plies of coniferous wood	New trade	220 192 669	Cubic metres	N/A	Not designated
19	44079100	Oak "Quercus spp.", sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled	Data error	217 844 280	Cubic metres	3848839%	Not designated
20	25232900	Portland cement (excl. white, whether or not artificially coloured)	Decline in imports	- 5 948 529	Kilograms	-3%	Not designated
21	27101226	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals	Not significant	44 397 628	Litres	29%	Not designated
22	27101207	Light oils and preparations: aviation kerosene	Ongoing monitoring	24 754 599	Litres	14%	Not designated
23	28362000	Disodium carbonate	Ongoing monitoring	78 657 608	Kilograms	67%	Not designated
24	44011200	Fuel wood, in logs, billets, twigs, faggots or similar forms, non-coniferous	Decline in imports	- 7 188 966	Kilograms	-4%	Not designated
25	25030000	Sulphur of all kinds	Not significant	48 790 351	Kilograms	51%	Not designated
26	44079990	Wood, sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled, whether or not planed, sanded or end-jointed, of a thickness of > 6 mm	Not significant	38 708 004	Cubic metres	42%	Not designated
27	28042900	Rare gases (excl. argon)	Surge within usual variance	126 887 141	Cubic metres	6779%	Not designated
28	29053100	Ethylene glycol "ethanediol"	Data error	108 522 598	Kilograms	712%	Not designated
29	44072900	Tropical wood, sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled, of a thickness of > 6 mm	Data error	120 389 876	Cubic metres	1830746%	Not designated
30	28151200	Sodium hydroxide "caustic soda" in aqueous solution "soda lye or liquid soda"	Not significant	29 786 971	Kilograms	33%	Not designated
31	28044000	Oxygen	Data error	100 002 429	Cubic metres	1666707150%	Not designated
32	15119090	Palm oil and its fractions, whether or not refined (excluding chemically modified and crude)	Decline in imports	- 56 684 578	Kilograms	-38%	Not designated
33	96081000	Ball-point pens	Selected for analysis	55 531 451	Units	157%	Not designated
34	23040000	Oilcake and other solid residues from the extraction of soya-bean oil	Surge within usual variance	57 522 249	Kilograms	183%	Not designated

RANK	HS CODE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION	REAL GROWTH/DECLINE, QUANTITY	UNITS	PERCENT GROWTH/DECLINE	DESIGNATION STATUS
35	27101215	Light oils and preparations: Illuminating kerosene	Not significant	19 243 847	Litres	32%	Not designated
36	27011900	Coal, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	Decline in imports	- 182 705 254	Kilograms	-70%	Not designated
37	29094100	2,2'-Oxydiethanol "diethylene glycol, digol"	Data error	77 320 675	Kilograms	10176%	Not designated
38	98010040	Original equipment components: for goods vehicles	Not significant	8 888 651	Kilograms	13%	Not designated
39	27101257	Light oils and preparations: other base oils for prepared lubricating oil	Not significant	14 229 622	Litres	23%	Not designated
40	11072020	Roasted malt: Of barley	Selected for analysis	36 424 582	Kilograms	96%	Not designated
41	27011100	Anthracite, whether or not pulverised, non-agglomerated	Not significant	23 081 225	Kilograms	45%	Not designated
42	84248900	Mechanical appliances, whether or not hand-operated, for projecting, dispersing or spraying liquids or powders, n.e.s.	Surge within usual variance	50 181 052	Units	218%	Not designated
43	25010010	Salts, incl. table salt and denatured salt, and pure sodium chloride: not for human consumption	Selected for analysis	50 122 758	Kilograms	237%	Not designated
44	85235210	Cards incorporating one or more electronic integrated circuits "smart cards" : Digital	Not significant	9 013 825	Units	15%	Not designated
45	02071210	Frozen fowls of the species Gallus domesticus, not cut in pieces : Mechanically deboned meat	Not significant	5 340 354	Kilograms	9%	Not designated
46	71039900	Precious and semi-precious stones, worked, whether or not graded, but not strung, mounted or set	Surge within usual variance	54 835 447	Carats	457%	Not designated
47	25010090	Salts, incl. table salt and denatured salt, and pure sodium chloride: other	Decline in imports	- 47 779 658	Kilograms	-42%	Not designated
48	27132000	Petroleum bitumen	Ongoing monitoring	66 054 581	Kilograms	30380%	Not designated
49	98010030	Automotive components: for motor cars	Not significant	13 767 172	Kilograms	26%	Not designated
50	17011300	Raw cane sugar, in solid form, not containing added flavouring or colouring matter	Not significant	- 2 403	Kilograms	0%	Not designated