Namibia Trade Statistics Bulletin

AUGUST 2022



NAMIBIA TRADE STATISTICS BULLETIN AUGUST 2022

Mission Statement

"Leveraging on partnerships and innovative technologies, to produce and disseminate relevant, quality, timely statistics and spatial data that are fit-for-purpose in accordance with international standards and best practice"

Vision Statement

"Be a high performance institution in quality statistics delivery"

Core Values

Integrity

Excellent Performance

Accuracy

Team Work

Accountability

Transparency

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List of acronyms

BRIC: Brazil, Russia, India and China
CIF: Cost, Insurance and Freight
COMESA: Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
DRC: Democratic Republic of Congo
EAC: East African Community
EFTA: European Free Trade Association
EPZ: Export Processing Zone
EU: European Union
FOB: Free on Board
ROW: Rest of World
SACU: Southern African Customs Union
SADC: Southern African Development Community
VAR: Imported from Various Countries
AfCFTA: Africa Continental Free Trade Area

Preface

International merchandise trade plays a crucial role in economic development as it links producers and consumers located in different countries into a global economic system. In this context, availability of timely and high-quality trade statistics becomes a precondition for an in-depth analysis of the employment, production, income, consumption and overall welfare both at the country and global level. It is in that light that since its establishment, the NSA has strived to make provision of timely and quality statistics through various publications. This publication outlines the monthly developments of Namibia's merchandise trade with the rest of the world during the period of August 2022. The dataset analyzed in this publication can be downloaded at <u>www.nsa.org.na</u>

During the month of August 2022, the country's trade balance remained in a deficit worsening slightly by 2.1 percent and 9.8 percent from N\$2.9 billion recorded in July 2022 and N\$2.7 billion observed in August 2021, respectively

Namibia's trade composition by partner showed that Botswana emerged as Namibia's largest market for exports whereas South Africa was the main source of imports. The composition of the export basket for the month of August 2022 mainly comprised of minerals such as Precious stones (diamonds), Uranium, Non-monetary gold and Petroleum oils. Fish continued to be the only non-mineral commodity within the top five products exported. On the other hand, the import basket mainly comprised of Petroleum oils, Precious stones(diamonds), Sugars, molasses and honey, Miscellaneous chemical products and Motor Vehicles for the transportation of goods.

For the month of August 2022, re-exports decreased by 14.7 percent month-on-month and increased by 83.4 percent year-on-year. The re-exports basket mainly consisted of Precious stones (diamonds), Petroleum oils and Copper ores and concentrates.

Analysis for the commodity of the month of August 2022 focused on imports and exports of Medicinal and pharmaceutical products. For the month of August 2022, Namibia exported Medicinal and pharmaceutical products valued at N\$ 5.9 million which were mostly destined to South Africa and Angola, whereas the imports value of this commodity stood at N\$102.5 million of which most was sourced from South Africa and Belgium.

Let me take this opportunity to thank all our stakeholders who made it possible for the production of this report. I would also like to urge our Traders and Clearing Agents to continue providing all the required information when declaring their goods as this information is vital in the production of trade statistics. In the same vein, I would like to urge our users of statistical information to send to us any comments that may enhance the quality of this report at info@nsa.org.na.

ALEX SHIMUAFENI STATISTICIAN GENERAL & CEO

SECTION 1: KEY DEVELOPMENTS

1.1 Revisions for July 2022

International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS), like many published statistics, are subject for revisions as new information becomes available. Thus, the trade statistics is revised on a monthly basis as additional information becomes available from the data source.

Table 1: Revisions (N\$ m) for July as reported in August 2022

FIOW	As reported in July_2022 Bulletin (N\$ m)	As reported in Aug_2022 (N\$ m)	Difference (N\$ m)	Difference in %
Total Export	7,294	8,270	976	13.4%
Total Imports	11,556	11,143	-413	-3.6%
Trade balance	-4,262	-2,873	1,389	-32.6%

The table above indicates that exports were revised upwards while imports were revised downwards. Exports increased from N\$7.3 billion to N\$8.3 billion while imports decreased by N\$413 million from N\$11.6 billion to N\$11.1 billion. The trade deficit improved by N\$1.4 billion to N\$2.9 billion. The current revisions on exports were mainly attributed to the revised export value of Uranium, Precious stones (diamonds) and Fish while on the demand side the revision was mainly reflected in Petroleum oils.

1.2 Summary

For the month of August 2022, Namibia's exports earnings stood at N\$7.2 billion (down by 13.1% on a monthly basis) while the imports bill amounted to N\$10.1 billion (down by 9.2% on a monthly basis). This resulted in an increased trade deficit (up by 2.1 percent when compared to N\$2.9 billion recorded the previous month).

Cumulative trade values

Namibia's trade activities continue to increase during the period of January to August 2022 when compared to the same period of 2021. Cumulative total trade for exports from the month of January to August 2022 stood at N\$59.4 billion, representing an increase of 48.3 percent from N\$40.1 billion recorded during the same period in 2021.

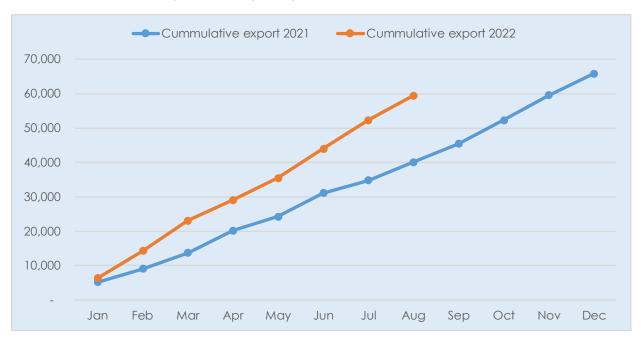
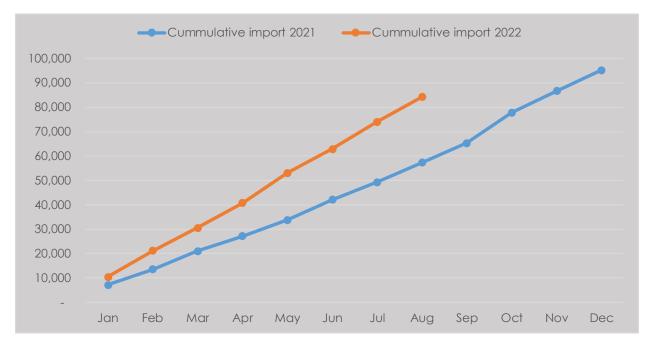


Chart 1: Cumulative export value (N\$ m)

Subsequently, for imports an increase of 46.9 percent is depicted when compared to the value of N\$57.3 billion recorded during the same period the previous year.

Chart 2: Cumulative import value (N\$ m)



Trade highlights by category

Monthly change (down by 13.1%) in exports of goods was mainly reflected in:

- Uranium decreased by N\$444 million
- Inorganic chemical elements decreased by N\$287 million
- Petroleum oils decreased by N\$97 million
- Live animals decreased by N\$76 million
- Coal decreased by N\$71 million

Monthly change (down by 9.2%) in imports of goods was mainly reflected in:

- Copper ores and concentrates decreased by N\$1.4 billion
- Ores and concentrates of precious metals decreased by N\$693 million
- Precious stones(diamonds) decreased by N\$249 million
- Civil engineering and contractors' equipment decreased by N\$174 million
- Alcoholic beverages, decreased by N\$62 million

The trade by industry is based on the International Standard of Industry Classification (ISIC), Rev.4.

The International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) consists of a coherent and consistent classification structure of economic activities based on a set of internationally agreed concepts, definitions, principles and classification rules.

In August 2022, Manufactured products were the highest valued exports with an amount of N\$3.5 billion, absorbing 48.6 percent of total exports, products from the industry decreased by N\$585 million from N\$4.1 billion recorded in July 2022. Products from the Mining and quarrying industry came in second position with exports valued at N\$3.3 billion in August 2022. Exported products from this industry, decreased by N\$420 million from N\$3.7 billion recorded in July 2022.

The demand side, was mainly dominated by products from the Manufacturing industry, with an import bill of N\$7.3 billion in August 2022. This is an increase of 6.0 percent from N\$6.9 billion recorded the previous month. Mining and quarrying goods imported took a share of 26.2 percent of the total imports for the month of August 2022, the value decreased by a notable N\$1.5 billion from N\$4.1 billion recorded in July 2022.

1.3 Total exports and total imports

The value of exports¹ in August 2022 decreased by 13.1 percent to N\$7.2 billion from its July 2022 value of N\$8.3 billion. On the other hand, when compared to N\$5.3 billion recorded in August 2021, exports increased by a notable 35.2 percent (Chart 3). Imports stood at N\$10.1 billion, reflecting a decrease of 9.2 percent month-on-month and a 26.7 percent increase on a yearly basis.

¹ Exports represents total exports derived from the sum of domestic exports and re-exports.

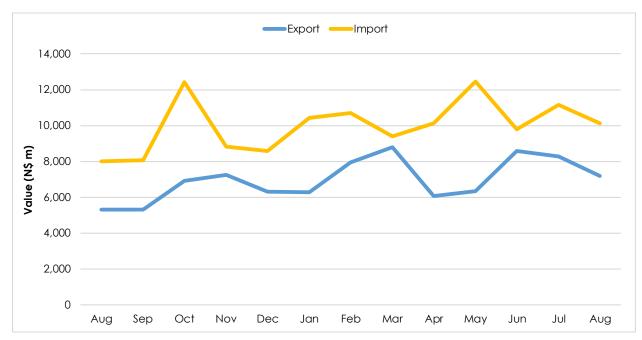


Chart 3: Total exports and imports (N\$ m), Aug 2021 to Aug 2022

1.4 Trade balance

The trade balance² compares the country's trade flow with the ROW in terms of export earnings and expenditure on imports³. During the month under review, Namibia recorded a trade deficit to the tune of N\$2.9 billion, reflecting a 2.1 percent and 9.8 percent increased trade deficit when compared to the trade deficits recorded in July 2022 and August 2021 (Chart 4). Over the period of Aug -21 to Aug -22, Namibia recorded a deficit averaging N\$3.0 billion without recording any surplus.

² Trade balance here is measured as the difference between the country's total exports and total imports. A positive balance is referred to as a surplus while a negative balance is referred to as a deficit

³ The value of imports here is denoted as negative to show an out flow.

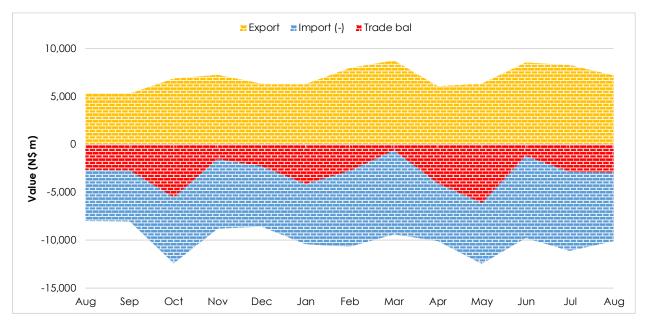


Chart 4: Trade balance (N\$ m), August 2021 to August 2022

1.5 Trade balance by partner

This section looks at partner countries that Namibia traded with during the month of August 2022. Namibia's exports to South Africa were valued at N\$1.3 billion while imports stood at N\$4.4 billion resulting in a trade deficit of N\$3.1 billion to the country. Namibia recorded exports of N\$507 million to the UAE as imports from the country amounted to N\$977 which led to a deficit of N\$471 million.

The country's trade deficit with China amounted to N\$12 million as exports were valued at N\$723 million and imports stood N\$735 million. In the month under review, Namibia imported goods worth N\$428 million from Saudi Arabia while exports to the country amounted N\$8 million resulting in a trade deficit of N\$420 million. Exports to the USA was valued at N\$93 million and imports at N\$316 million with a trade deficit of N\$223 million.

1.6 Trade balance by product

Namibia's Trade deficit continues to widen, having recorded a deficit of N\$2.9 billion which was mostly attributed by imports of Petroleum oils valued at N\$2.2 billion. Imports of Sugars, molasses and honey for the month under review were valued at N\$313 million in which Namibia only exported N\$27 million worth of the commodity.

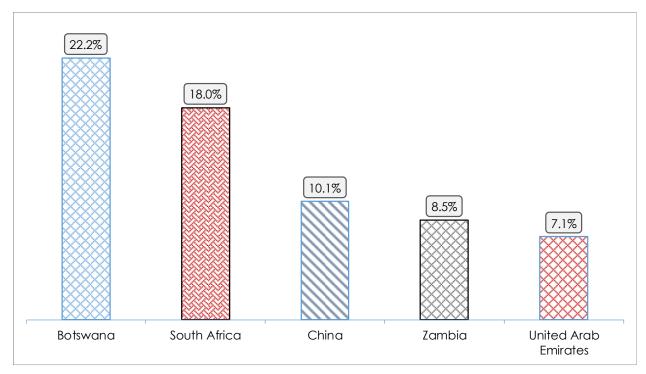
In terms of Motor vehicles for the transportation of goods the country's exports stood at N\$42 million while imports were valued at N\$286 million, resulting in trade deficit of N\$244 million. Exports of Motor cars principally designed for the transportation of persons amounted to N\$4 million while imports were valued at N\$191 million. Lastly, Miscellaneous chemical products import value was at N\$308 million when exports stood at N\$124 million resulting in a trade deficit of N\$184 million.

SECTION 2: DIRECTION OF TRADE (DOT)

2.1 Top five export markets

During the month of August 2022, Namibia's top five export markets were Botswana, South Africa, China, Zambia and the UAE (Chart 5). These top five markets accounted for 65.8 percent of Namibia's total exports, up from 56.6 percent witnessed in July 2022 and 61.3 percent recorded in August 2021

Chart 5: Export by country (Percentage share)



Botswana emerged as the main export market for Namibia, absorbing 22.2 percent of all goods exported, ahead of South Africa in the second position with a market share of 18.0 percent of total exports.

China ranked third with a relative share of 10.1 percent while Zambia and the UAE occupied the fourth and fifth positions with respective shares of 8.5 percent and 7.1 percent.

2.2 Top five import markets

For the month of August 2022, South Africa, the UAE, China, Saudi Arabia and the USA were the major source of imports for Namibia. The top five import markets supplied Namibia with 67.5 percent of all imports requirement, up from its July 2022 level of 50.5 percent and 61.6 percent recorded in August 2021. The individual contributions of each of these countries to Namibia's total imports are reflected in Chart 6.

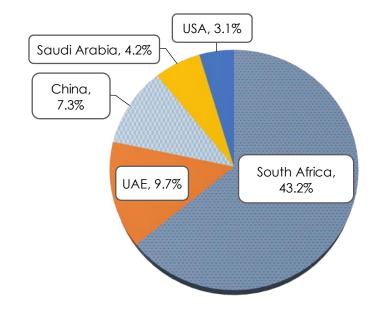


Chart 6: Imports by country (Percentage share)

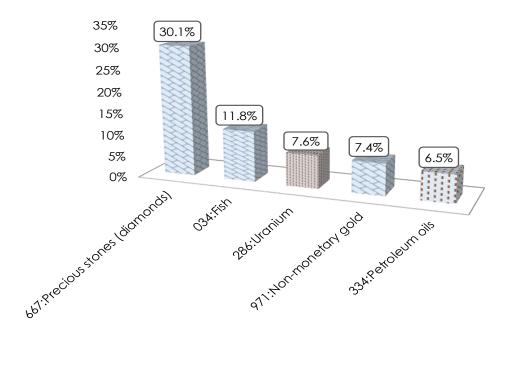
South Africa remained Namibia's largest source of imports with a share of 43.2 percent of the value of all goods received into the country during the month under review. Following in second place was the UAE with a contribution of 9.7 percent of total imports. Furthermore, China came in third place accounting for 7.3 percent of Namibia's total imports followed by Saudi Arabia and the USA contributing 4.2 percent and 3.1 percent, respectively.

SECTION 3: TRADE BY PRODUCTS

This section outlines Namibia's trade flow based on the Standard International Trade Classification Revision 4 (SITC rev 4). The SITC groups all commodities into headings suitable for economic analysis, in this section, the SITC is disaggregated to 3-digit level.

3.1 Top five export products

Precious stones (diamonds) was Namibia's largest export commodity during August 2022 (Chart 7), accounting for 30.1 percent of total exports and was mostly destined to Botswana and United Arab Emirates. Fish and Uranium came second and third in the list accounting for 11.8 percent and 7.6 percent of total exports, respectively. Fish were mostly destined to Spain and Zambia while Uranium was mainly destined to China.





In the fourth position was Non-monetary gold accounting for 7.4 percent of total exports of which was mainly destined to South Africa. Finally, Petroleum oils took the fifth position with a share of 6.5 percent of total exports and was destined mostly to Botswana. The top five export commodities jointly accounted for 63.3 percent of total exports.

3.2 Top five re-export products

Re-exports are commodities imported by residents who assume short-term ownership of the commodities. Accordingly, these commodities are exported without undergoing any significant industrial transformation. Even though there are no large transformation, re-exports are proficient of benefiting the intermediate country by rendering services such as sorting, re-packaging, storage, transport, and trade mediation services. This implies that the country's services sector greatly benefits from activities of re-exports. Additionally, re-exports serve as an indication of favorable corporate tax in the transitional country.

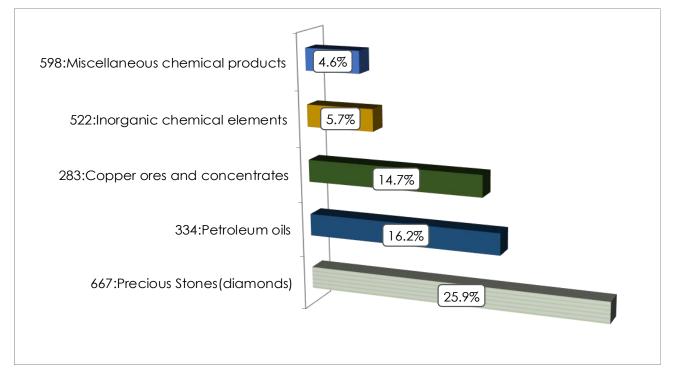


Chart 8: Top five re-export products (Percentage share)

During August 2022, the total re-exports stood at N\$2.7 billion, a decrease of 14.7 percent when compared to the previous month and an increase of 83.4 percent when compared to N\$1.5 billion observed the same month in 2021.

The top five commodities that utilized Namibia's logistical services in August 2022 were Precious stones (diamonds) with a share of 25.9 percent of the nation's re-exports of which most was destined to Hong Kong and United Arab Emirates, followed by Petroleum oils with a share of 16.2 percent of total re-exports mostly destined to Botswana (Chart 8). Copper ores and concentrates ranked third on the list contributing 14.7 percent which was wholly destined to the Netherlands. Lastly, Inorganic chemical elements and Miscellaneous chemical products took the fourth and the fifth positions with respective shares of 5.7 percent and 4.6 percent of all commodities re-exported. Finland was the main consumer of Inorganic chemical elements while Miscellaneous chemical products were Re-exported to Zambia and the DRC.

3.3 Top five (5) import products

The top five commodities imported into Namibia collectively amounted to 34.4 percent of total imports. Petroleum oils topped the list of imported goods for the month of August 2022, with a share of 22.1 percent of the nation's total import value. In second position was Precious stones (diamonds) with a share of 3.3 percent, while Sugars, molasses and honey and; Miscellaneous chemical products were rated third and fourth in the list accounting for 3.1 percent and 3.0 percent of all commodities imported, respectively. Finally, Motor vehicles for the transport of goods were ranked fifth after contributing 2.8 percent to the total imports (Chart 9).

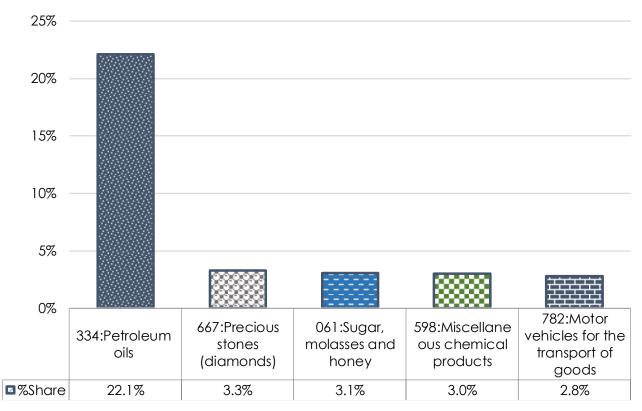


Chart 9: Top five import products (Percentage share)

Petroleum oils were mostly sourced from United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Togo, while Precious stones (diamonds) were sourced from India. Sugar, molasses and honey were mainly imported from South Africa and Thailand. Miscellaneous chemical products were mostly imported from Ireland and Iastly, Motor vehicles for the transport of goods were ordinarily sourced from South Africa.

SECTION 4: TRADE BY ECONOMIC REGIONS

4.1 Exports by Economic Regions

SACU remained the prevalent export destination for Namibia's goods during the month under study with a 40.2 percentage share of total exports (Chart 10). The OECD and EU followed in the second and third positions with a one-to-one share of 21.7 percent and 17.7 percent of Namibia's total export. SADC excl. SACU and COMESA markets sustained their fourth and fifth positions absorbing 15.6 percent and 14.7 percent of Namibia's total exports, individually.

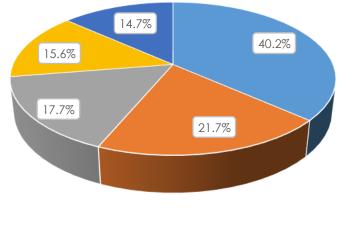


Chart 10: Top five export by Economic Regions (Percentage share)

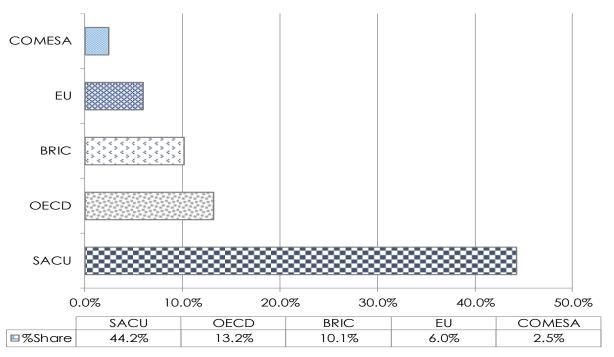
Exports to SACU comprised mainly of Precious stones (diamonds), Non-monetary gold and Petroleum oils while exports basket to the OECD and EU markets is mainly made up of Fish and Copper ores and concentrates. Finally, Namibia's export to SADC excl. SACU and COMESA markets mostly comprised Fish and Miscellaneous chemical products.

[•] SACU • OECD • EU • SADC excl. SACU • COMESA

4.2 Imports by Economic Regions

During the month of August 2022, SACU continued to be the largest source of imports for Namibia, contributing 44.2 percent and supplied Namibia mainly with Motor vehicles for the transportation of goods; Sugar, molasses and honey; and Alcoholic beverages. The OECD came second with a share of 13.2 percent of all goods imported providing the country mostly with Rubber tyres; Sulphur and unroasted iron pyrites; and Crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic invertebrates.

BRIC and the EU countries ranked in the third and fourth positions accounting for 10.1 percent and 6.0 percent, respectively. BRIC supplied Namibia mostly with Petroleum oils, Telecommunication equipment and Thermionic, cold cathode or photo-cathode valves, while EU supplied Namibia mainly with Crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic invertebrates; Petroleum oils; and Electric power machinery.





Finally, COMESA continues to supply Namibia with Inorganic chemical elements, Feeding stuff for animals and Essential perfumery oils, accounting for 2.5 percentage share of the total imports.

SECTION 5: TRADE BY MODE OF TRANSPORT

5.1 Export by mode of transport

During the month of August 2022, a total of N\$2.8 billion, representing a 38.9 percent share of total exports left the country by Air (Chart 12). This translates into a 4.3 percent increase when compared to N\$2.7 billion recorded in July 2022. In addition, an increase of 45.9 percent was noted when compared to N\$1.9 billion recorded in August 2021. The basket of exports via Air comprised mainly of Precious stones (diamonds), Non-monetary gold and Printed matter.

Goods exported via Sea accounted for 31.9 percent of which its export basket was mainly made up of Fish, Uranium; and Copper ores and concentrates. Lastly, Road transportation accounted for 29.2 percent and Petroleum oils, Fish and Alcoholic beverages continues to be the most exported commodities via Road.



Chart 12: Export by mode of transport (Percentage share)

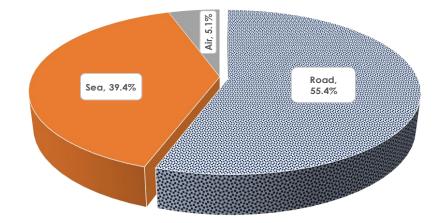
In terms of the tonnage, the month of August 2022 noted 166,609 tons of goods having left the country by Sea compared to 112,311 tons registered in July 2022. This is an increase of 85.8 percent from 89,682 tons recorded in the same month of the previous year. About 143,261 tons left the country by Road in the month of August 2022, indicating an 8.5 percent decrease when compared to 156,636 tons recorded the previous month and 15.6 percent increase when compared to the same month in 2021.

Lastly, 254 tons of goods exported via Air. This is an increase of 26.0 percent and 79.5 percent recorded in July 2022 and August 2021, respectively.

5.2 Import by mode of transport

Road transportation was the common mode of transport used for imports during the month of August 2022. Imports by Road reached N\$5.6 billion, representing 55.4 percent of all goods imported into the country (Chart 13). Motor vehicles for the transport of goods, Motor cars for the transportation of persons and Alcoholic beverages were the most imported commodities via Road.

Sea transport followed accounting for 39.4 percent of all goods imported into the country and its basket comprised mainly of Petroleum oils; Sugars, molasses and honey; and Miscellaneous chemical products. Finally, 5.1 percent of goods reached Namibia by Air and Precious stones (diamonds) were listed as the main imported commodities via Air.





With regards to tonnage, 182,434 tons of goods entered the country by Sea. This is depicting a 32.5 percent increase from its level of 137,709 tons recorded in July 2022 and 74.9 decrease when compared to the same month of 2021. In addition, 181,773 tons of goods arrived in Namibia by Road, compared to its level of 168,968 in July 2022. Furthermore, a decrease of 16.9 percent was recorded when compared to the same month in the former year. Finally, 186 tons' worth of goods arrived in the country by Air which is an increase of 8.7 percent and a decrease of 15.5 percent when compared to the tons of products imported in the previous month and the same month of 2021, respectively.

SECTION 6: TRADE BY BORDER POST/OFFICE (TOP 10)

This section outlines trade based on the main border posts for both trade flows by their respective customs offices for the month of August 2022.

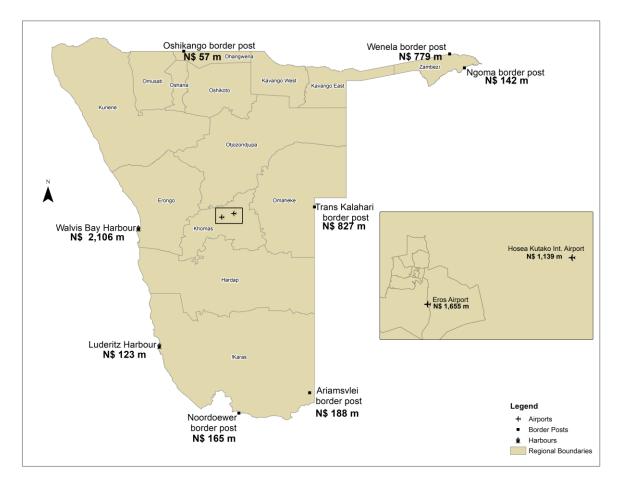


Figure 1: Export by Border Post (N\$ m), August 2022

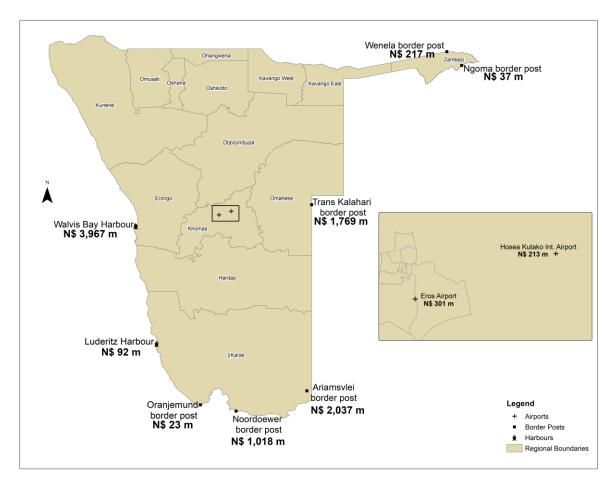


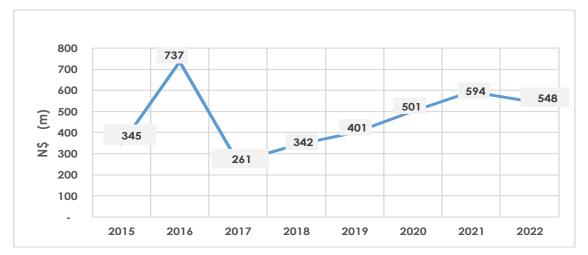
Figure 2: Import by Border Post (N\$ m), August 2022

SECTION 7: AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA (AfCFTA)

The African Continental Free Trade Area is a free trade area and a flagship project of the African Union (AU) in terms of Agenda 2063 which compromises a member-driven blueprint for attaining inclusive and sustainable development across the continent. The AU Summit adopted the AfCFTA Agreement in March 2018, in Kigali, Rwanda.

The general objective of the AfCFTA is to create a single market for goods and services facilitated by the movement of persons to deepen the economic integration of the African continent as well as to enhance the competitiveness of the economies of State Parties within the continent and the global market.

For the month under review, the report looks at Namibia's trade with Mozambique. Namibia exported goods to a value of N\$3.2 billion during the period 2015 to 2021 while imported goods amounted to N\$1.6 billion over the same period.





Namibia exported goods worth N\$737 million in 2016 which is the highest value recorded over the period of 2015 to 2021 and this value might be lesser when compared to the current year (2022)⁴ which has already noted an export value of N\$548 million during the period of January 2022 to August 2022. The export basket to

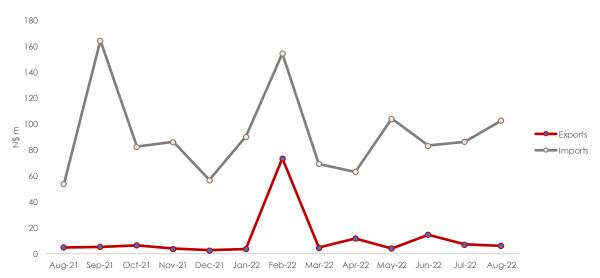
⁴ 2022 represents exports for January to August only

Mozambique for the month of August 2022 stood at N\$6.1 million and mainly comprised of Fish with a humongous share of 95.7 percent.

SECTION 8: Commodity of the Month – Medicinal and pharmaceuticals

This section provides an insight into the importation and exportation of Medicinal and pharmaceutical products over the period August 2021 to August 2022.





During the month of August 2022, Namibia exported Medicinal and pharmaceutical products amounting to N\$ 5.9 million (Chart 15), which were mainly exported to South Africa and Angola. Over the period of August 2021 to August 2022, Namibia's exports of Medicinal and pharmaceutical products to the ROW averaged at N\$11.2 million with the highest value being N\$73.4 million recorded in February 2022.

On the demand side, the country imported Medicinal and pharmaceutical products worth N\$102.5 million during the month of August 2022. Over the entire period, the import value of this commodity averaged at N\$91.9 million with the largest value of N\$164.3 million recorded in September 2021. Medicinal and pharmaceuticals imported in the month under review were mostly sourced from South Africa and Belgium.

Conclusion

In August 2022, Namibia's exports stood at N\$7.2 billion and imports at N\$10.1 billion, resulting in the country's trade deficit of N\$2.9 billion.

During August 2022, exports decreased by 13.1 percent from its level of N\$8.3 billion recorded in July 2022. Additionally, exports increased by 35.2 percent from N\$5.3 billion registered in August 2021. Import value decreased by 9.2 percent when compared to the value recorded in July 2022 and increased by 26.7 percent when compared to its levels of N\$8.0 billion in August 2021.

Botswana remained the country's largest export destination, with a share of 22.2 percent of all goods exported followed by South Africa with a share of 18.0 percent. Furthermore, China, Zambia and the UAE formed part of Namibia's top five export markets. The demand side saw South Africa maintaining her first position as the country's largest source of imports, accounting for 43.2 percent of total imports into Namibia followed by the United Arab Emirates in the second position with 9.7 percent of the market share. China, Saudi Arabia and the USA also formed part of Namibia's top five import markets.

The analysis of exports by commodities revealed that Precious stones (diamonds) had the largest share of 30.1 percent in Namibia's total exports ahead of Fish with a share of 11.8 percent. Uranium accounted for 7.6 percent, while Non-monetary gold and Petroleum oils came in fourth and fifth positions accounting for 7.4 and 6.5 percent, respectively. In terms of imports, Petroleum oils was the highest valued commodity with a share of 22.1 percent of total imports, followed by precious stones (diamonds) with a share of 3.3 percent and Sugar, molasses and honey came third with a share of 3.1 percent. Furthermore, Miscellaneous chemical products accounted for 3.0 percent while Motor vehicles for the transport of goods contributed 2.8 percent Namibia's total imports.

In terms of regional composition, SACU emerged as the largest export market during the month of August 2022, contributing 40.2 percent of total exports. OECD ranked second with a relative market share of 21.7 percent while the EU and SADC excl. SACU markets accounted for 17.7 percent and 15.6 percent, respectively. The COMESA market absorbed 14.7 percent of Namibia's total exports. On the imports side, SACU emerged as the largest source of Namibia's imports with a share of 44.2 percent of

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total import bill followed by OECD market with contributions of 13.2 percent while BRIC came third in the list with the percentage share of 10.1 percent. The EU and COMESA markets had a share of 6.0 percent and 2.5 percent, respectively.

Namibia's trade by mode of transport revealed that in August 2022, vast of goods were exported via Air, accounting for 38.9 percent of total exports, followed by Sea transport with 31.9 percent and Road transport with 29.2 percent. From the demand side, Road transport was the most recurrent mode of transport accounting for 55.4 percent of total imports followed by Sea with 39.4 percent and Air with 5.1 percent.

On the African Continental Free Trade Area, the focus country was Mozambique for the month under review, and Namibia was the net importer between the two countries.

Finally, an analysis on the importation and exportation of Medicinal and pharmaceutical products as the commodity of the month showed that in August 2022, Namibia has exported and imported Medicinal and pharmaceutical's worth N\$5.9 million and N\$102.5 million, respectively.

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