SOUTH AFRICA

Intra-Africa trade and tariff profile

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1 Regional Economic Communities

South Africa is a member of both the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC).

SACU is a customs union with duty-free intra-SACU trade and a common external tariff (CET) applicable to all goods entering from outside the Union, which includes the territories of South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Swaziland and Lesotho.

SADC is a Regional Economic Community with 16 member states, including all SACU countries, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Malawi, Seychelles and Comoros. 13 SADC members are in a Free Trade Agreement (FTA); Comoros, DRC and Angola are yet to join the FTA.

2 Intra-Africa trade

EXPORTS

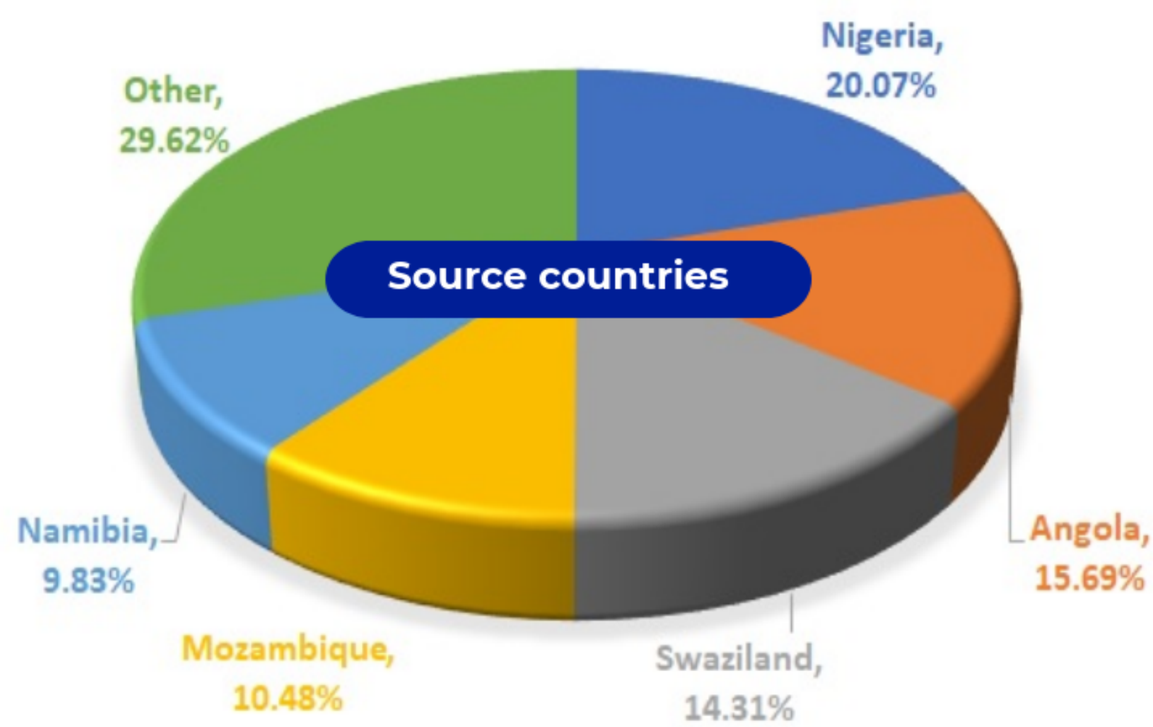
26% of South Africa's total exports are intra-Africa

- Petroleum oils (7%)
- Goods vehicles (4%)
- Electric energy (3%)
- Chromium ores (3%)

IMPORTS

10% of South Africa's total imports are intra-Africa

- Crude petroleum oils (39%)
- Mixtures of odoriferous substances (5%)
- Semi-manufactured gold (4%)
- Petroleum gas (3%)



3 Intra-Africa tariffs

Most of the goods imported into South Africa from other SADC member states enter duty-free. The only exceptions are wheat flour, sugar, second-hand clothes and tyres. Wheat flour imports are levied the MFN applied duty of 65.59c/kg. Sugar imports, raw and refined face a specific duty of 31.98c/kg, while the duty on second-hand clothes varies depending on the tariff line (20% ad valorem, 35c/unit, 50c/unit and 60% or 2500c/kg). Tyre imports under HS980100 has a 20% duty.

African imports from outside SADC and SACU are levied MFN applied duties

High simple average MFN applied duties

Clothing and apparel (between 26.3% and 41.2%)

Tobacco (38.1%)

Leather articles (26.6%)

Carpets and flooring (26.6%)

Duty free imports include

Live animals (HS 1)

Base metals like Tungsten and Titanium (HS 81)

Clocks and watches (HS 91)

Ores, slag and ash (HS 26)

Highest ad valorem import duties

- Preserved or prepared pineapple (55%)
- Tobacco cigarettes (45%)
- Tobacco substitute cigarettes & cigars (45%)
- Water-pipe tobacco (45%)
- Clothing items (40% and 45%)
- Retreaded tyres (43%)
- Uncooked pasta not containing eggs (40%)

Highest specific import duties

- Milk and cream products (450c/kg with a maximum of 96%)
- Cheese including fresh, grated or powdered and blue-veined (500c/kg with a maximum of 95%)
- Dairy spreads and butter (500c/kg with a maximum of 79%)
- Unstemmed or unstripped tobacco (860c/kg less 85% with a maximum of 44%)
- Black fermented tea (400c/kg)
- Garlic (325c/kg with a maximum of 37%)
- Ethyl alcohol (317c/litre)
- Fresh/chilled bovine carcasses (40% or 240c/kg)

Imports from Africa excluding SACU and SADC countries

HS Code	Product description	US$ Value 2017	Applicable tariffs
270900	Crude Petroleum oils	1 995.39	duty-free
271012	Light oils and preparations	51.67	Average ad valorem of 5%; maximum of 15%. Specific duties in place ranging from 0.091c/litre to 11c/litre
030353	Frozen sardines	38.73	duty-free
180310	Cocoa paste (excluding defatted)	12.11	duty-free
400122	Technically specified natural rubber	10.92	duty-free
090111	Coffee	9.77	duty-free
271113	Butanes, liquefied	9.75	Average ad valorem of 7.5%; maximum duty 15%
852990	Parts suitable for use solely or principally with transmission	9.27	Average ad valorem 5.7%; maximum 20%
282612	Fluoride of aluminium	6.68	duty-free
230610	Oilcake	5.99	6.60%

Source: ITC TradeMap (2018) and WTO Tariff Database (2018)

South Africa's key imports from outside SADC are crude oil, light oils and preparations, frozen sardines, cocoa paste and technically specified rubber. These products mostly enter South Africa duty free; exceptions are light oils and preparations, liquefied butanes and oilcake. They are imported at MFN applied rates, ranging from low rates (6.6% on oilcake), to medium rates (15% - 30%)