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TradeRisk

19th August 2026

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Increase in Trade Policy Actions

A retrospective look at the last 20 years reveals a significant increase in duty-increasing policy instruments as South Africa shifts toward a more protective trade policy. These investigations create substantial financial risks for traders importing under affected codes, which inevitably have a knock-on effect on the clearing agent.

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Navigating South Africa's Shift to Protective Trade Policy

- **(a)** Information lag from sudden policy changes.
- **(b)** Unquantified Financial Risk Exposure
- **(c)** Client conflict from missed warnings.
- **(d)** Inaccurate information from industry rumors.

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Policy Volatility and Its Knock-on Effects on Clearing Agents

a) **Reduced Import Volumes**: Higher costs frequently diminish demand, shrinking the agent's throughput.

b) **Business Volatility:** In extreme cases, sudden duty spikes have led to the total closure of client businesses.

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Market Closing Investigation Overview – Jan'2026 to Jun'2026

Top 4 most recent investigations – Jul'2026 to Current

Rank	Investigation		No. Impacted		
			Tariff Codes	Traders	Agents
1	Flat-rolled products	AD	4	28	23
2	Flat-rolled products	SG	12	123	87
3	Gypsum Plasterboard	AD	1	20	26
4	Frozen bone-in portions	AD	10	1	1
Top 4					

Investigations open for comment

Investigations open for comment		Deadline
Gypsum Plasterboard	AD	06-Sep-26
Frozen bone-in portions	AD	13-Sep-26

⚠ This analysis only includes market-closing investigations (i.e., Duty Increases, Anti-dumping, and Safeguards).

Relief Sought		No. Open Investigations	No. Impacted			Total Value
			Traders	Agents	Tariff Codes	
Duty Increase	↑	15	3,397	541	194	9,669,926,387
Safeguard	SG	2	235	147	6	1,854,074,672
Anti-dumping	AD	8	258	153	17	1,514,983,526
Total		**25**	**3,709**	**587**	**217**	**13 038 984 585**

Key
Investigation Categories

- Market Opening
- Market Closing
- Duty Reviews

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Open Market Closing Investigations – Jan'2025 to Dec'2025

Rank	Investigation	Relief Sought	No. Impacted			Total Exposure	% of Total
			Tariff Codes	Traders	Clearing Agents		
1	Various footwear products	Duty Increase	*93*	*2 065*	*419*	15 559 575 876	55.5%
2	Single-Axis Tracker	Duty Increase	*3*	*1 605*	*401*	2 566 178 272	9.2%
3	Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel	Safeguard	*4*	*119*	*89*	4 371 844 371	15.6%
4	Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel	Anti-Dumping	*7*	*77*	*61*	1 384 375 914	4.9%
5	Ceramic and porcelain wall and floor tiles	Anti-Dumping	*2*	*87*	*75*	910 502 123	3.3%
6	Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel	Safeguard	*4*	*37*	*35*	555 502 056	2.0%
7	Rails	Duty Increase	*1*	*37*	*33*	443 776 814	1.6%
8	Paper	Duty Increase	*3*	*111*	*76*	305 502 403	1.1%
9	Windscreens for vehicles	Anti-Dumping	*1*	*43*	*33*	255 289 802	0.9%
10	Steel shoulder couplers	Duty Increase	*1*	*313*	*151*	250 082 254	0.9%
11	Grooved couplings	Duty Increase	*3*	*313*	*151*	250 082 254	0.9%
12	Aluminium Chlorohydrate (ACH)	Duty Increase	*3*	*45*	*47*	199 242 199	0.7%
13	Tubes of polymers of ethylene	Duty Increase	*1*	*740*	*214*	140 782 014	0.5%
14	Rock drilling parts	Duty Increase	*1*	*416*	*165*	122 664 227	0.4%
15	Peanut butter	Duty Increase	*3*	*29*	*25*	119 917 834	0.4%
16	Clear float glass	Anti-Dumping	*2*	*5*	*10*	119 066 141	0.4%
17	Shower doors	Duty Increase	*4*	*219*	*155*	107 962 580	0.4%
18	Stay wire	Duty Increase	*2*	*36*	*32*	104 609 732	0.4%
19	Biaxially orientated polypropylene (BOPP)	Duty Increase	*1*	*43*	*48*	78 065 333	0.3%
20	Windscreens for vehicles	Anti-Dumping	*1*	*52*	*40*	51 957 981	0.2%
21	Conical steel drums	Duty Increase	*2*	*113*	*89*	44 410 419	0.2%
22	Ropes and cables of steel or wire ropes	Anti-Dumping	*1*	*84*	*44*	30 075 800	0.1%
23	Cylindrical primary cells	Duty Increase	*3*	*18*	*18*	27 360 262	0.1%
24	Thermal paper	Duty Increase	*2*	*14*	*15*	8 681 359	0.0%
25	Stranded wire of iron or steel	Anti-Dumping	*1*	*7*	*7*	4 997 162	0.0%
26	Disodium Carbonate (Soda Ash)	Anti-Dumping	*1*	*6*	*6*	97 547	0.0%
Grand Total			***150***	***4 165***	***628***	**28 012 602 729**	**100%**

Total Open Investigations

26

= Currently Finalised Investigations

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Open Market Closing Investigations – Jan'2026 to Jun'2026

Rank	Investigation	Relief Sought	No. Impacted			Total Exposure	% of Total
			Tariff Codes	Traders	Clearing Agents		
1	Various footwear products	Duty Increase	93	1 548	325	6 182 722 446	47.4%
2	Single-Axis Tracker	Duty Increase	3	1 605	401	2 566 178 272	19.7%
3	Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel	Safeguard	4	81	73	1 691 589 282	13.0%
4	Ceramic and porcelain wall and floor tiles	Anti-Dumping	2	60	58	733 884 221	5.6%
5	Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel	Anti-Dumping	4	61	51	550 392 620	4.2%
6	Rails	Duty Increase	1	23	26	204 641 960	1.6%
7	A3 and A4 Office Paper	Safeguard	2	112	71	162 485 390	1.2%
8	Windscreens for vehicles	Anti-Dumping	1	32	20	136 471 485	1.0%
9	Medium-density fibreboard	Duty Increase	76	102	82	123 767 003	0.9%
10	Paper	Duty Increase	3	95	55	112 788 251	0.9%
11	Steel shoulder couplers	Duty Increase	3	213	109	97 280 089	0.7%
12	Grooved couplings	Duty Increase	3	213	109	97 280 089	0.7%
13	Aluminium Chlorohydrate (ACH)	Duty Increase	1	30	29	83 397 683	0.6%
14	Stay wire	Duty Increase	1	25	23	61 274 709	0.5%
15	Tubes of polymers of ethylene	Duty Increase	2	387	139	43 580 327	0.3%
16	Shower doors	Duty Increase	2	150	109	41 638 832	0.3%
17	Windscreens for vehicles	Anti-Dumping	1	38	25	34 879 231	0.3%
18	Biaxially orientated polypropylene (BOPP)	Duty Increase	2	23	30	34 053 067	0.3%
19	Clear float glass	Anti-Dumping	4	1	5	33 705 468	0.3%
20	Stranded wire of iron or steel	Anti-Dumping	1	7	7	15 358 982	0.1%
21	Cylindrical primary cells	Duty Increase	2	8	8	12 169 563	0.1%
22	Ropes and cables of steel or wire ropes	Anti-Dumping	3	55	32	10 249 103	0.1%
23	Conical steel drums	Duty Increase	1	57	40	5 746 133	0.0%
24	Thermal paper	Duty Increase	1	8	9	3 407 963	0.0%
25	Disodium Carbonate (Soda Ash)	Anti-Dumping	1	3	4	42 416	0.0%
Grand Total			***217***	***3 709***	***587***	**13 038 984 585**	**100%**

Total Open Investigations

25

= *New Investigations*

= *Currently Finalised Investigations*

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Top 25 Highest Exposed Clearing Agents – Jan'2026 to Jun'2026

Agent Rank	No. Investigations	No. Impacted		Agent's Total Exposure (Imports)	Agent's Total Business (Imports)	% of Agent's Total Imports
		Traders	Tariff Codes			
Top Agent 1	19	125	74	2 365 367 335	76 536 280 687	3.1%
Top Agent 2	1	1	1	759 188 421	19 081 372 327	4.0%
Top Agent 3	16	51	47	740 597 139	12 894 505 931	5.7%
Top Agent 4	2	1	24	689 806 861	4 657 325 379	14.8%
Top Agent 5	2	1	3	427 403 558	5 290 849 806	8.1%
Top Agent 6	9	18	16	425 329 456	2 024 109 876	21.0%
Top Agent 7	20	58	52	416 196 102	14 305 985 739	2.9%
Top Agent 8	9	8	17	390 975 162	22 662 221 093	1.7%
Top Agent 9	1	1	18	388 082 632	2 383 296 699	16.3%
Top Agent 10	23	91	56	275 515 991	27 618 697 436	1.0%
Top Agent 11	1	1	26	246 338 967	1 918 691 069	12.8%
Top Agent 12	11	21	24	232 308 805	6 885 964 959	3.4%
Top Agent 13	6	6	12	231 192 850	650 950 262	35.5%
Top Agent 14	1	1	9	208 569 955	1 925 436 669	10.8%
Top Agent 15	10	27	30	184 428 978	25 432 582 723	0.7%
Top Agent 16	4	4	5	173 811 678	189 446 889	91.7%
Top Agent 17	15	160	80	167 269 253	1 192 617 801	14.0%
Top Agent 18	16	67	37	166 865 411	52 672 440 145	0.3%
Top Agent 19	12	32	41	166 635 137	2 952 707 731	5.6%
Top Agent 20	10	14	19	163 938 428	3 484 526 901	4.7%
Top Agent 21	3	6	10	141 529 189	1 033 901 525	13.7%
Top Agent 22	3	3	3	131 580 853	18 897 702 884	0.7%
Top Agent 23	14	10	32	111 323 346	7 352 171 946	1.5%
Top Agent 24	3	3	4	110 558 831	204 886 869	54.0%
Top Agent 25	8	22	27	100 206 032	1 979 558 280	5.1%
			Top 25	**9 415 020 370**	**314 228 231 626**	**3.0%**
			Grand Total	**13 038 984 585**	**1 319 367 187 959**	**1.0%**

Top 25 Clearing Agents Exposure

Top 25 Agent's Total Business Exposure	
x > 15%	6
10% < x < %15	4
5% < x < %10	4
0% < x < %5	11

Agent Imports Impacted > 10%

56%

Total SA Market Exposure

Total Agents Impacted

530

Agent Imports Impacted > 10%

10%

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How do we solve the problem?

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Step-by-Step: Gazette Publication to Agent Notification

1. Detect & Monitor Policy Alerts
2. Identify impacted Clearing Agents
3. Calculate Financial Exposure (*Per impacted Client*)
4. Notify Clearing Agents

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TradeRisk Alerts

19th August 2026

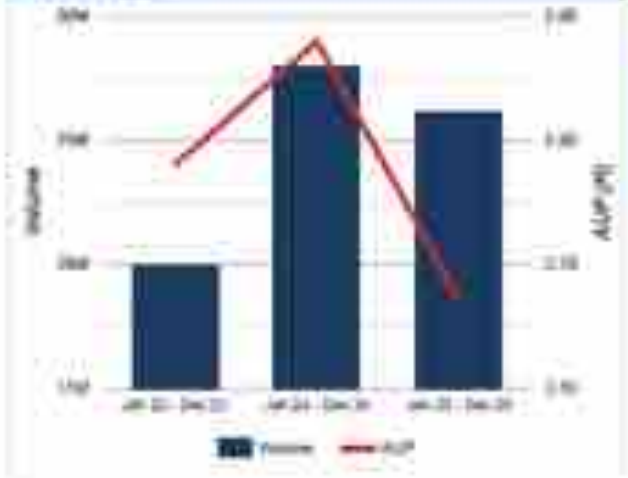
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New Investigation Alert

19th August 2026

Relief Sought	Anti-Dumping
Applicant	Saint Gobain Construction P...
Initiation Date	2026-08-07
Deadline	2026-12-06
Short Name	Gypsum Plasterboard
No. Tariff Codes	1
Period of Injury	2023-01 - 2025-12
Period of Dumping	2025-01 - 2025-12
Trade Type	IMPORT
Location	SACU
Total Volume (in scop...	38,938,710
Total Value (in scope)	R 72,775,971

Import Statistics



Investigation Description

Notice of initiation of an investigation into the alleged dumping of boards, sheets, panels, tiles and similar articles of plaster or of compositions based on plaster, not ornamented, faced or reinforced with paper or paperboard only ("gypsum plasterboard") classifiable under tariff subheading 6809.11, originating in or imported from the People's Republic of China and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Tariff Codes: 6809.11

Countries Under Investigation (Jul 25 - Jun 26)

Country of Origin	Vol Rank	AUP Rank	Volume (units)	%	Value	%	AUP	Year Entry
China	1	2	23,826,238	66.7%	R 46,194,337	47.8%	R 2.00	
Saudi Arabia	2	1	7,288,988	18.3%	R 22,492,734	23.3%	R 3.09	
In Scope			36,398,238	76.8%	R 78,778,871	76.1%	R 2.34	
Out of Scope			7,832,366	23.1%	R 30,178,857	23.9%	R 3.85	
Grand Total			37,826,476	100.0%	R 108,947,538	100.0%	R 2.88	

Top Traders

The top 5 traders out of 22 made up 88.2% in value of all imports from the alleged countries



Percentage of total volume of traders

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Closed Investigation Alert

19th August 2026

Closed / Finalised Investigation – 31st July 2026

[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]

Investigation Description

Increase in the rate of customs duty on: Peanut butter, classifiable under tariff subheading 2008.11.10

Tariff Codes: 2008.11.11, 2008.11.11, 2008.11.19

Countries Under Investigation (Jul 25 - Jun 26)

Country of Origin	Volume (tonne)	%	Value	%	AVP	Avg. Duty
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	

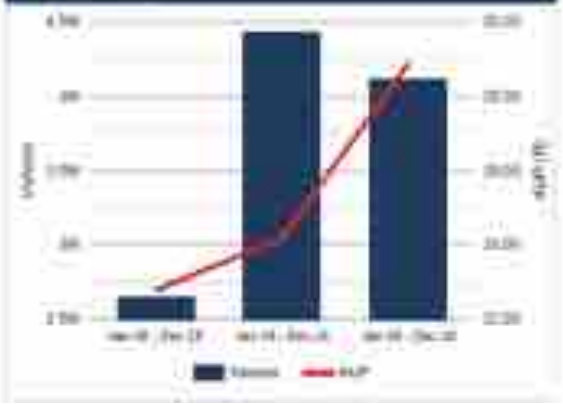
Top 3 Traders

The top 3 traders out of 21 make up 90.0% or more of all imports from the affected countries

90.0%

Percentage of Total Volume Imported

Import Volumes



Trade Overview for May 2026

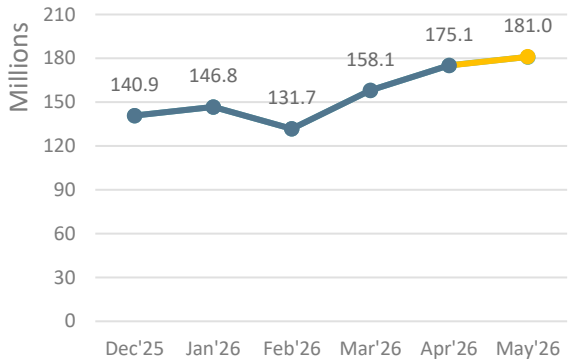
19th August 2026

SA Trade (Past 6 Months)

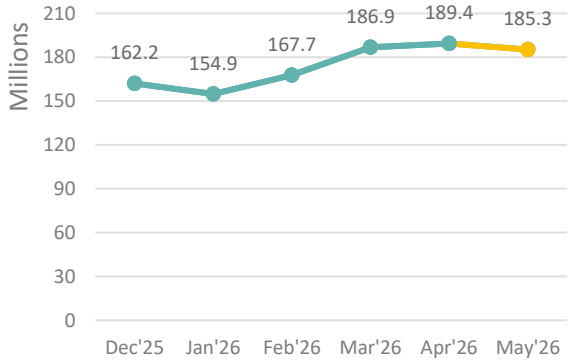
Balance of Trade

49.4%	50.6%

Imports



Exports



SA Trade (May 2026)

- Value depicted in Rands
- Values standardised at FOB rates
- Transshipments and goods in bond excluded

Trade Type	Value	Trade Split	Δ Last Month
Imports	R 180,984,243,093	49.4%	+ 3.06%
Exports	R 185,246,006,758	50.6%	- 2.22%

Top 5 Import Tariff Categories (HS 4-Digit Level)

Petroleum; Waste Oils	33,568,575,073	19.17%
Petroleum Oils, Crude	14,431,712,160	3.94%
Imports Of Articles Exported	13,554,965,087	3.70%
Vehicles To Transport People	9,593,634,460	2.62%
Electrical Line Telephony	4,883,970,487	1.33%

Top 5 Export Tariff Categories (HS 4-Digit Level)

Platinum, Unwrought	26,392,998,014	7.21%
Gold	19,444,720,706	5.31%
Vehicles To Transport People	10,642,691,419	2.91%
Chromium Ores And Concentrates	10,002,749,303	2.73%
Coal; Briquettes, Ovoids	8,905,936,029	2.43%

Top 5 Countries of Origin

China	36,030,942,449	9.84%	Top 5
India	15,437,037,120	4.22%	**23.2%** of Total Value
USA	15,313,280,529	4.18%	
Germany	12,519,577,155	3.42%	
Algeria	5,797,175,125	1.58%	

Top 5 Countries of Destination

Unknown	20,232,168,993	5.52%	Top 5
China	19,268,754,270	5.26%	**21.5%** of Total Value
Germany	16,239,744,790	4.43%	
USA	12,101,464,014	3.30%	
Japan	10,900,474,070	2.98%	

Top 5 Ports of Entry

Durban	Sea	96,390,486,556	26.32%	Top 5
Joburg	Air	25,776,606,284	7.04%	**42.9%** of Total Value
Cape Town	Sea	18,616,032,368	5.08%	
P.E	Sea	11,674,128,203	3.19%	
Pretoria	Sea	4,501,333,685	1.23%	

Top 5 Ports of Exit

Joburg	Air	36,905,738,332	10.08%	Top 5
Durban	Sea	21,581,510,073	5.89%	**28.7%** of Total Value
Unspecified	n/a	19,444,646,746	5.31%	
Richards Bay	Sea	15,945,513,092	4.35%	
P.E	Sea	10,990,128,547	3.00%	

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Questions & Answers

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