



SACU IN FIGURES 2020

Prepared by the Revenue Management Sub-Directorate

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“It is a capital mistake to theorize before one has data”

This statistical brief compiled by the Secretariat serves a quick reference to a selected basic indicators in the region as of **12 February 2021**. It contains indicators on the area size, population estimates (2020), real sector (2019), merchandise trade (2019), and annual inflation rates (2020). The data source is the SACU statistical database and Statistics Offices in the Member States.

A. Area Size

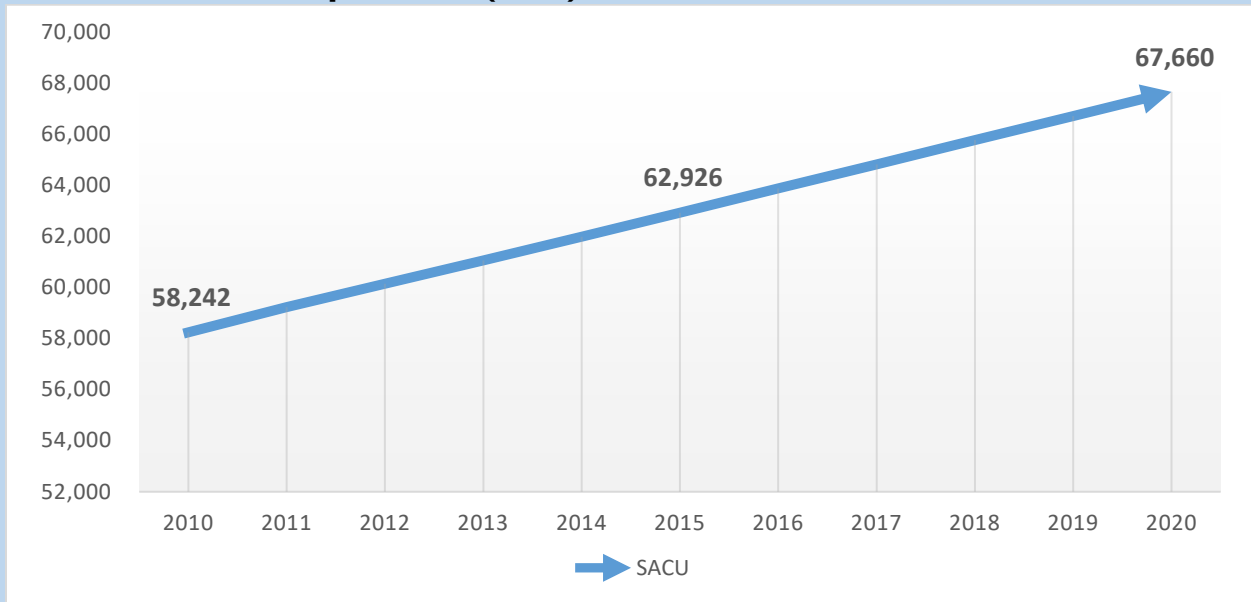
Botswana	582 000 km ²
Lesotho	30 355 km ²
Namibia	825 615 km ²
South Africa	1 219 090 km ²
Eswatini	17 364 km ²
SACU	2 674 424 km²

B. Population Estimates

Table I: Member States Population Estimates in descending order

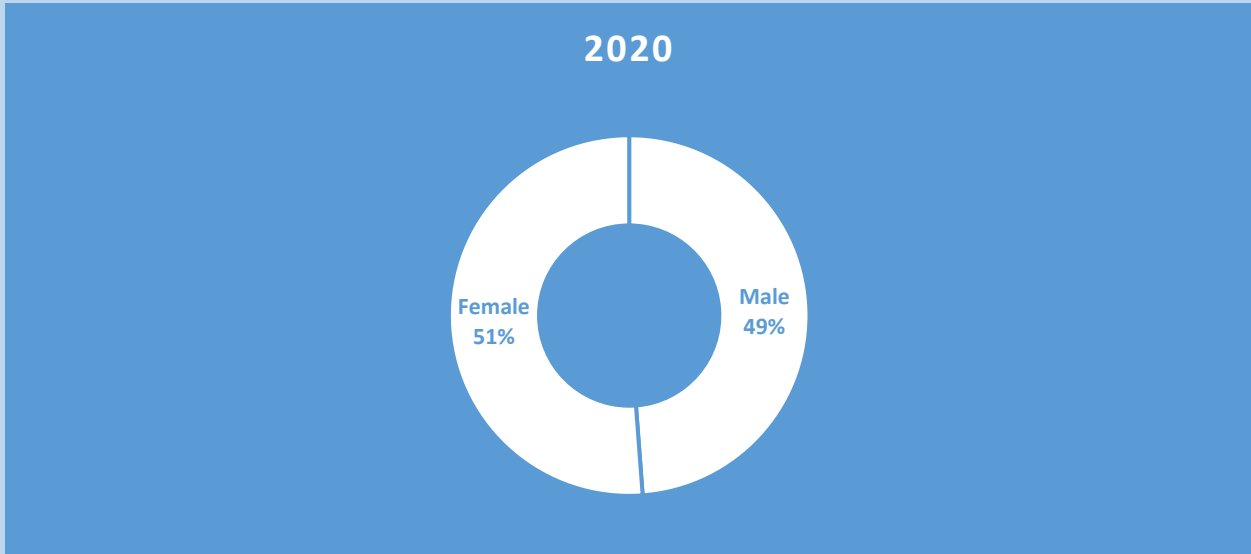
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
SACU	63,240,704	64,245,463	65,553,059	66,707,227	67,659,785
South Africa	55,619,940	56,521,948	57,725,600	58,775,022	59,622,350
Namibia	2,324,388	2,368,747	2,413,643	2,458,936	2,504,498
Botswana	2,230,905	2,266,857	2,302,878	2,338,851	2,374,698
Lesotho	1,932,814	1,941,941	1,951,688	1,961,985	1,972,790
Eswatini	1,132,657	1,145,970	1,159,250	1,172,433	1,185,449

Chart 1: SACU Population ('000)



✓ *The population of SACU has increased by 9.4 million people over the last decade between 2010 and 2020*

Chart 2: SACU Population by Gender in 2020



✓ *The population structure by gender in SACU for the year 2020 shows that 51 percent of the population was made up of female.*

C. GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

Table 2: GDP

Nominal GDP (R million)						
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Botswana	176,501	184,043	230,184	231,843	246,718	265,284
Eswatini	47,994	51,784	56,132	58,689	61,771	64,615
Lesotho	26,492	30,107	31,354	30,727	33,272	34,188
Namibia	134,836	146,019	157,708	171,570	181,009	181,234
South Africa	3,805,350	4,049,884	4,359,061	4,653,579	4,873,899	5,077,625
SACU	4,191,173	4,461,837	4,834,438	5,146,408	5,396,669	5,622,946
GDP growth rates (%)						
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Botswana	4,1	-1,7	4,3	2,9	4,5	3,0
Eswatini	0,9	2,2	1,1	2,0	2,4	2,2
Lesotho	1,7	3,1	3,6	-3,2	-1,2	-0,4
Namibia	6,1	4,3	0,0	-1,0	1,1	-1,6
South Africa	1,8	1,2	0,4	1,4	0,8	0,2
SACU (weighted average)	2,1	1,2	0,6	1,4	1,0	0,2

Source: Statistics Office in the Member States and Secretariat computation

- ✓ SACU's economy was estimated at R5.6 trillion in 2019 and the region recorded a slow growth of 0.2 grew percent compared to 1.0 percent recorded in 2018.
- ✓ Lesotho and Namibia's economies contracted in 2019, while Botswana, Eswatini and South Africa on the other hand recorded a slow growth.

Table 3: Contribution to GDP by Economic Activity at current prices in 2019 (%)

Economic Activity	Botswana	Eswatini	Lesotho	Namibia	South Africa
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	1.9	8.5	4.7	7.3	1.9
Mining and quarrying	15.2	0.1	5.6	9.1	7.4
Manufacturing	5.2	29.7	16.5	12.2	11.8
Electricity, gas and water supply	1.0	1.6	5.0	3.4	3.4
Construction	6.8	2.7	3.8	2.3	3.4
Wholesale, retail trade, hotel and restaurants	19.7	14.9	11.0	12.1	13.5
Transport, storage and communications	6.1	4.7	5.1	4.3	8.7
Financial intermediation & Business Services	14.2	15.0	15.1	14.2	17.5
General government	15.1	16.8	20.0	25.3	16.2
Community, social and personal services	5.6	0.6	0.9	2.4	5.3
Taxes less subsidies on products	9.1	7.0	12.4	7.4	10.9
GDP at market prices	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Source: Statistics Office in the Member States

- ✓ *The main sector that contributed to GDP in 2019 was the general government for Lesotho and Namibia, while for Botswana it was the wholesale, retail, hotel and restaurants; manufacturing sector for Eswatini; and financial intermediation & business services for South Africa.*

Table 4: GDP by Economic Activity at Constant Prices, Annual Growth Rates (%) for 2019

	Botswana	Eswatini	Lesotho	Namibia	South Africa
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	-0.1	-0.6	6.1	-5.7	-6.9
Mining and quarrying	-4.1	-18.3	-0.7	-11.1	-1.9
Manufacturing	2.8	5.2	0.7	3.0	-0.8
Electricity, gas and water supply	8.4	-1.6	-4.7	-5.4	-2.0
Construction	3.0	-0.7	-3.7	1.2	-3.3
Wholesale, retail trade, hotel and restaurants	4.5	2.2	-3.8	-7.1	0.0
Transport, storage and communications	5.1	4.8	3.2	0.8	-0.4
Financial intermediation & Business Services	5.9	2.9	2.6	3.2	2.3
General government	3.7	-1.5	0.6	1.3	1.7
Community, social and personal services	3.0	-6.4	3.3	-2.1	1.0
Taxes less subsidies on products	-0.1	0.2	-5.7	-4.0	-0.4
GDP at market prices	3.0	2.2	-0.4	-1.6	0.2

Source: Statistics Office in the Member States

Table 5: GDP by expenditure at Current Prices for 2019 (R million)

	Botswana	Eswatini	Lesotho	Namibia	South Africa
Final consumption expenditure	186,086	54,859	40,482	177,951	3,738,217
Household final consumption expenditure	134,790	41,471	27,222	131,650	3,058,619
General government final consumption expenditure	51,296	13,388	13,260	46,300	1,081,318
Gross capital formation	83,615	8,705	10,004	24,415	893,104
Gross domestic expenditure	274,311	63,564	50,486	202,366	5,033,041
Exports of goods and services	88,995	29,655	15,551	64,034	1,515,866
Imports of goods and services	107,371	27,912	31,850	85,167	1,490,318
GDP at market prices	265,284	64,615	34,188	181,234	5,077,625

Source: Statistics Office in the Member States

D. Merchandise Trade Statistics

Table 6: SACU Member States' trade with the Rest of the World (R million)

Imports	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Botswana	90,567	87,741	77,980	83,684	94,832
Eswatini	18,577	21,368	21,530	24,721	26,522
Lesotho	20,132	23,341	27,916	28,372	29,853
Namibia	89,019	96,502	92,902	115,567	112,289
South Africa	1,088,016	1,099,293	1,106,978	1,232,405	1,273,145
Exports	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Botswana	77,988	107,148	92,720	87,108	75,655
Eswatini	22,021	23,900	24,016	24,653	28,860
Lesotho	7,151	8,813	14,154	10,063	13,443
Namibia	56,162	66,550	69,198	98,808	92,240
South Africa	1,027,648	1,115,959	1,183,959	1,249,419	1,296,807

Source: Member States

Table 7: Intra-SACU trade (R million)

Imports	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Botswana	64,836	65,496	56,685	59,690	62,867
Eswatini	15,220	16,544	17,019	18,629	19,503
Lesotho	15,257	17,672	19,773	21,773	22,063
Namibia	61,861	62,250	55,092	54,207	53,778
South Africa	29,350	31,832	37,252	38,594	42,211
Total	186,524	193,794	185,821	192,893	200,422
Exports	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Botswana	21,493	27,385	12,168	10,440	9,639
Eswatini	15,593	16,258	17,040	17,095	19,810
Lesotho	2,302	4,517	5,774	3,873	5,271
Namibia	24,225	21,275	23,531	24,196	25,227
South Africa	136,316	140,261	133,741	137,058	146,134
Total	199,929	209,696	192,254	192,662	206,081

E. Inflation Rates

Table 8: Annual inflation rates (%)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Botswana	2.8	3.3	3.2	2.8	1.9
Eswatini	7.8	6.3	4.8	2.6	3.9
Lesotho	6.6	5.2	4.8	5.2	5.0
Namibia	6.7	6.2	4.3	3.7	2.2
South Africa	6.4	5.3	4.7	4.1	3.3
SACU HCPI	7.1	5.6	4.7	4.9	*

Source: Statistics Office in the Member States; * data for 2020 not available by publishing date

- ✓ *Annual inflation rates decelerated in all Member States except Eswatini in 2020 compared to 2019*