



agriculture

Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Agro-processing Quarterly Brief: No. 4, 2024

Directorate: Agro-processing Support

Highlights of the fourth quarter of 2024 (2024: Q4) (October to December)

In 2024: Q4, the year-on-year producer price index (PPI) for final manufactured goods remained unchanged as compared to a growth of 2,7% year-on-year.

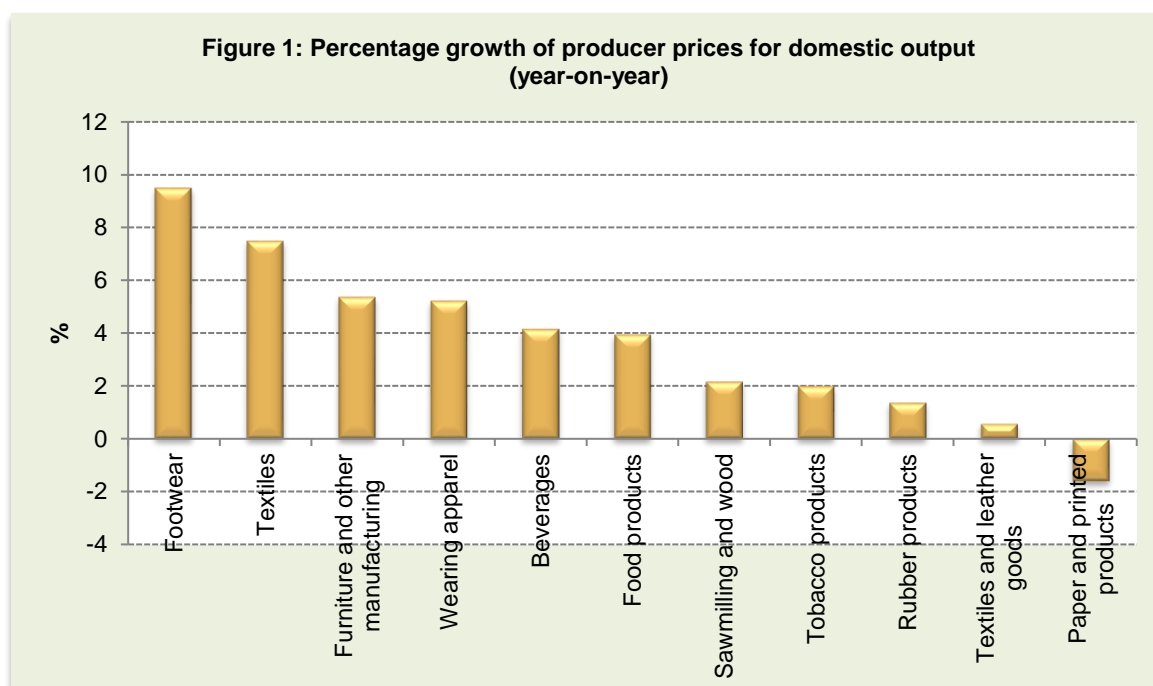
The agro-processing industry's seasonally adjusted volume of production decelerated by 1,3% in 2024: Q4 from a 0,6% growth in 2024: Q3. However, the volume of production decelerated by 2,6% year-on-year.

The seasonally adjusted value of sales for the agro-processing industry moderated by 0,2% in 2024: Q4 from a 1,7% growth in 2024: Q3. This represented an increase in nominal value of sales from R278 946,0 million in 2024: Q3 to R279 413,4 million in 2024: Q4.

In 2024: Q4, the trade deficit of the agro-processing industry narrowed from R14 544,8 million in 2024: Q3 to R12 357,5 million in 2024: Q4, which represents a contraction of 15,0% from a 63,9% growth in the last quarter.

In 2024: Q4, the agro-processing industry recorded about 462 589 jobs from 466 601 jobs in 2024: Q3, representing 4 012 jobs shed in 2024: Q4.

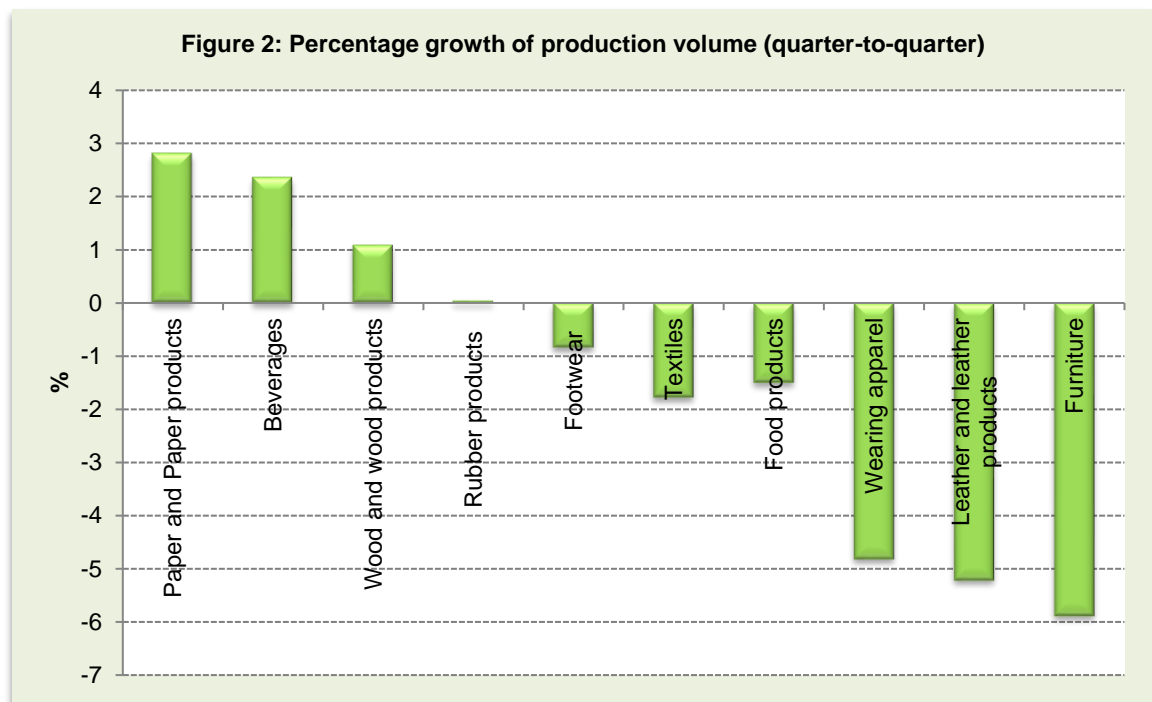
Producer prices



Source: Statistics SA, 2025

In 2024: Q4, the year-on-year producer price index for final manufactured goods remained unchanged as compared to a growth of 2,7% year-on-year. The following divisions moderated during the period under review: textiles (7,5%), wearing apparel (5,2%), sawmilling and wood (2,2%) and rubber products (1,4%). The footwear (9,5%), furniture and manufacturing (5,4%) and food products (4,0%) divisions expanded during this period, textiles and leather goods (0,6%) division rebounded and paper and paper products (1,6%) division contracted, while beverages and tobacco products divisions stagnated as compared to a growth of 4,2% and 2,0%, respectively, in 2024: Q3 (see Figure 1).

Volume of production

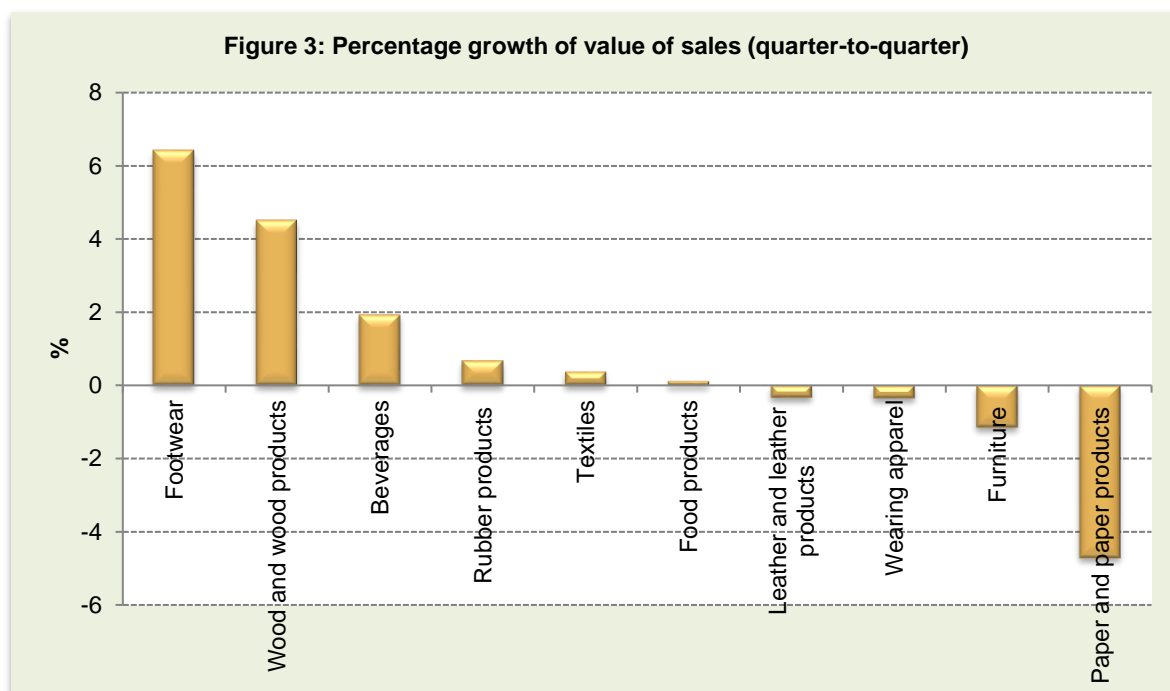


Source: Statistics SA, 2025

*Tobacco data not supplied

Figure 2 above shows the seasonally adjusted physical volume of production for the agro-processing divisions in 2024: Q4. The agro-processing industry's seasonally adjusted volume of production decelerated by 1,3% in 2024: Q4 from a 0,6% growth in 2024: Q3. Most divisions decelerated during the period under review and those were: furniture (5,9%), textiles (1,8%), leather and leather products (5,2%) and footwear (0,8%). The food products (1,5%) and wearing apparel (4,8%) divisions contracted during this period, beverages division (2,4%) expanded, wood and wood products (1,1%) and paper and paper products (2,8%) divisions rebounded, while rubber products division remained unchanged as compared to a contraction of 0,8% in 2024: Q3.

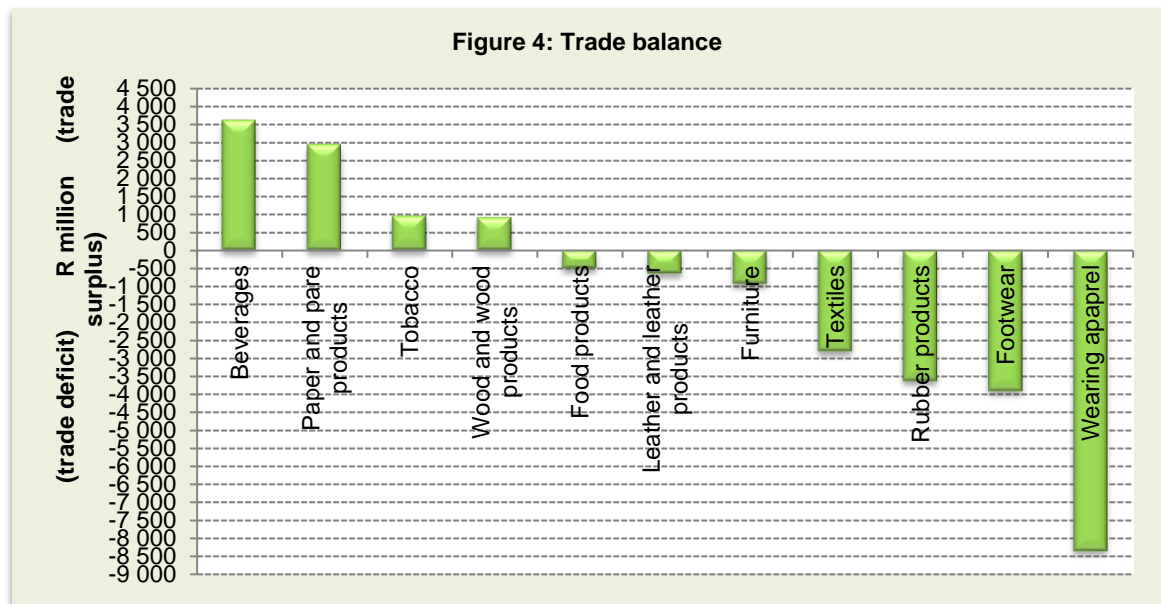
Value of sales



Source: Statistics SA, 2025

Figure 3 above shows the seasonally adjusted value of sales for the agro-processing divisions in 2024: Q4. The seasonally adjusted value of sales for the agro-processing industry moderated by 0,2% in 2024: Q4 from a 1,7% growth in 2024: Q3. This represented an increase in nominal value of sales from R278 946,0 million in 2024: Q3 to R279 413,4 million in 2024: Q3. The seasonally adjusted value of sales rebounded for the following divisions: textiles (0,4%), footwear (6,4%), wood and wood products (4,5%) and rubber products (0,7%). The food products (0,1%) and beverages (1,9%) divisions moderated, wearing apparel (0,4%) and leather and leather products divisions (0,3%) receded further and furniture (1,1%) division decelerated, while paper and paper products division contracted by 4,7% in 2024: Q4.

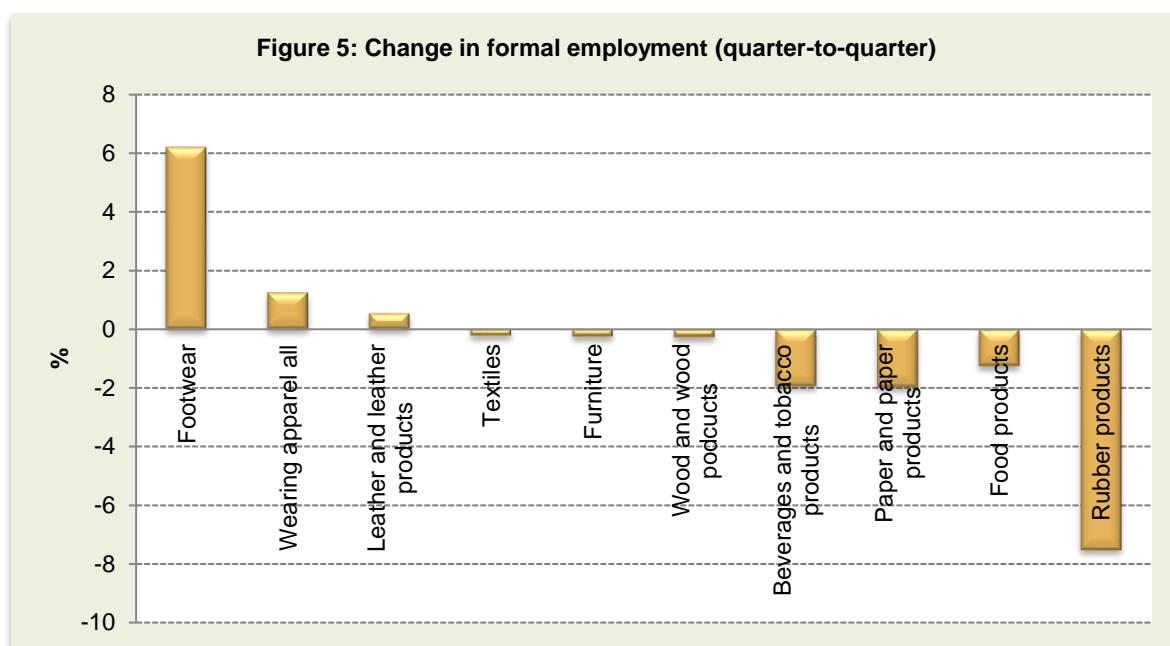
Trade



Source: Quantec, 2025

In 2024: Q4, the trade deficit of the agro-processing industry narrowed from R14 544,8 million in 2024: Q3 to R12 357,5 million in 2024: Q4, which represents a contraction of 15,0% from a 63,9% growth in the last quarter. The divisions that recorded a trade deficit during the period were: wearing apparel (R8 337,1 million), footwear (R3 910,4 million), rubber products (R3 629,1 million), textiles (R2 804,8 million), furniture (R936,9 million), leather and leather products (R649,9 million) and food products (R512,2 million). However, the following divisions registered a trade surplus during the period under review: beverages (R2 418,6 million), paper and paper products (R2 941,0 million), tobacco (R958,9 million) and wood and wood products (R910,6 million) (see Figure 4).

Formal employment



Source: Stats SA, 2025

In 2024: Q4, the agro-processing industry recorded about 462 589 jobs from 466 601 jobs in 2024: Q3, representing 4 012 jobs shed in 2024: Q4. This can be attributed to job losses in the following divisions: food products (2 860), beverages (848), paper and paper products (671) rubber products (176), wood and wood products (116), furniture (78) and textiles (65). However, the divisions that created jobs during the period under review were: wearing apparel (452), footwear (323) and leather and leather products (27) (see Figure 5).

All correspondence can be addressed to:

Directorate: Agro-processing Support

Private Bag X416, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa

Tel.: +27 12 319 8457/8311 • Fax: +27 12 319 8093 • E-mail: JoshuaM@dalrrd.gov.za

This publication is also available on the internet at:

<http://www.dalrrd.gov.za>

This document has been compiled by the Department of Agriculture, every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and thoroughness of the information contained herein and the department cannot be held responsible for any errors, omissions or inaccuracies in such information and data, whether inadvertent or otherwise. The Department of Agriculture therefore accepts no liability that can be incurred resulting from the use of this information.