



Economic Review of the Agro-processing industry in South Africa.

2022: Q3

DIRECTORATE: AGRO-PROCESSING SUPPORT



agriculture, land reform
& rural development

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PREFACE

The National Development Plan (NDP) identifies the agro-processing industry for its potential to spur economic growth and create sustainable employment. The agriculture and agro-industries are postulated as having the latent potential to contribute to inclusive economic growth through forward and backward linkages by providing various opportunities for earning income in the food production, processing, distribution, and retailing phases of the agro/food value chain. At policy level, the Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF), specifically **outcome 1: Economic transformation and job creation**, notes the agro-processing industry as key pillar for inclusive economic growth. At sectoral level, the Agriculture and Agro-processing Master Plan (**AAMP**), **specifically pillars 5 and 6**, notes the crucial role the agro-processing industry should play towards mitigating post-harvest losses, providing access to markets for farmers and ensuring household food security. At an operational level, the competitive performance of agribusinesses is directly linked to the competitiveness of the industry and sector.

Consequently, the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) established the Directorate: Agro-processing Support within the Branch: Economic Development, Trade and Marketing (EDTM) to develop and facilitate implementation of policies and strategies to enhance competitive performance of agro-processing agribusinesses. Among others, the function of the directorate is to provide timely and updated agro-processing economic and statistical information geared to monitor the performance of the industry and provide insight into the effects of economic policies and exogenous factors. To achieve this purpose, the directorate publishes an annual economic review of the agro-processing industry.

This publication, “*Annual Economic Review of the Agro-processing Industry in South Africa 2022: Q3*”, by the directorate evaluates the economic performance of the eleven agro-processing divisions during 2022: Q3. These divisions, which are categorised consistent with the *Standard Industrial Classification* are: food products, beverages, tobacco, textiles, wearing apparel, leather and leather products, footwear, wood and wood products, paper and paper products, rubber products and furniture. The main economic indicators reviewed are the changes in prices, volume of production, value of sales, utilisation capacity by large enterprises, formal employment, and trade balance.

Any comments or suggestions on the content of the publication are welcome.

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Disclaimer: The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development did everything to ensure the accuracy of the information reported in this publication. The department will, however, not be held liable for the results of actions based on this publication.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The South African economy rebounded by 1,6% in 2022: Q3, following a contraction of 0,7% in the last quarter. In 2022: Q3, the year-on-year producer price inflation for final manufactured goods moderated by 4,2% from a 5,9% growth recorded in the preceding quarter. The producer price inflation grew year-on-year for textiles, wearing apparel, footwear, furniture and other manufacturing, textiles and leather goods, and rubber. However, it stagnated for beverages and tobacco and moderated for sawmilling and wood.

The seasonally adjusted volume of production for the agro-processing sector rebounded quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year by 4,1% and 4,8% from a 4,6% and 2,1% respective contraction in the last quarter. It rebounded for leather and leather products, wood and wood products, paper, and paper products, wearing apparel, food, beverages, and textiles. Additionally, it increased for footwear, while it decelerated for rubber products division. However, it contracted for the furniture division.

The utilisation capacity for the following divisions increased during 2022: Q3: food products, textiles, leather and leather products, footwear, furniture, wood and wood products, paper and paper products, however, it declined for beverages, wearing apparel and rubber products during the period of 2022: Q3.

The seasonally adjusted value of sales for agro-processing industry grew quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year by 5,4% and 16,0% from a 0,3% and 6,9% growth respectively in the last quarter. Therefore, sales grew from R233 651,4 million in 2022: Q2 to R246 161,9 million in 2022: Q3. Sales increased for leather and leather products, footwear, food, and beverages. However, sales rebounded for paper and paper products, wood and wood products and textiles. Sale contracted for rubber products, wearing apparel and furniture.

The trade deficit of the agro-processing industry widened from R9 936,3 million in 2022: Q2 to R11 935,4 million in 2022: Q3, which represented a 20,1% rebound growth from a 42,0% contraction in the last quarter. The formal employment in the agro-processing industry receded further by 0,4% as compared to a 3,2% contraction registered in the last quarter. The employment decreased from 474 109 in 2022: Q2 to 471 996 in 2022: Q3.

1. INTRODUCTION

Economic activity in South Africa increased strongly in the third quarter of 2022, following a decrease in the second quarter due to flooding in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) and electricity loadshedding. Real gross domestic product (GDP) expanded by 1,6% in the third quarter of 2022 following a contraction of 0,7% in the second quarter, as the real gross value added (GVA) by the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors increased (*Reserve Bank, 2021*).

This quarterly economic review of the agro-processing industry in South Africa assesses how the performance of the domestic economy during 2022: Q3 affected the producer price, consumer price, production volume, sales, capacity utilisation, trade, and the employment of the agro-processing divisions. The quarterly review is organised as follows: section two summarises the state of the domestic economy during 2022: Q3. Section three provides the impact of the global and domestic economy on the eleven divisions of the agro-processing industry.

2. STATE OF THE DOMESTIC ECONOMY

Table 1 below shows the South African growth rate at seasonally adjusted annualised rates. South Africa's economic activity in the third quarter of 2022 increased in the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors. Growth in the real GVA (gross value added) by the agricultural and manufacturing sector rebounded by 19,2% and 1,5% in 2022: Q3 from 11,1% and 5,7% contracted growths in the preceding quarter. Agricultural production in the third quarter benefitted from higher field crops and the increased output of horticultural products but was still significantly lower in the first three quarters of 2022 compared with the same period in 2021 as input costs rose sharply alongside the persistence of foot-and-mouth disease (*Reserve Bank. 2021*).

Table 1: South African economic growth rate (percentage change at seasonally adjusted annualised rates)

SECTOR	2021				Year*	2022		
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1		Q2	Q3	
<i>Primary sector</i>	5,5	-10,5	3,4	10,8	-2,3	-6,4	8,2	
<i>Agriculture</i>	11,3	-24,7	16,4	8,8	-2,4	-11,1	19,2	

Mining	2,0	-1,1	-3,2	12,0	-2,1	-3,5	2,1
Secondary sector	-1,4	-3,2	0,8	4,5	3,8	-4,6	1,2
Manufacturing	-1,8	-4,3	2,4	6,5	5,0	-5,7	1,5
Construction	-1,6	-1,1	-2,6	-2,2	-0,8	-2,0	3,1
Tertiary sector	1,7	-0,5	1,3	4,1	1,7	0,8	1,1
Non-primary sector	1,0	-1,0	1,2	4,2	2,1	-0,3	1,1
Non-agricultural sector	1,1	-1,0	0,9	4,6	1,9	-0,4	1,2
Total	1,4	-1,8	1,4	4,9	1,7	-0,7	1,6

Source: SA Reserve Bank (2021)

*Percentage change over one year

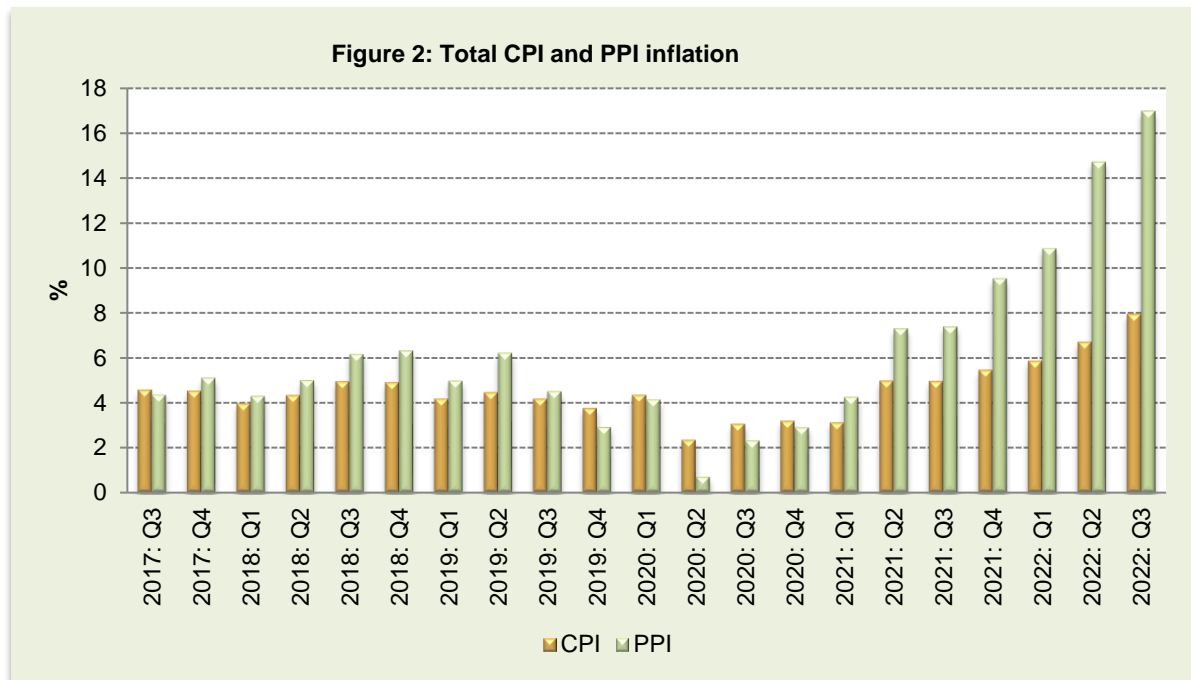
** The non-primary sector is total GVA excluding agriculture and mining

*** The non-agricultural sector is total GVA excluding agriculture



Source: Statistics SA (2022)

During 2022: Q3, South Africa's unemployment rate decreased to 32,9% as compared to a 33,9% in the preceding quarter. Unemployment rate decreased by 1,0 percentage point in the quarter under review. The largest increase in employment was recorded in manufacturing (123 000), followed by Trade (82 000), construction (46 000), transport (33 000) and community and social services (27 000). Decreases in employment were recorded in the finance (80 000), private households (36 000), mining and agriculture (1 000 each) industries (Stats SA, 2022).



Source: Statistics SA (2022)

Figure 2 above presents consumer price index and producer price index during 2022: Q3. In 2022: Q3, the year-on-year producer price inflation for final manufactured goods grew to 17,0% from a 14,7% growth recorded in the preceding quarter. Similarly, the year-on-year consumer price grew by 7,9% from a 6,7% growth in the preceding quarter.

3. THE AGRO-PROCESSING INDUSTRY

The FAO (1997) defines agro-processing industry as a subset of manufacturing that processes raw materials and intermediate products derived from the agricultural sector. According to the Standard Industrial Classification, the agro-processing industry comprises of the following 11 divisions: food products, beverages, tobacco, textiles, wearing apparel, leather and leather products, footwear, paper and paper products, wood and wood products, rubber products and

furniture. This section reviews the economic performance of eleven divisions during 2022: Q3 as influenced by the global and domestic economic environment.

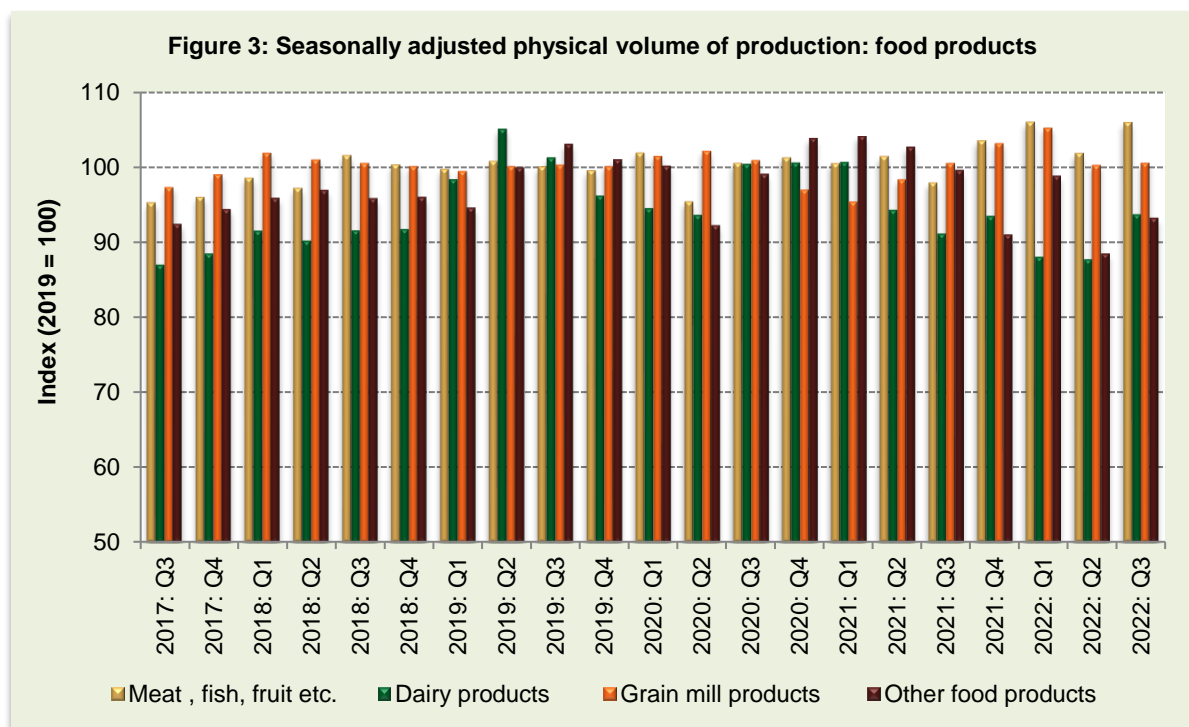
3.1 FOOD PRODUCTS

Table 2 below shows the producer price index for food products in 2022: Q3. The year-on-year producer price index for food products increased by 15,7%, while quarter-to-quarter price index for food products moderated by 4,3% in the period under review.

Table 2: Producer price index for food products (base 2020=100)

Indices			% Change between	
2021: Q3	2022: Q2	2022: Q3	2021: Q3 and 2022: Q3	2022: Q2 and 2022: Q3
103,5	114,7	119,7	15,7	4,3

Source: Statistics SA, 2022



Source: Quantec, 2022

Figure 3 above shows the seasonally adjusted physical volume of production for food products during 2022: Q3. During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted volume of production for meat, fruit, and fish, etc.; dairy products; grain mill products and other food products rebounded by 4,0%; 6,8%; 0,3% and 5,4% as compared to a 3,9%; 0,4%; 4,7% and

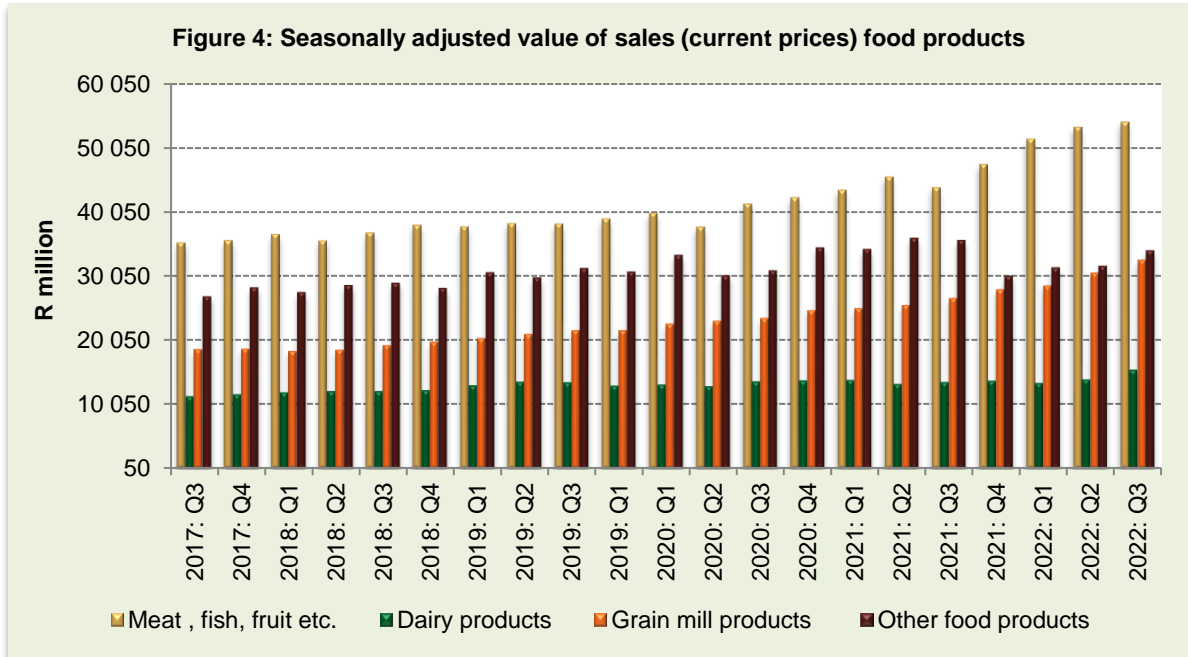
10,5% contraction in the last quarter, respectively. However, year on year it grew for meat, fruit, and fish, etc., by 8,2% in 2022: Q3 from a 0,5% growth in 2022: Q2, while for dairy products it rebounded by 2,8% in 2022: Q3 as compared to a 7,0% contraction in the last quarter. On the other hand, year-on-year, the seasonally adjusted volume of production for grain mill products remained unchanged, while “other food products” receded further by 6,4%, during 2022: Q3.

Table 3: Utilisation and reasons for underutilisation of production capacity by large enterprises: Food (percentage)

Period	Utilisation	Reasons for underutilisation					
		Total underutilisa tion	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
			Raw materials	Labour			
				Skilled	Semi and unskilled		
2021: Q3	82,6	17,4	3,1	1,0	0,1	9,6	3,7
2022: Q2	82,1	17,9	3,1	1,1	0,2	10,8	2,8
2022: Q3	83,8	16,2	2,3	0,9	0,1	10,0	3,0

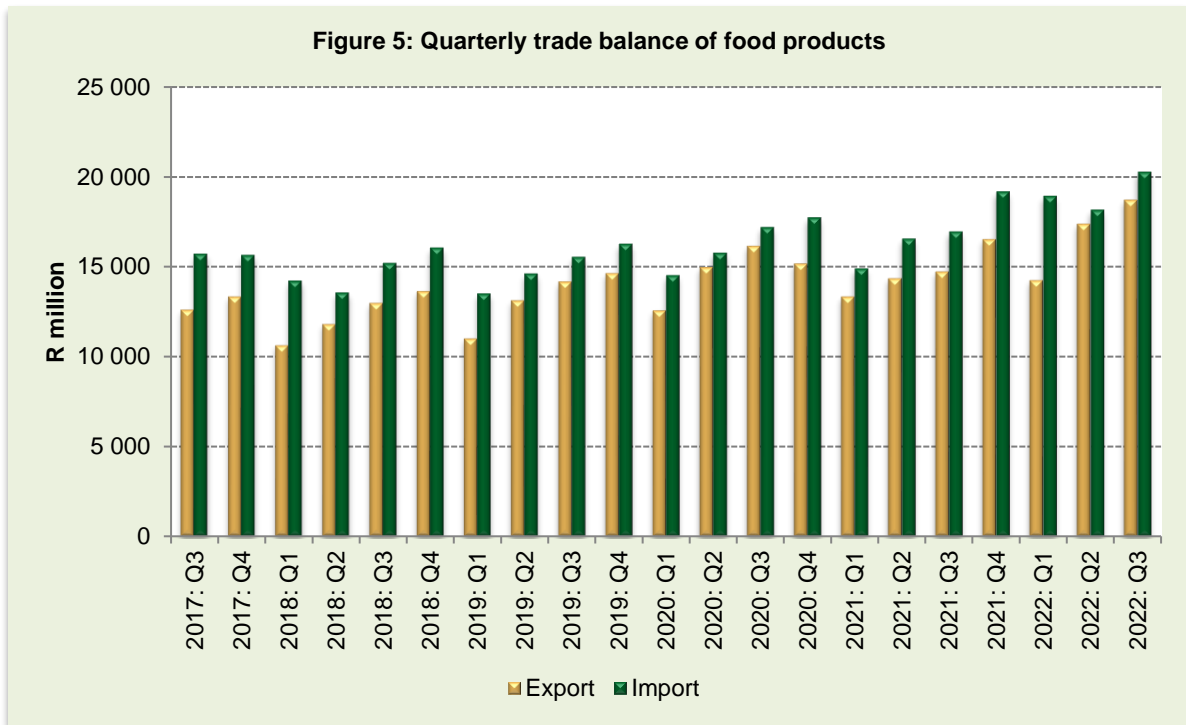
Source: Statistics SA (2022)

Table 3 above presents utilisation and reasons for underutilisation of production capacity by large enterprise for the food products division. In 2022: Q3, the utilisation capacity by large enterprises in the food products division increased year-on-year by 1,2 percentage points. Similarly, quarter-to-quarter, the utilisation capacity increased by 1,7 percentage points. Insufficient demand remains the main reason for underutilisation followed by other reasons such as seasonal factors.



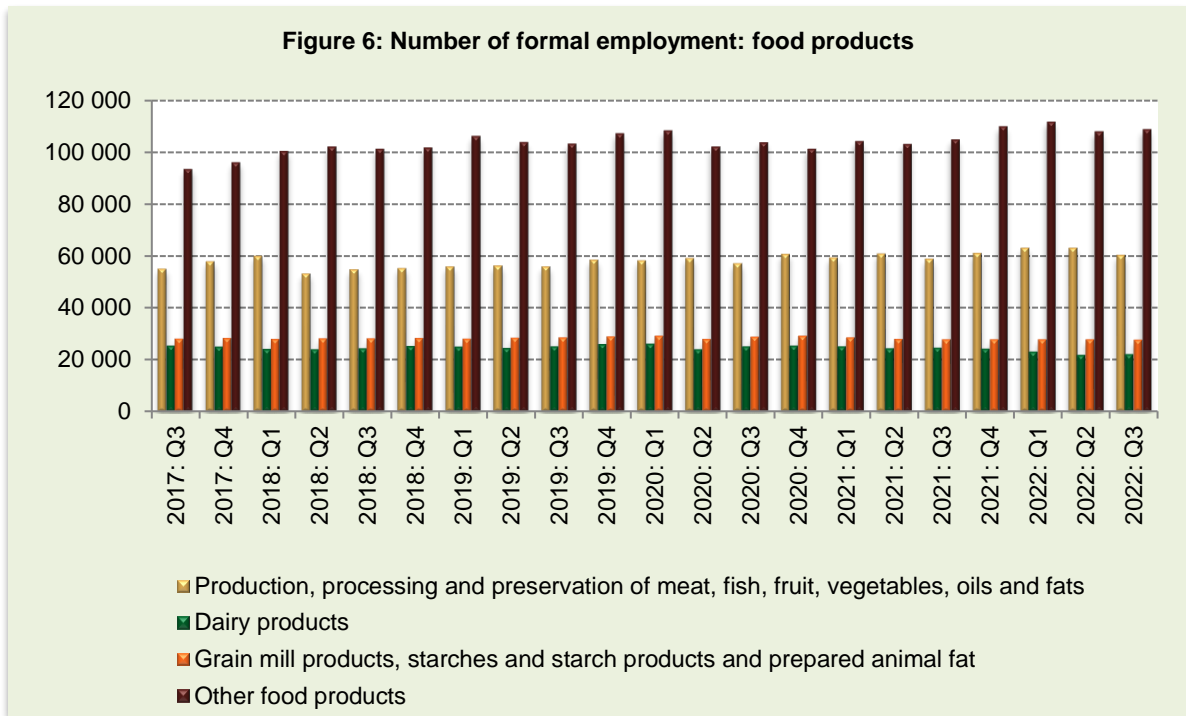
Source: Quantec, 2022

During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted value of sales for meat, fish, fruit, etc. and grain mill products moderated by 1,5% and 6,4% following a 3,6% and 7,1% respective growth in 2022: Q3. However, sales of dairy and other food products grew quarter-to-quarter by 11,0% and 7,6% respectively in 2022: Q3 as compared to a 4,2% and 0,8% growth recorded in the last quarter. The seasonally adjusted value of sales of meat, fish, fruit etc. dairy products and grain mill products grew year-on-year by 23,3%, 14,4% and 22,3% respectively in 2022: Q3. However, sales receded further for “other food products” by 4,5% year-on-year in 2022: Q3. Overall, sales of the food division grew quarter-to-quarter by 5,2% in 2022: Q3 from a 3,8% growth in 2022: Q2. Similarly, sales of the food division grew by 13,8% year-on-year in 2022: Q3. Therefore, sales of the food division increased to R135 917,0 million in the current quarter from R129 240,5 million in the previous quarter.



Source: Quantec, (2022)

Figure 5 above shows the trade balance of the food products division over the period 2017: Q3 to 2022: Q3. In 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter imports of food products rebounded by 11,6% from a 4,1% contraction recorded in the last quarter, while exports moderated by 7,8% quarter-to-quarter from a 22,0% growth in the preceding quarter. However, exports and imports grew by 19,6% and 27,1% year-on year from an 9,8% and 21,1% growth respectively in the previous quarter. Therefore, the trade deficit for food products division widened from R755,0 million in 2022: Q2 to R1 507,9 million in 2022: Q3.



Source: Quantec, 2022

Figure 6 above shows the employment in the food products division over the period 2017: Q3 to 2022: Q3. During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter formal employment in the production, processing and preservation of meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, oils and fats contracted by 4,5% from an unchanged growth in the last quarter. Having contracted by 5,7% in the preceding quarter, dairy products rebounded by 1,4% during the third quarter of 2022. Grain mill products, on the other hand, contracted by 0,8% quarter-to-quarter following a 0,1% growth recorded in the last quarter. "Other food products" rebounded by 0,9% quarter-to-quarter from a 3,4% contraction registered in the previous quarter.

In terms of year-on-year, employment in production, processing and preservation of meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, oils and fats moderated by 2,6%, dairy products receded further by 9,9%, grain mill products contracted by 0,5% , while "other food products" moderated by 3,9%. The employment for the food division receded further by 0,8% quarter-to-quarter from a contraction of 2,2% registered in the last quarter, however, the division moderated by 1,4% year-on-year from a 2,1% growth registered in the last quarter. As a result, the division as a whole shed about 1 782 jobs in 2022: Q3.

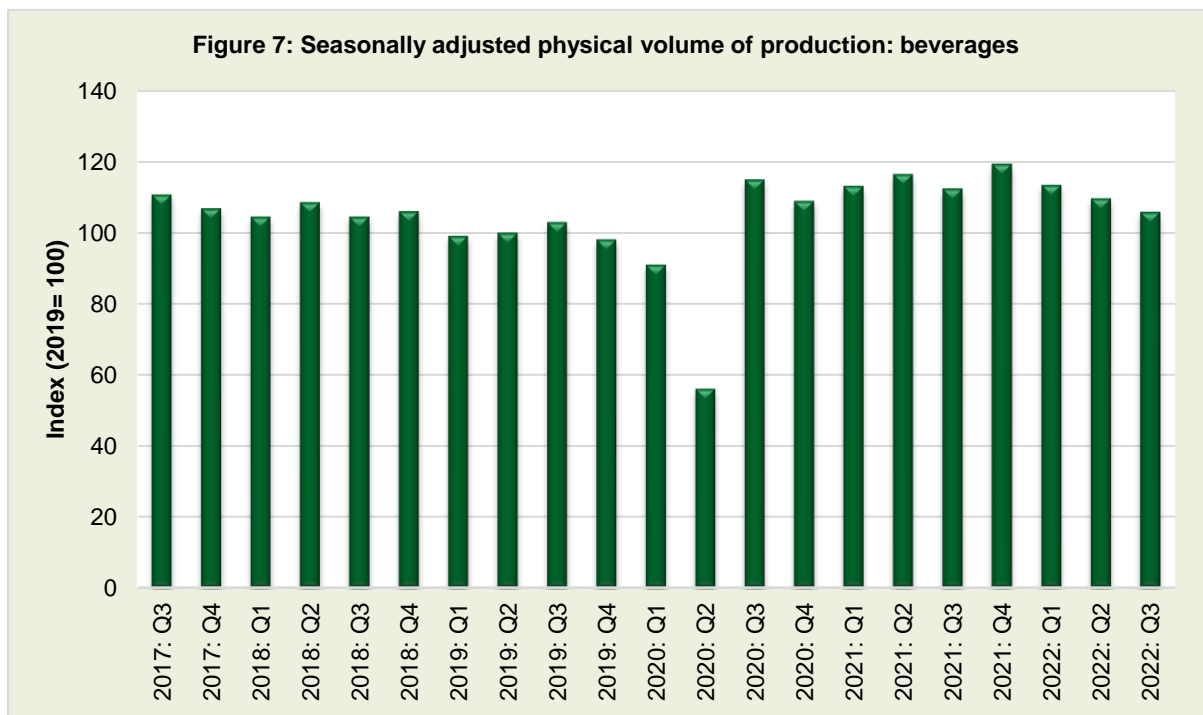
3.2 BEVERAGES

Table 4 below shows the producer price index for the beverages division in 2022: Q1. The year-on-year producer price index for beverages grew by 3,6% in 2022: Q3, however, the quarter-to-quarter producer price index remained unchanged as compared to the previous quarter of 1,2% growth.

Table 4: Producer price index for beverages products (base 2020=100)

Indices			% Change between	
2021: Q3	2022: Q2	2022: Q3	2021: Q3 and 2022: Q3	2022: Q2 and 2022: Q3
101,8	105,5	105,5	3,6	0,0

Source: Statistics SA, 2022



Source: Quantec, 2022

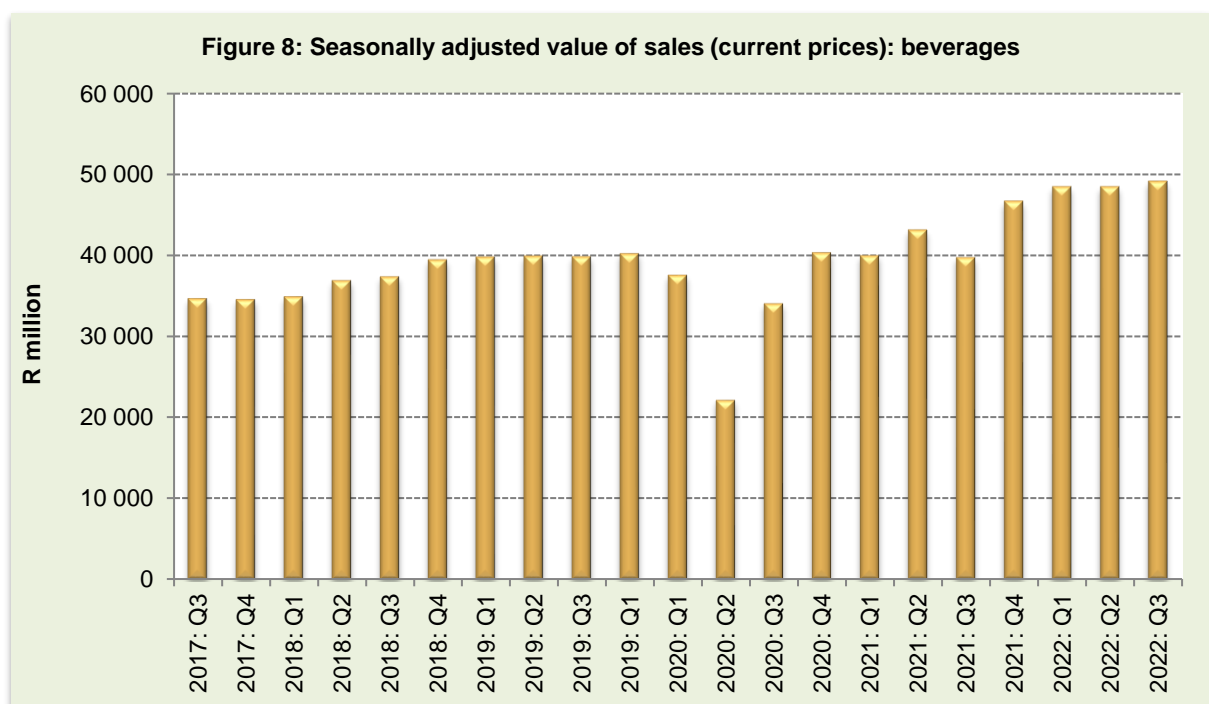
Figure 7 above shows the seasonally adjusted physical volume of production for the beverages division. The quarter-to-quarter volume of production for the beverages division rebounded by 3,2% in 2022: Q3 from a 3,5% contraction recorded in 2022: Q2. However, year-on-year, it increased by about 20,6% in 2022: Q3 following a 5,6% growth registered in the previous quarter.

Table 5: Utilisation and reasons for underutilisation of production capacity by large enterprises: Beverages (percentage).

Period	Utilisation	Reasons for under-utilisation					
		Total underutilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
			Raw materials	Labour			
				Skilled	Semi and unskilled		
2021: Q3	82,3	17,7	2,2	1,6	0,2	11,3	2,5
2022: Q2	79,4	20,6	4,1	3,2	0,2	11,3	1,8
2022: Q3	78,8	21,2	4,0	3,9	0,2	11,4	1,8

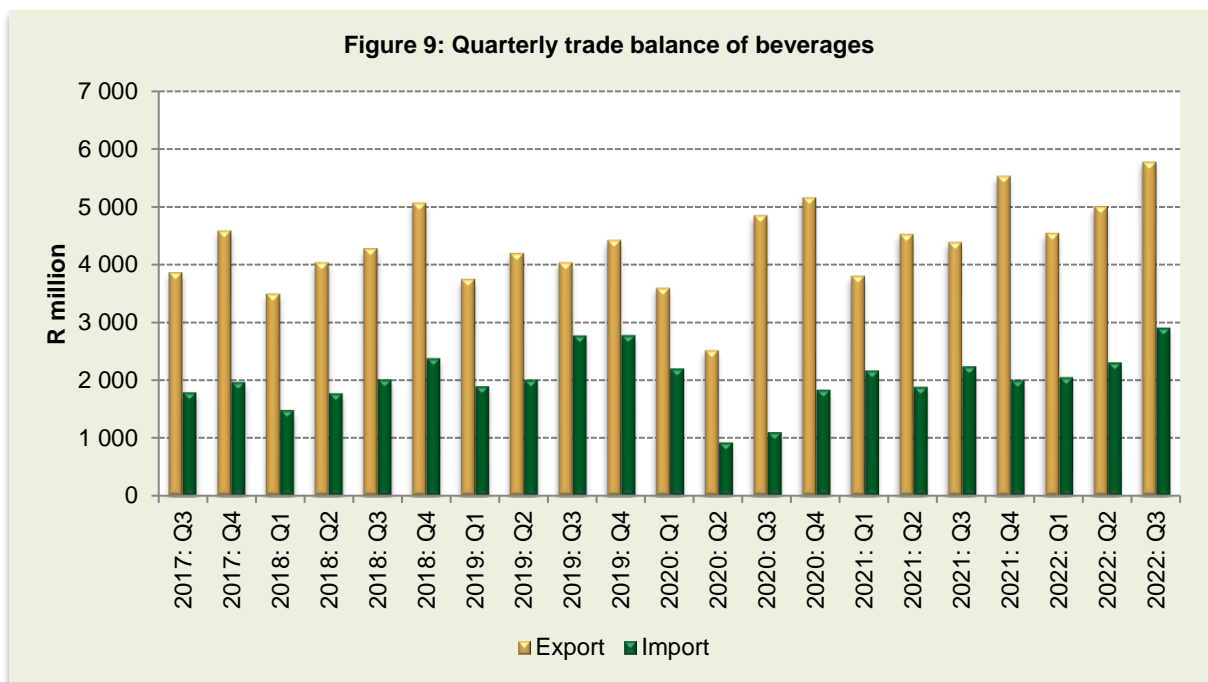
Source: Statistics SA (2022)

Table 5 above shows the utilisation of production capacity by large enterprises in the beverages division. The utilisation of production capacity decreased year-on-year by about 3,5 percentage points, similarly, it decreased quarter-to-quarter by 0,6 percentage points. Insufficient demand remains the main reason for underutilisation during the period followed by shortage of raw materials.



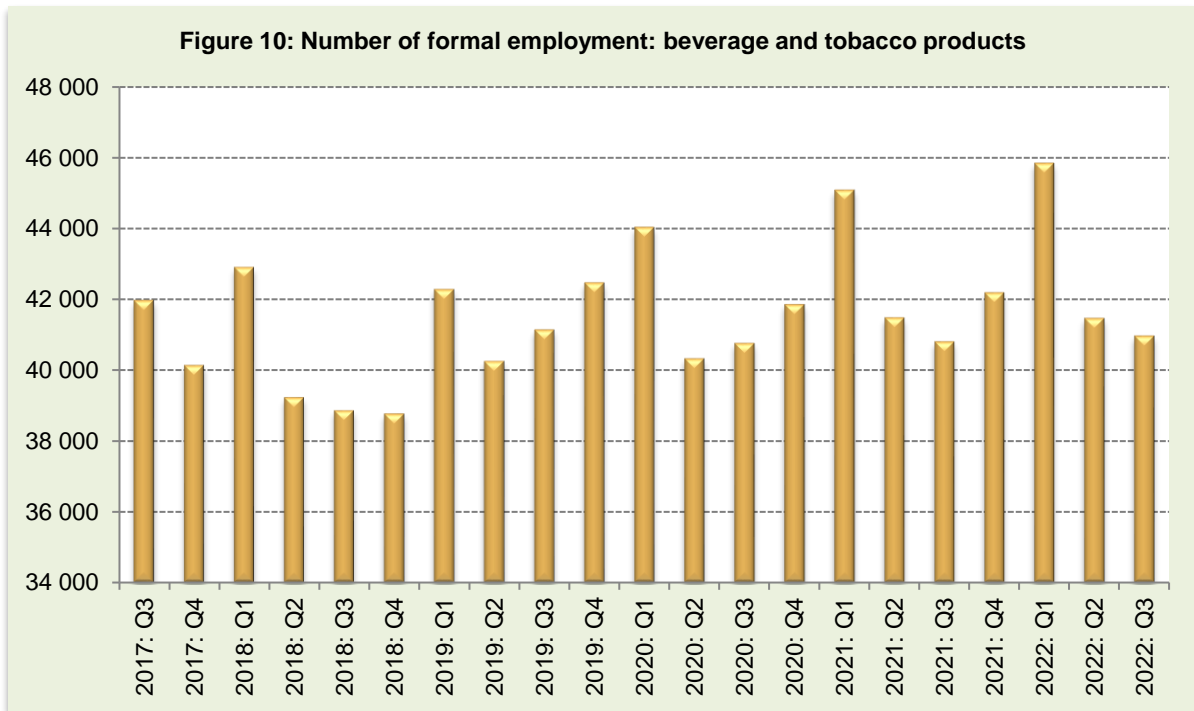
Source: Quantec, 2022

Figure 8 above shows the seasonally adjusted value of sales for the beverages division in 2022: Q3. During the period under review, the quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted value of sales for the beverages division rebounded by 1,4% from an unchanged growth in 2022: Q2. However, year-on-year, sales for the beverages division increased by 23,7% in 2022: Q3 following a 12,4% growth in 2022: Q2. Therefore, sales for the beverages division increased from R48 476,3 million in 2022: Q2 to R49 154,6 million in 2022: Q3.



Source: Quantec, 2022

As Figure 9 shows, the quarter-to-quarter imports and exports of the beverages division grew by 25,9% and 15,4% in 2022: Q3 following a 12,6% and 10,2% respective growth recorded in the last quarter. Similarly, beverages imports and exports grew year-on-year by 29,7% and 31,8% from a 22,7% and 10,8% growth respectively in the last quarter. Consequently, trade surplus of the beverages division widened from R2 710,6 million in 2022: Q2 to R2 886,3 million in 2022: Q3.



Source: Statistics SA, (2022)

During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter employment in the beverages and tobacco products division receded further by 1,2% following a 9,5% contraction in the last quarter, however, the division grew by 0,4% year-on year as compared to an unchanged growth in the preceding quarter. As a result, the division lost about 501 jobs in 2022: Q1 (see Figure 10).

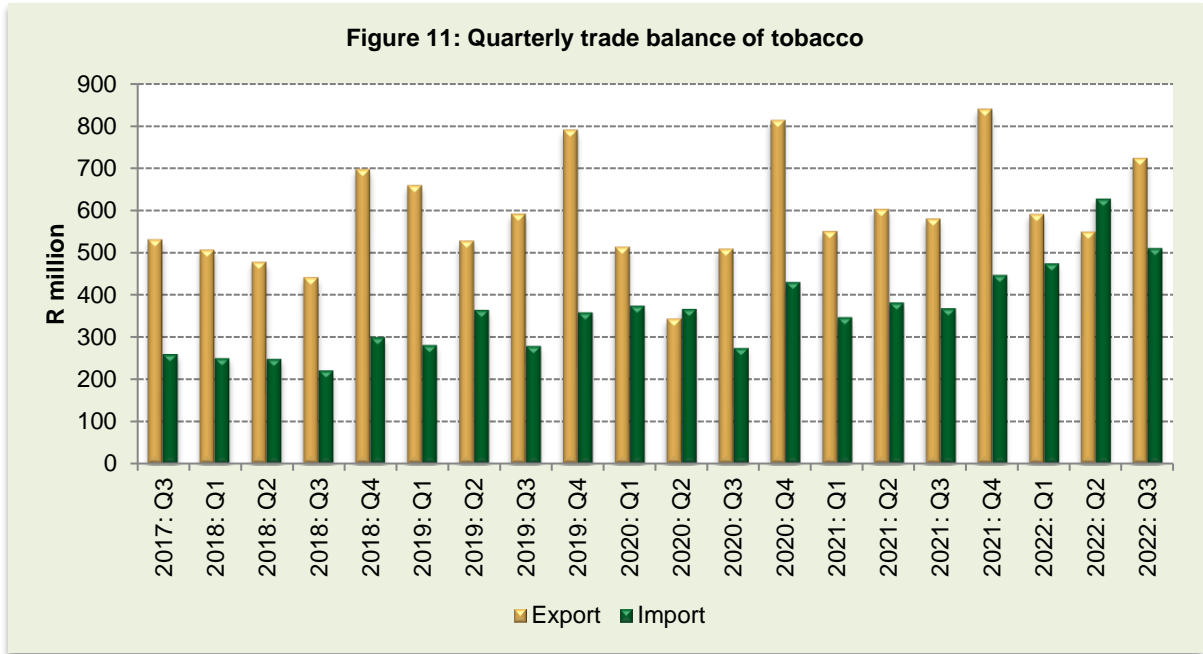
3.3 TOBACCO

Table 6 below shows the producer price index for tobacco products division. The year-on-year producer price index of tobacco stagnated at 5,0%, however, it remained unchanged quarter-to-quarter.

Table 6: Producer price index for tobacco products (base 2020=100)

Indices			% Change between	
2021: Q3	2022: Q2	2022: Q3	2021: Q3 and 2022: Q3	2022: Q2 and 2022: Q3
105,4	110,7	110,7	5,0	0,0

Source: Statistics SA (2022)



Source: Quantec, 2022

The quarter-to-quarter imports of tobacco contracted by 18,6% in 2022: Q3, following a growth of 32,3% in 2022: Q2, while imports of tobacco moderated year-on-year by 38,9% from a 64,3% growth in 2022: Q2. However, exports of tobacco rebounded quarter-to-quarter by 31,8% from a contraction of 7,1% in the previous quarter, similarly year-on-year exports rebounded by 24,8% from a contraction of 8,9%. As a result, trade surplus amounted to about R212,1 million in 2022: Q3 (see Figure 11).

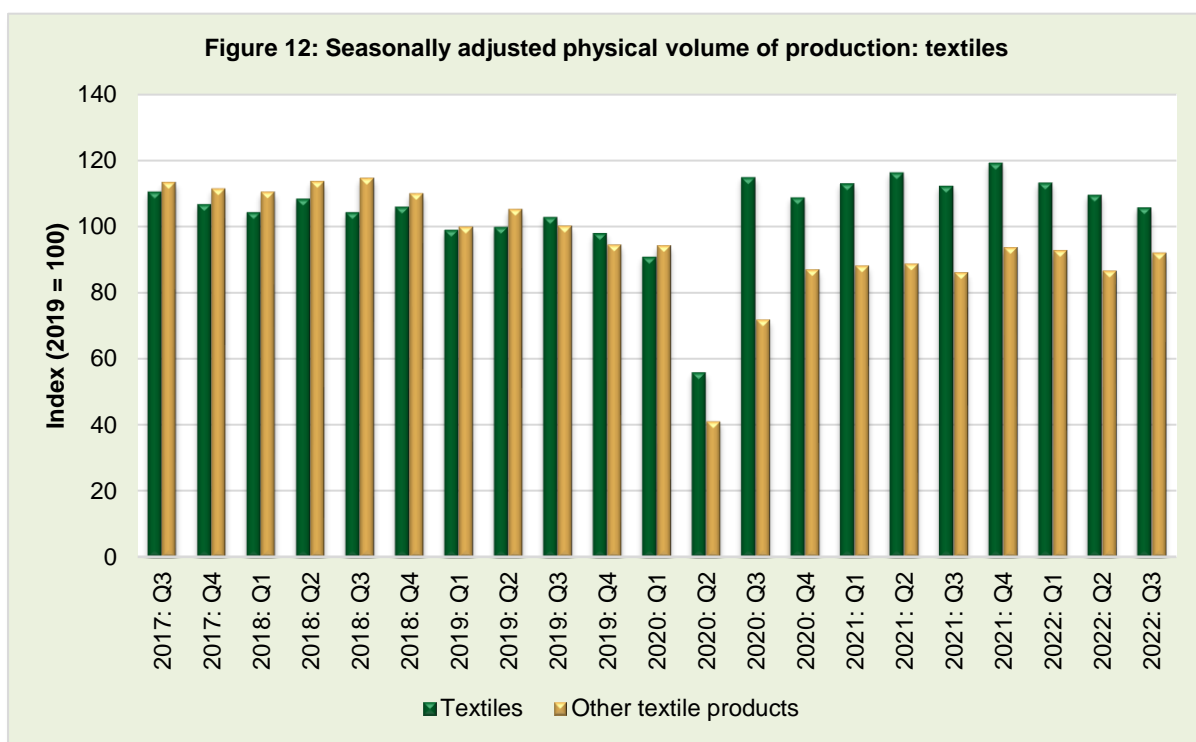
3.4 TEXTILES

Table 7 presents the producer price index for textiles during 2022: Q3. The quarter-to-quarter producer price index for textiles moderated by 1,7%, however, grew by 4,3% year-on-year during the period under review.

Table 7: Producer price index for textiles (base 2020=100)

	Indices			% Change between	
	2021: Q3	2022: Q2	2022: Q3	2021: Q3 and 2022: Q3	2022: Q2 and 2022: Q3
Textiles	103,5	106,1	107,9	4,3	1,7

Source: Statistics SA (2022)



Source: Quantec, 2022

The quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted volume of production for the textiles division decelerated by 3,4% in 2022: Q3, as compared to a 3,3% contraction in 2022: Q2, while other textiles rebounded quarter-to-quarter by 6,3% in 2022: Q3 from a contraction of 6,7% in the preceding quarter. The textiles division’s volume of production, however, receded further by 5,8% year-on-year in 2022: Q3. However, volume of production for other textiles rebounded year-on-year by 6,9% in 2022: Q3 as compared to a 2,4% contraction in the preceding quarter. Volume of production for the whole division rebounded by 0,9% quarter-to-quarter, however, it receded further by 0,3% year-on-year in 2022: Q3 (see Figure 12).

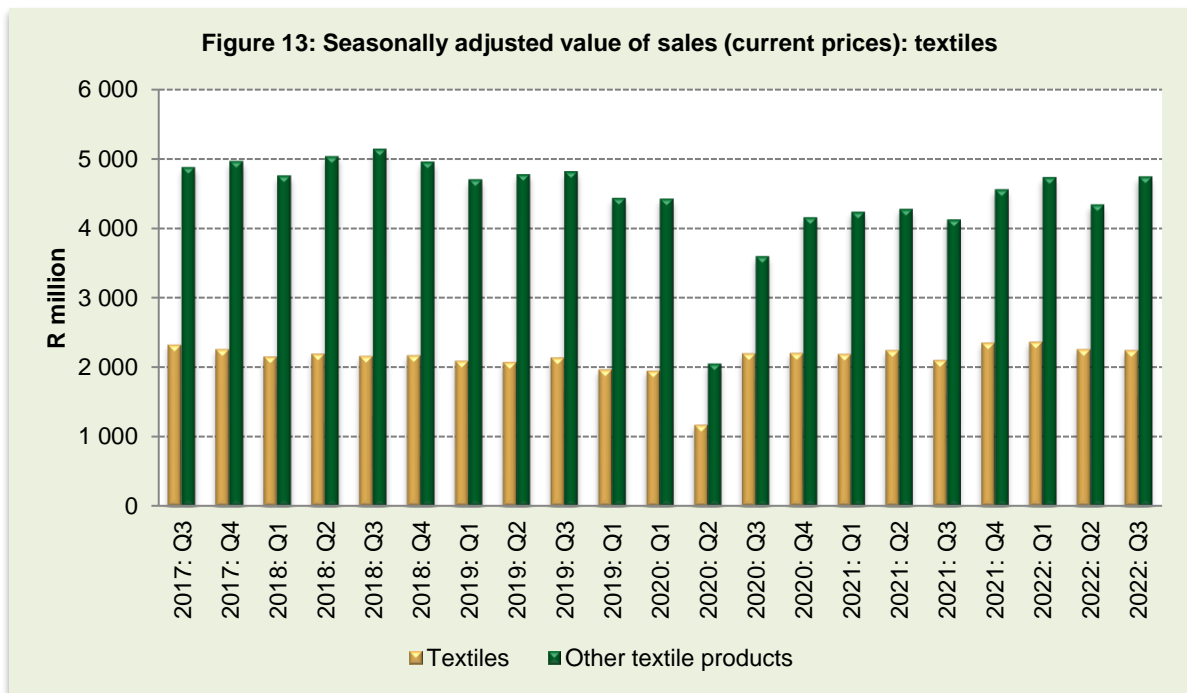
Table 8: Utilisation and reasons for underutilisation of production capacity by large enterprises: Textiles (percentage)

Period	Utilisation	Reasons for underutilisation					
		Total underutilisation	Shortage of		Insufficient demand	Other	
			Raw materials	Labour			
				Skilled			Semi and unskilled

2021: Q3	66,3	33,7	3,1	1,2	0,4	23,1	5,8
2022: Q2	64,8	35,2	1,5	0,2	0,0	24,0	9,6
2022: Q3	68,5	31,5	1,3	1,6	0,0	23,0	5,6

Source: Statistics SA (2022)

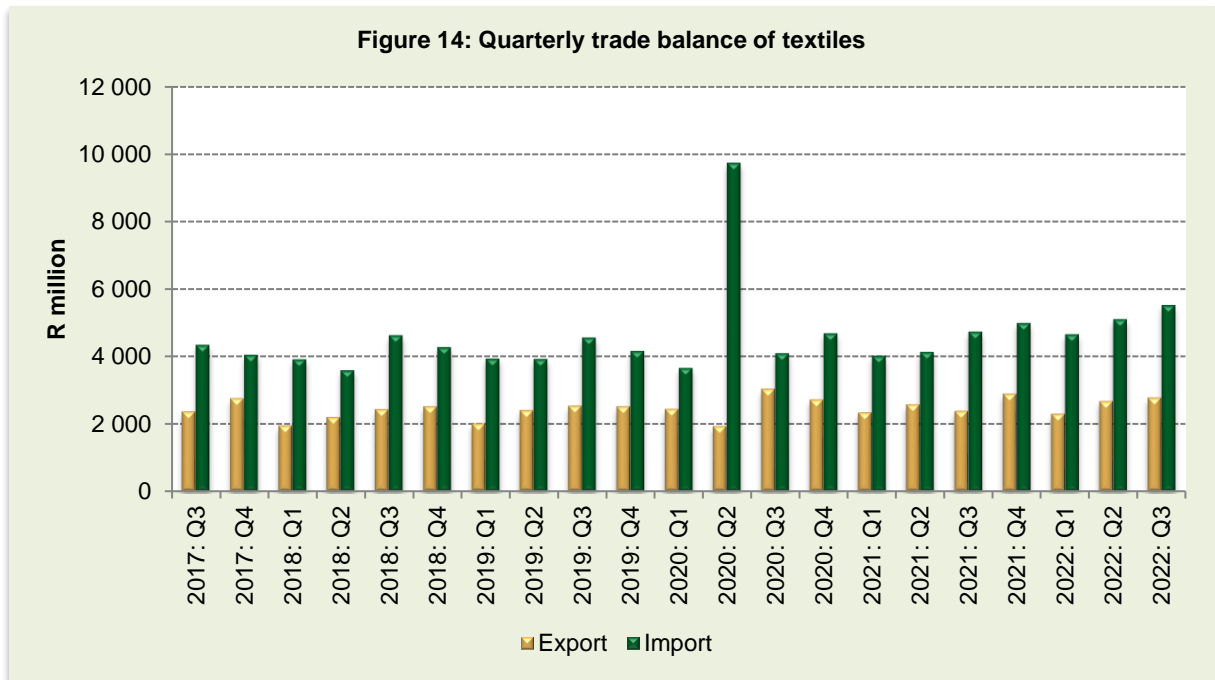
Table 8 presents the utilisation of production capacity by large enterprises in the textiles division. The quarter-to-quarter utilisation of production capacity increased by 3,7 percentage points in 2022: Q3. Similarly, year-on-year, it grew by approximately 2,2 percentage points. Insufficient demand remained the main reason for underutilisation during the period followed by other reasons such as seasonal factors.



Source: Quantec, 2022

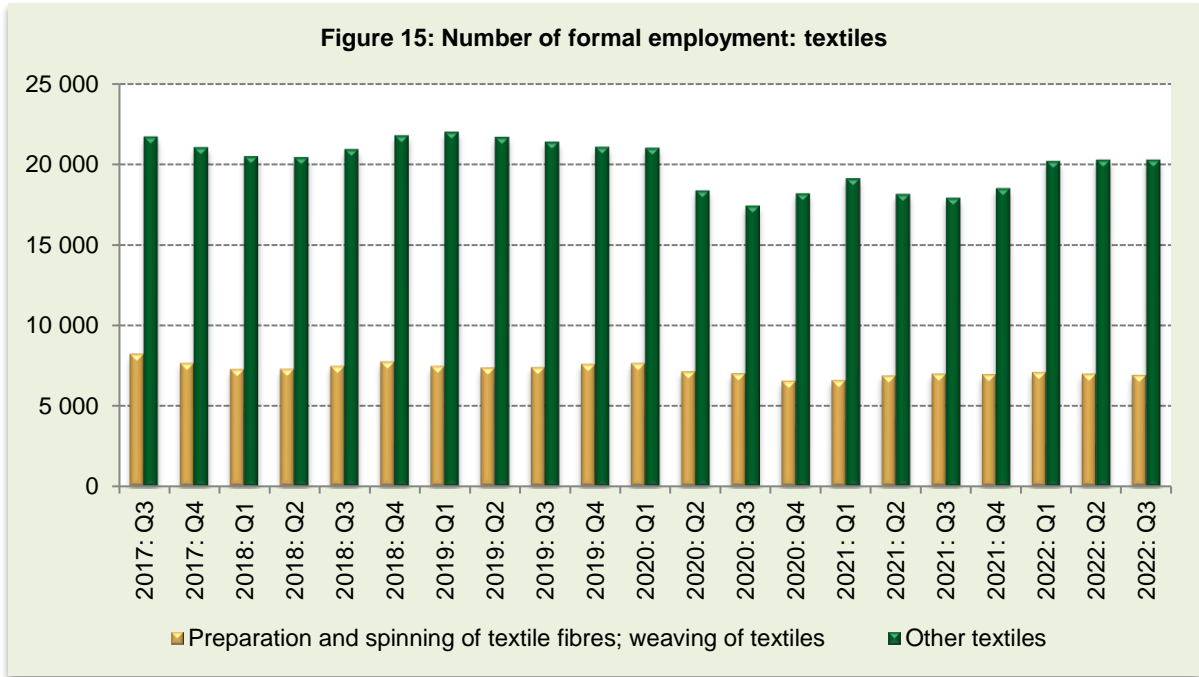
During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted value of sales for textiles division receded further by 0,5% from a 4,6% contraction registered in the last quarter, while it rebounded quarter-to-quarter for other textiles by 9,2% from a contraction of 8,2% in 2022: Q2. However, it grew year-on-year for textiles and other textiles division by 6,8% and 15,0% in 2022: Q3 following a 0,6% and 1,5% growth, respectively, recorded in the last quarter. The divisions combined, rebounded quarter-to-quarter by 5,9% in 2022: Q3 from a 7,0% contraction in 2022: Q2, however, sales grew by 12,2% year-on-year in 2022: Q3. Therefore,

sales of textiles division increased from R6 587,6 million in 2022: Q2 to R6 974,0 million in 2022: Q3 as illustrated in Figure 13.



Source: Quantec, 2022

Figure 14 above shows the quarterly trade balance of the textiles division during 2022: Q3. In 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter imports and exports of textiles moderated by 8,2% and 4,0% following a growth of 9,7% and 16,2% in the last quarter, respectively. Similarly, imports moderated year-on-year by 16,6% as compared to a 23,4% growth in the preceding quarter. On the other hand, the year-on-year exports of textile division grew by 16,2% in 2022: Q3 following a 3,6% growth registered in 2022: Q2. As a result, the trade deficit of the textiles division widened from R2 459,2 million in 2022: Q2 to R2 772,3 million in 2022: Q3.



Source: Quantec, 2022

During 2022: Q3, formal employment in the “other textiles” division contracted quarter-to-quarter by 0,1% as compared to a 0,4% growth in the last quarter, however, it grew year-on-year by 13,2% following 11,7% growth in the previous quarter. The formal employment for preparation and spinning of textile fibre; weaving of textiles division, declined further quarter-to-quarter by 1,2% from a 9,5% contraction in the last quarter. Employment for the whole division declined quarter-to-quarter by 0,8% from a 6,5% contraction in the previous quarter, however, it increased by 4,3% year-on-year following a 3,5% growth in 2022; Q2. As a result, 515 jobs were lost during the period under review (see Figure 15).

3.5 WEARING APPAREL

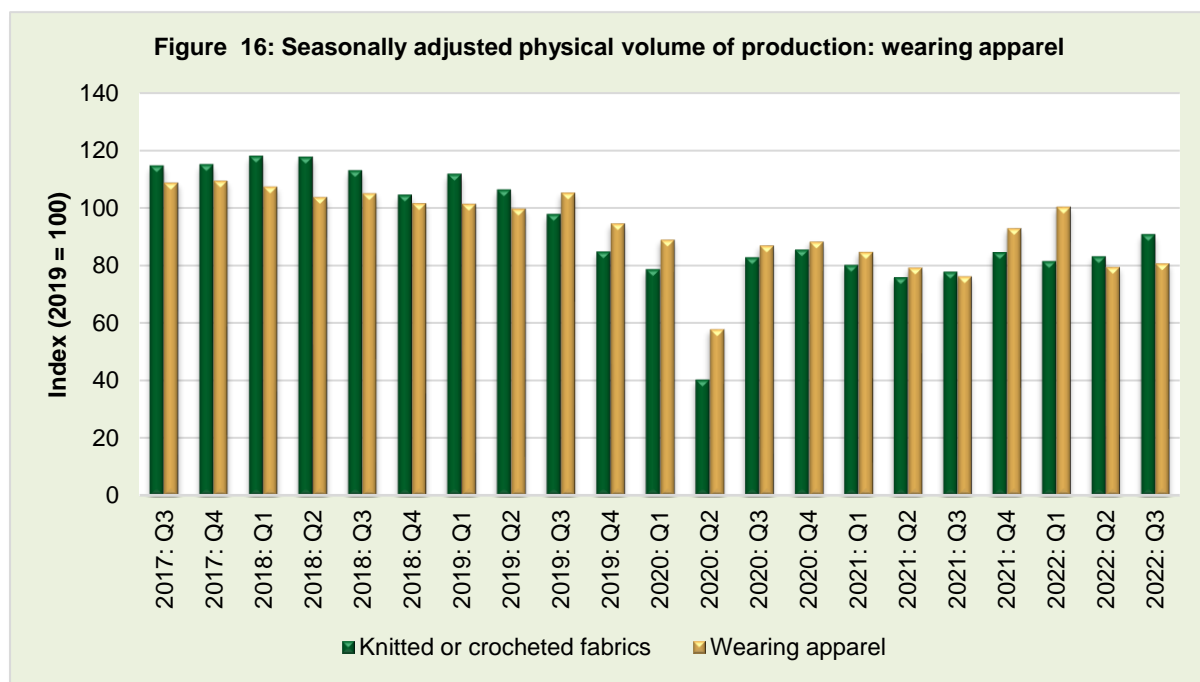
Table 9 below shows the producer price index for wearing apparel division in 2022: Q3. The year-on-year producer price index for wearing apparel grew by 6,2% in 2022: Q3. However, the producer price index for wearing apparel moderated by 1,7% quarter-to-quarter.

Table 9: Producer price index for wearing apparel (base 2020 =100)

	Indices			% Change between	
	2021: Q3	2022: Q2	2022: Q3	2021: Q3 and 2022: Q3	2022: Q2 and 2022: Q3

Domestic output					
Wearing apparel	104,2	108,8	110,6	6,2	1,7

Source: Statistics SA (2022)



Source: Quantec, 2022

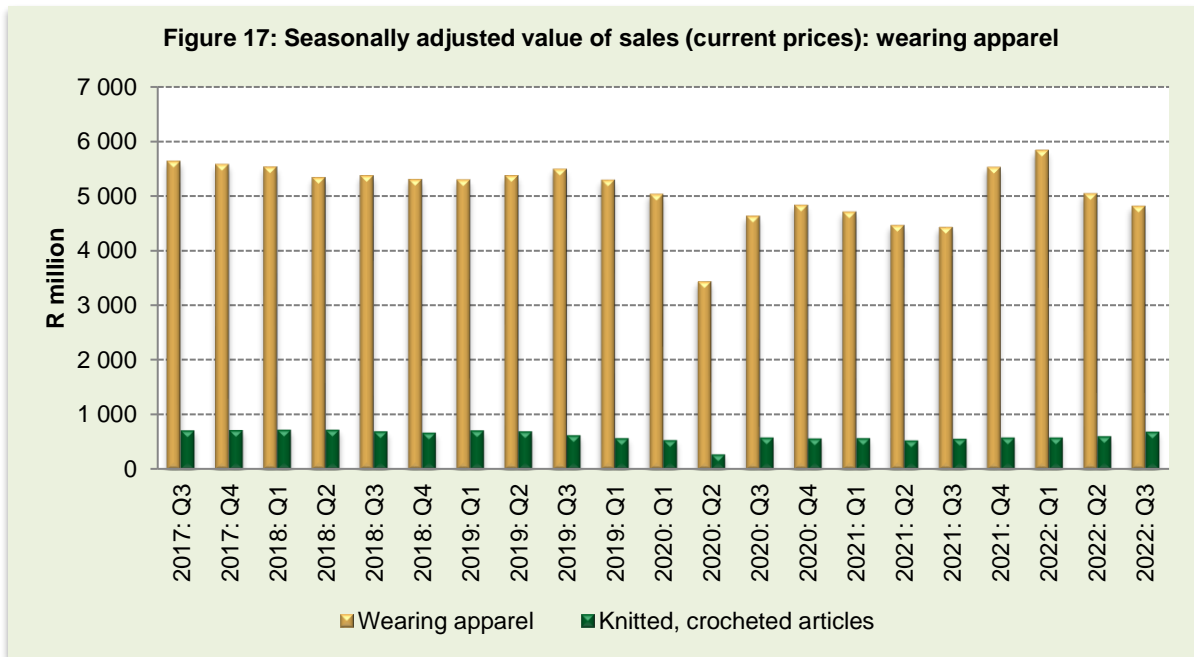
Figure 16 shows the seasonally adjusted physical volume of production for wearing apparel division in 2022: Q3. The quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted volume of production for wearing apparel division rebounded by 1,5% in 2022: Q3 as compared to a contraction of 20,8% in 2022: Q2, however, it increased year-on-year by about 5,9% following a 0,3% growth in the preceding quarter. On the other hand, the seasonally adjusted physical volume of production for knitted, crocheted articles grew by 9,3% quarter-to-quarter in 2022: Q3, from a growth of 2,1% in 2022: Q2, similarly, it grew year-on-year by 16,9% from a 9,6% growth recorded in 2022: Q2. The seasonally adjusted physical volume of production for the division as whole rebounded quarter-to-quarter by 5,5% in 2022: Q3 as compared to a contraction of 10,6% in 2022: Q2, however, it increased by 11,4% year-on-year.

Table 9: Utilisation and reasons for underutilisation of production capacity by large enterprises: Wearing apparel (percentage)

Period	Utilisation	Reasons for underutilisation					
		Total underutilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
			Raw materials	Labour			
				Skilled	Semi and unskilled		
2021: Q3	71,5	28,5	1,6	1,6	0,4	20,6	4,2
2022: Q2	75,5	24,5	1,2	1,6	0,4	17,1	4,1
2022: Q3	73,0	27,0	2,2	1,6	0,4	18,6	4,1

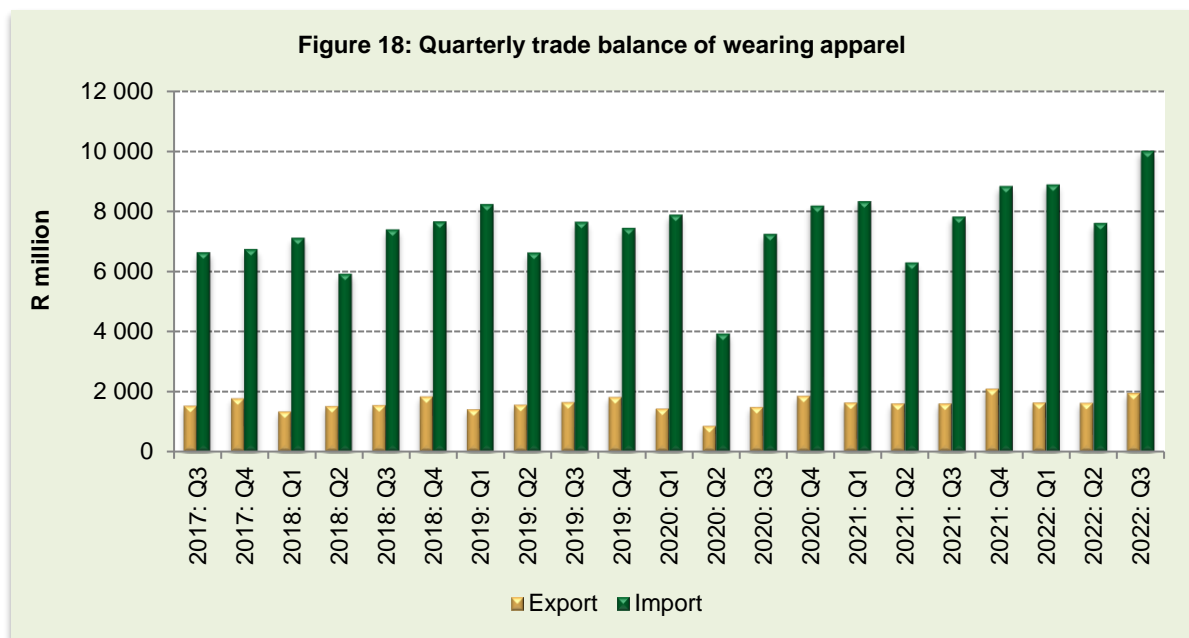
Source: Statistics SA (2022)

Table 9 shows the percentage of utilisation and reasons for underutilisation of production capacity by large enterprises for the wearing apparel division in 2022: Q3. The quarter-to-quarter utilisation of production capacity decreased by 2,5 percentage points. However, it increased year-on-year by about 1,5 percentage points. Insufficient demand remained the main reason for underutilisation followed by other reasons such as seasonal factors.



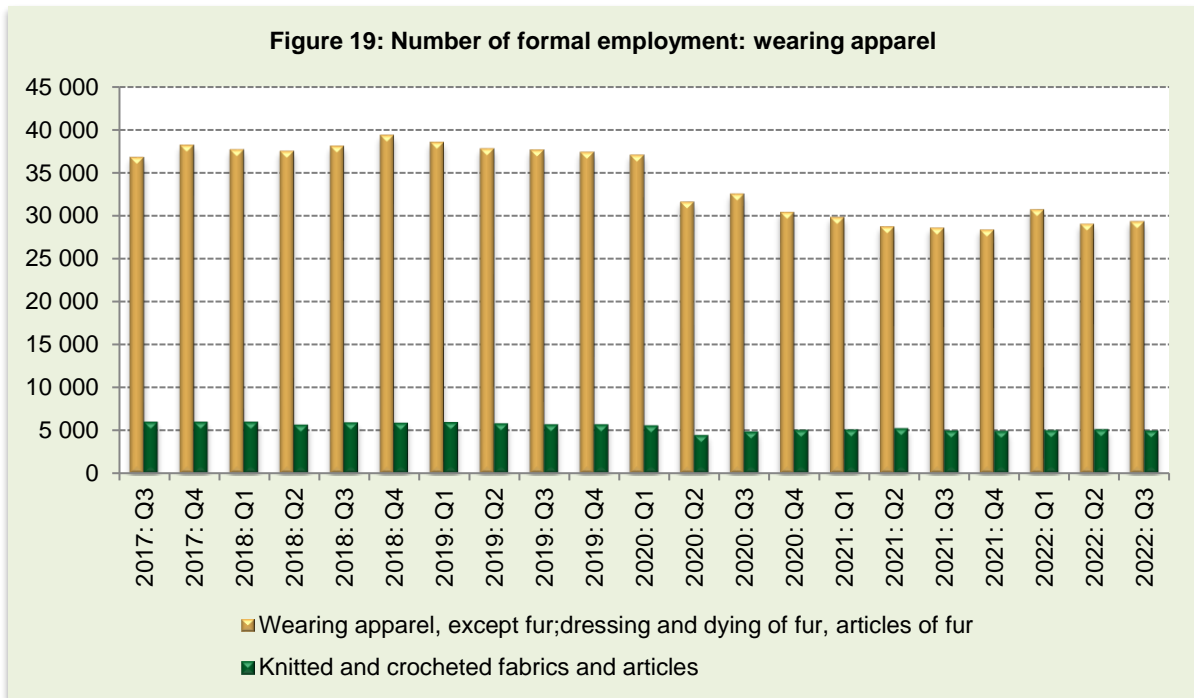
Source: Quantec, 2022

Figure 17 presents seasonally adjusted value of sales for the wearing apparel division in 2022: Q3. During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year seasonally adjusted value of sales for the knitted, crocheted articles division grew by 13,1% and 23,6% following a 4,3% and 15,5% growth, respectively, in the last quarter. However, the quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted value of sales for the wearing apparel division declined further by 4,6% in 2022: Q3 following a 13,6% contraction in 2022: Q2, while sales moderated year-on-year for the wearing apparel division by 8,7% in 2022: Q3 following a 13,2% growth in the preceding quarter. Combined sales for the divisions contracted further by 2,7% quarter-to-quarter in 2022: Q3 from a 12,0% growth in 2022: Q2, however, it moderated by 10,3% year-on-year in 2022: Q3. Sales in the wearing apparel division decreased to R5 492,5 million in 2022: Q3 from R5 646,8 million in 2022: Q2.



Source: Quantec, 2022

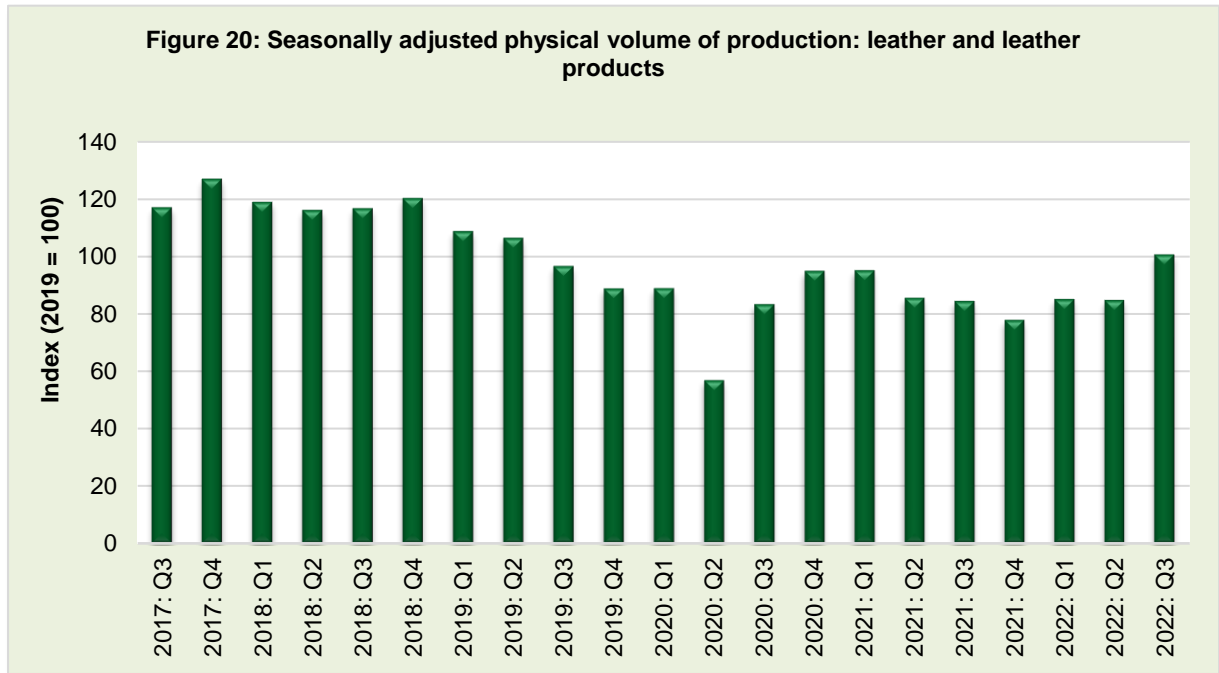
Figure 18 shows the quarterly trade balance for the wearing apparel division. During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year imports of wearing apparel rebounded by 31,6% and 28,1% from a 14,4% and 28,1% growth respectively in the preceding quarter. Quarter-to-quarter exports, however, grew by 20,0% following an unchanged growth in the previous quarter. Year-on-year imports also grew by 22,6% following a 1,3% growth in the preceding quarter. As a result, the trade deficit widened from R5 970,3 million in the last quarter to R8 040,5 million in 2022: Q3.



Source: Statistics SA (2022)

During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter formal employment for knitted and crocheted fabric and articles of fur and wearing apparel division contracted by 3,0% from a 2,1% growth in the last quarter, however, year-on-year it receded further by 0,1% from a 2,2% contraction in the preceding quarter. Employment in the wearing apparel division, however, rebounded by 0,9% quarter-to-quarter following a 5,4% contraction recorded in the previous quarter, conversely it grew year-on-year by 2,5% from a 1,41% growth in the last quarter. Formal employment for the division in its entirety rebounded by 0,3% quarter-to-quarter from a 4,4% contraction in the last quarter, however, it grew year-on-year by 2,1% following a 0,6% growth in the previous quarter, As a result, about 116 jobs were gained in 2022: Q3 (Figure 19).

3.6 LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS



Source: Quantec, 2022

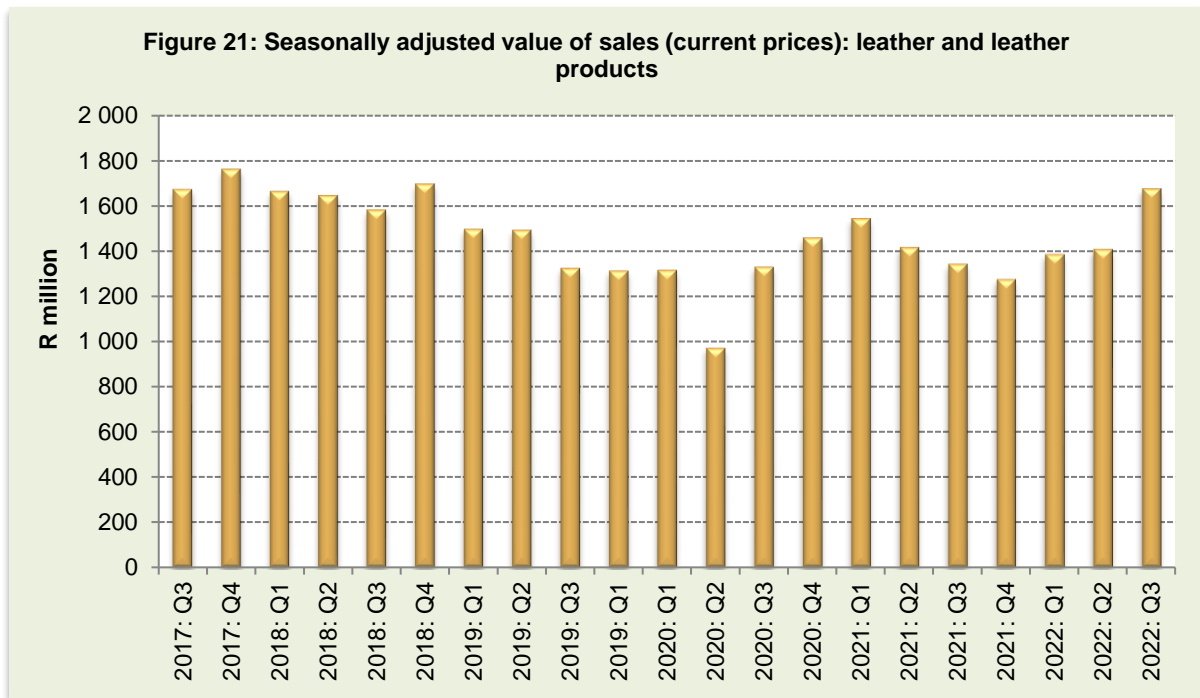
During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year seasonally adjusted physical volume of production for leather and leather products division bounced back by 18,7% and 19,2% from a 0,3% and 0,9% contraction in 2022: Q2 respectively (see Figure 20).

Table 10: Utilisation and reasons for underutilisation of production capacity by large enterprises: Leather and leather products (percentage)

Period	Utilisation	Reasons for underutilisation					
		Total underutilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
			Raw materials	Labour			
				Skilled	Semi and unskilled		
2021: Q3	56,2	43,8	8,6	0,5	1,4	26,5	6,9
2022: Q2	62,2	37,8	8,9	0,5	1,1	22,6	4,6
2022: Q3	66,3	33,7	6,8	0,5	1,1	22,2	3,1

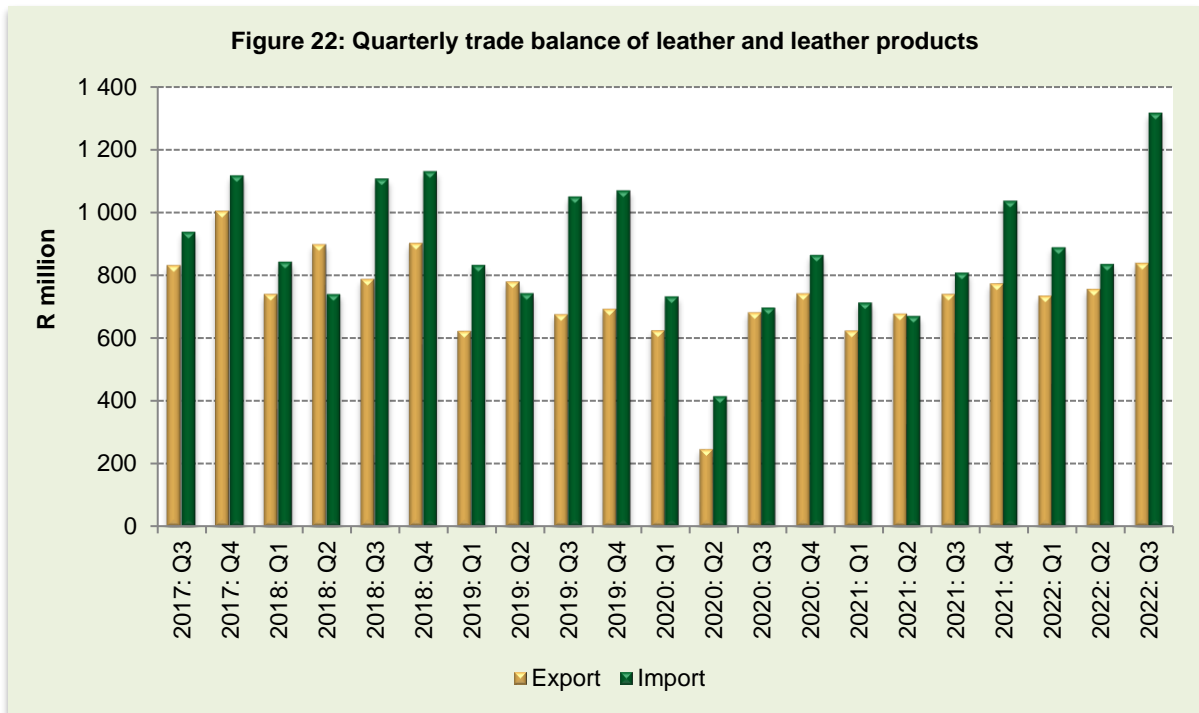
Source: Statistics SA (2022)

The utilisation of production capacity by large enterprises in the leather and leather products division increased quarter-to-quarter by about 4,1 percentage points. Similarly, it increased year-on-year by 10,1 percentage points. Insufficient demand remained the main reason for underutilisation during the period followed by shortage of raw materials (see Table 10).



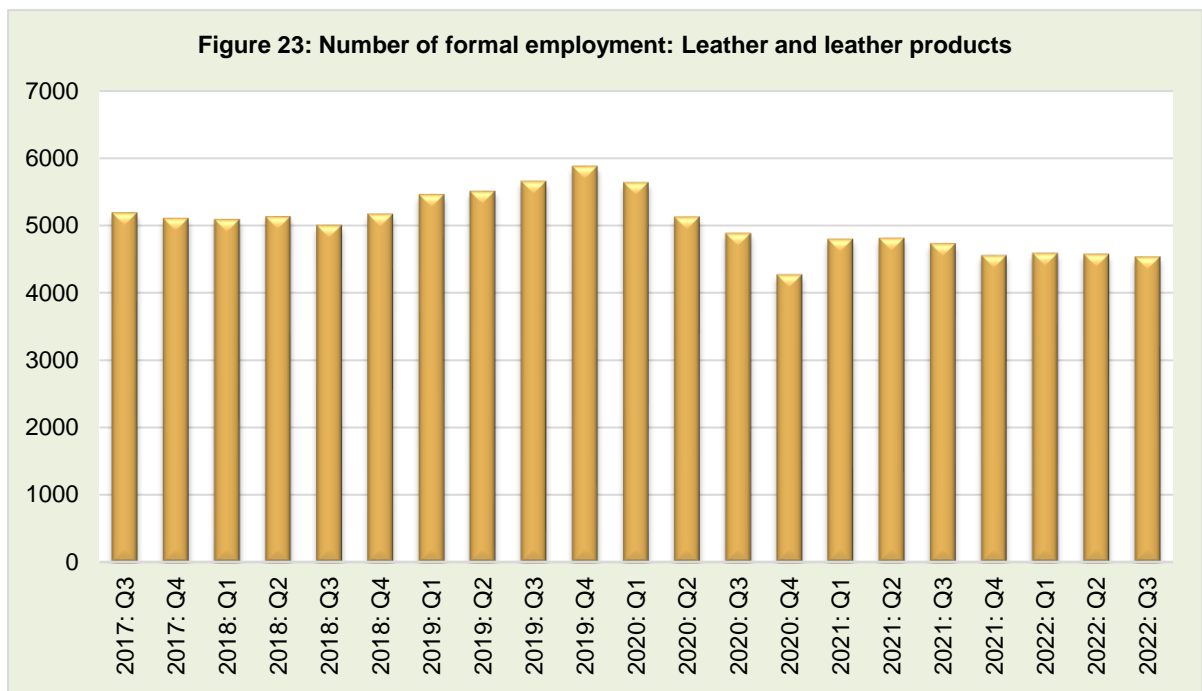
Source: Quantec, 2022

The quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted value of sales for leather and leather products division accelerated by 19,0% in 2022: Q3 from a 1,6% growth in 2022: Q2, however, the division rebounded year-on-year by 24,9% from a contraction of about 0,6% in the preceding quarter (see Figure 21). Therefore, the value of sales of leather and leather products increased from about R1 407,5 million in 2022: Q2 to R1 675,4 million in 2022: Q3.



Source: Quantec, 2022

Figure 22 above presents the quarterly trade balance of the leather and leather products division. During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter imports of the leather and leather products division rebounded by 57,6% in 2022: Q3, as compared to a 5,9% contraction in the last quarter, while year-on-year it accelerated by 63,0% following a 24,7% growth in 2022: Q2. However, exports grew quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year by 11,0% and 13,5% from a 3,0% and 11,6% growth respectively in the last quarter. As a result, the trade surplus widened from R834,6 million in 2022: Q2 to R1 315,0 million in 2022: Q3.



Source: Statistics SA (2022)

The quarter-to-quarter formal employment in the leather and leather products division decelerated by 0,9% in 2022: Q3 from a 0,3% contraction in the last quarter, however, it receded further year-on-year in 2022: Q3 by 4,1% from a 4,9% contraction in 2022: Q2. As a result, 39 jobs were shed in 2022: Q3 for the division (see Figure 23).

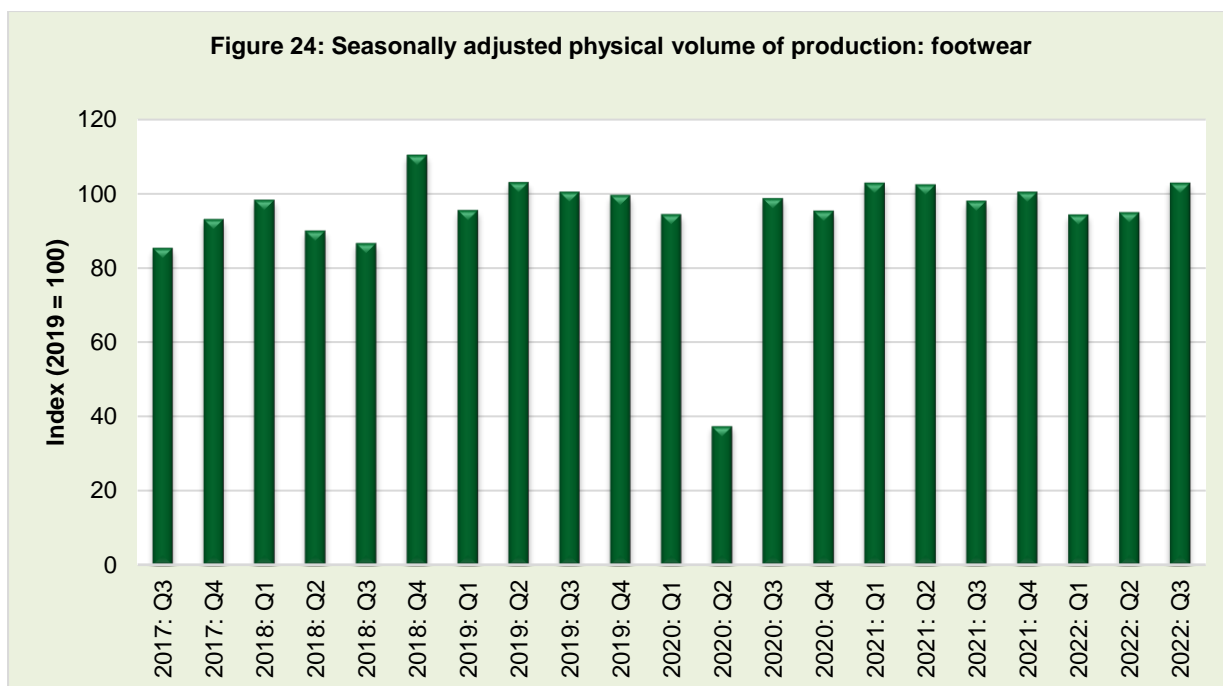
3.7 FOOTWEAR

Table 11 presents producer price index for footwear division. The producer price index for the domestic output of the footwear division in 2022: Q3 grew year-on-year and quarter-to-quarter by 9,1% and 4,9% respectively.

Table 11: Producer price index for footwear (base 2020 =100)

Indices			% Change between	
2021: Q3	2022: Q2	2022: Q3	2021: Q3 and 2022: Q3	2022: Q2 and 2022: Q3
Domestic output				
103,9	108,1	113,4	9,1	4,9

Source: Statistics SA (2022)



Source: Quantec, 2022

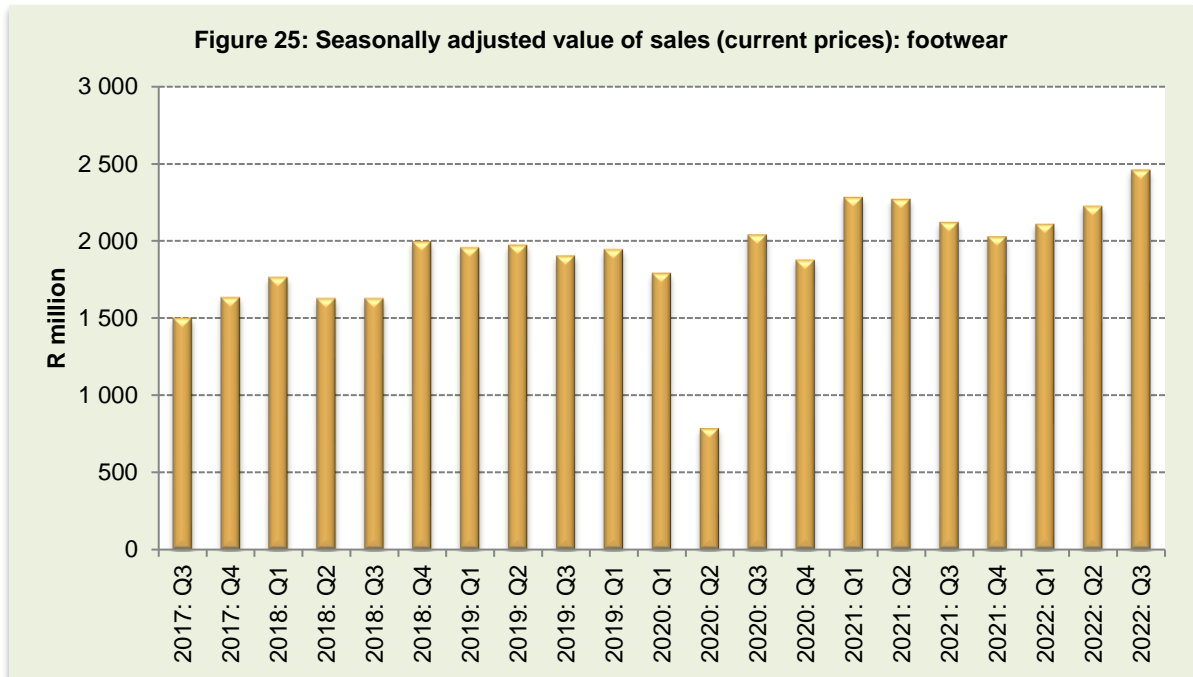
The quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted physical volume of production for the footwear division grew by 8,4% in 2022: Q3 following a 0,7% growth in the previous quarter. However, it rebounded year-on-year by 4,9% as compared to a 7,3% contraction in the preceding quarter (see Figure 24).

Table 12: Utilisation and reasons for underutilisation of production capacity by large enterprises: Footwear (percentage)

Period	Utilisation	Reasons for underutilisation					
		Total under-utilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
			Raw materials	Labour			
				Skilled	Semi and unskilled		
2021: Q3	84,6	15,4	3,3	1,0	0,0	11,2	0,0
2022: Q2	82,1	17,9	1,9	0,0	0,0	15,0	1,0
2022: Q3	84,9	15,1	1,9	1,0	0,0	12,2	0,0

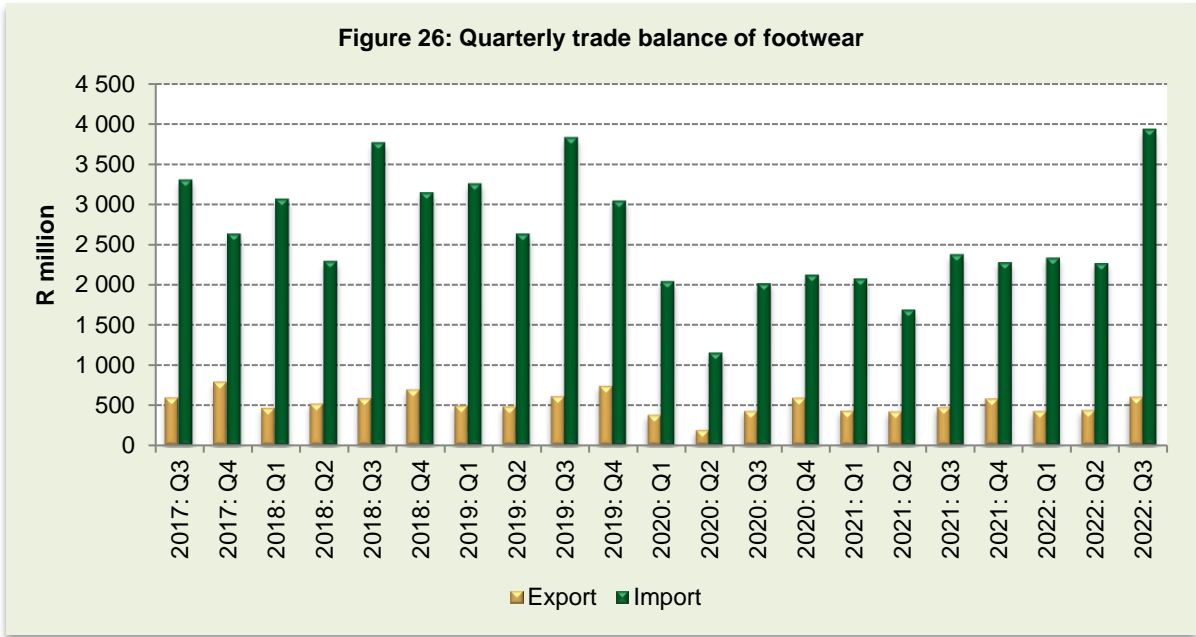
Source: Statistics SA (2022)

During 2022: Q3, the utilisation of production capacity by large enterprises in the footwear division increased year-on-year and quarter-to-quarter. The year-on-year increase was about 0,3 percentage point, while quarter-to-quarter it increased by 2,8 percentage points. Insufficient demand remained the main reason for underutilisation during the period followed by shortage of raw materials (see Table 12).



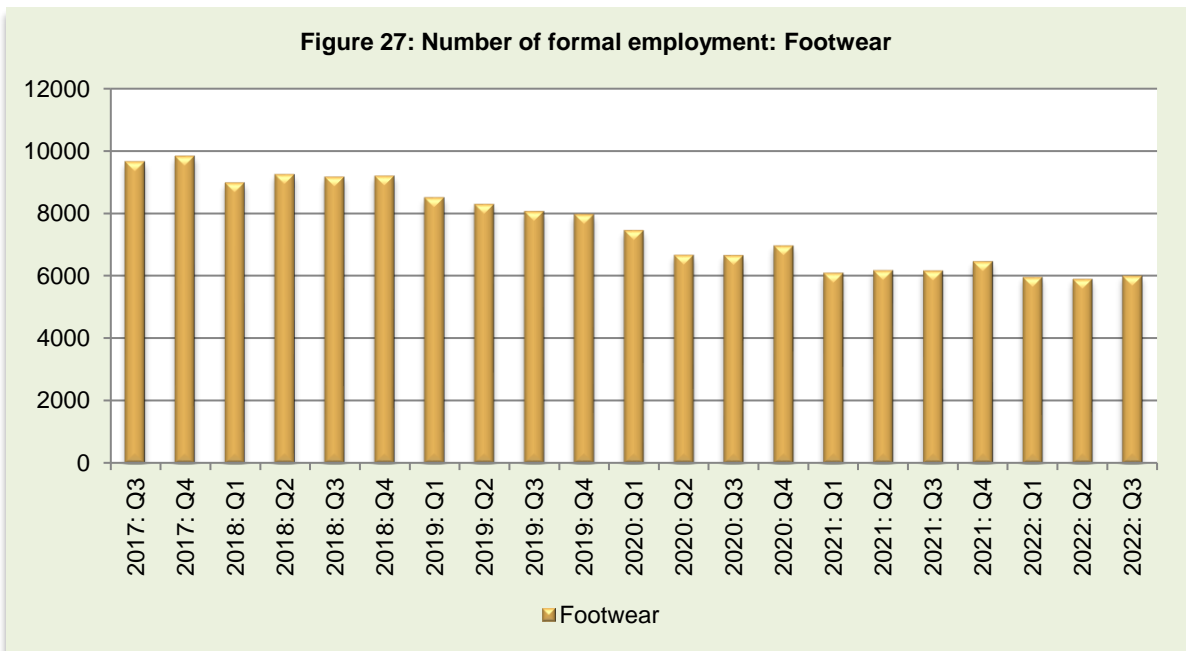
Source: Quantec, 2022

During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted value of sales for the footwear division grew by 10,5% following a growth of 5,6% registered in 2022: Q2, however, it rebounded year-on-year by 16,0% as compared to a 2,0% contraction in the previous quarter. Therefore, value of sales for the footwear division increased from R2 225,7 million in 2022: Q2 to R2 459,3 million in 2022: Q3 (see Figure 25).



Source: Quantec, 2022

During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter imports for the footwear division rebounded by 73,8% from a 3,0% contraction in the preceding quarter, however, it accelerated year-on-year by 65,6% in 2022: Q3 following a 34,0% growth. Similarly, exports accelerated quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year by 37,5% and 27,4% following a 2,7% and 3,3% growth in 2022: Q2. As a result, the trade deficit widened from R1 828,7 million in the previous quarter to R3 338,1 million in the current quarter (see Figure 26).



Source: Statistics SA (2022)

During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter formal employment in the footwear division rebounded by 1,7% from a 1,1% contraction in the preceding quarter. Conversely, the formal employment of the footwear division receded further year-on-year by about 2,7% from a 4,6% contraction recorded in the preceding quarter. As a result, the footwear division gained about 101 jobs in 2022: Q3 (see Figure 27).

3.8 WOOD AND WOOD PRODUCTS



Source: Quantec, 2022

During, 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted physical volume of production for sawmilling and planing of woods division grew by 8,4% from a 1,8% growth recorded in the last quarter, while year-on-year, it rebounded by 12,8% as compared to a 4,2% contraction in the preceding quarter. Similarly, products of wood rebounded quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year by 4,5% and 1,8% from a 5,8% and 3,6% contraction respectively in 2022: Q2 (See Figure 28). The seasonally adjusted physical volume of production for the divisions combined rebounded quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year by 6,4% and 6,9% in 2022: Q3 from a 2,3% and 3,9% contraction registered in the last quarter, respectively.

Table 13: Utilisation and reasons for underutilisation of production capacity by large enterprises: Wood and wood products (percentage)

Period	Utilisation	Reasons for underutilisation					
		Total underutilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
			Raw materials	Labour			
				Skilled	Semi and unskilled		
2021: Q3	87,8	12,2	1,2	0,6	0,1	6,0	4,3
2022: Q2	83,0	17,0	1,7	0,6	0,4	8,1	6,2
2022: Q3	84,4	15,6	1,8	0,8	0,1	7,1	5,7

Source: Statistics SA (2022)

Table 13 shows the utilisation of production capacity by large enterprises in the wood and wood products division. The utilisation of production capacity decreased year-on-year by 3,4 percentage points, however, it increased quarter-to-quarter by 1,4 percentage points. Insufficient demand remains the main reason for under utilisations during the period followed by other reasons such as seasonal factors.



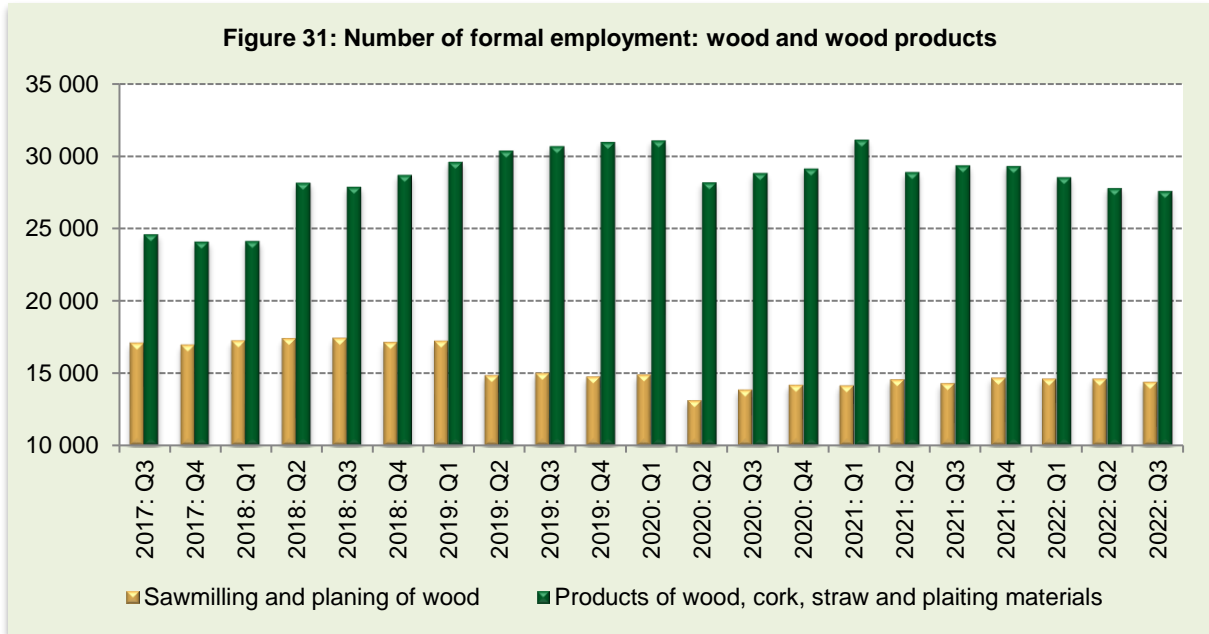
Source: Quantec, 2022

During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted value of sales for sawmilling and planning of wood division increased by 14,5% from a 1,7% growth in 2022: Q2, however, it bounced back year-on-year by 34,1% from a 0,2% contraction in the previous quarter. Similarly, the seasonally adjusted value of sales for wood and wood products division, bounced back quarter-to-quarter by 7,0% in 2022: Q3 as compared to a 5,8% contraction in the last quarter, while it moderated year-on-year by 9,8% following a 10,3% growth in 2022: Q2 (see Figure 29). Sales for the division as a whole rebounded by 9,2% quarter-to-quarter as compared to a 3,4% contraction in 2022: Q2, however, it grew by 17,3% year-on-year in 2022: Q3, from a 6,5% growth in 2022: Q2. Therefore, sales for wood and wood products division increased from R8 952 million in 2022: Q2 to R9 804,6 million in 2022: Q3.



Source: Quantec, 2022

The quarter-to-quarter imports of wood and wood products rebounded by 6,2% in 2022: Q3 from a contraction of 13,4% in 2022: Q2. Likewise, imports increased year-on-year by 25,6% following a 16,8% growth in 2022: Q2. Exports of wood and wood products, however, accelerated quarter-to-quarter by 38,0% from a 6,6% growth in the last quarter, while year-on-year it grew by 11,5% following a 3,9% growth in the previous quarter. As a result, the trade surplus widened from R321,2 million in the previous quarter to around R816,6 million in 2022: Q3 (see Figure 30).



Source: Statistics SA (2022)

In 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year formal employment in sawmilling and planning of wood contracted by 1,4% from an unchanged growth in the last quarter. However, it increased marginally year-on-year by 0,7% as compared to a 0,4% growth in the last quarter. Products of wood, cork, straw and plaiting materials recorded a decline in employment of about 0,7% in the current quarter as compared to a contraction of 2,6% in the last quarter. However, employment decelerated by 6,0% year-on-year from a 3,8% contraction in the preceding quarter. Employment for the whole division contracted quarter-to-quarter by 1,0% in the current quarter from a 1,7% contraction in the preceding quarter, similarly, it decelerated by 3,8% year-on-year. As a result, about 405 jobs were lost in the division in 2022; Q3 (see Figure 31).

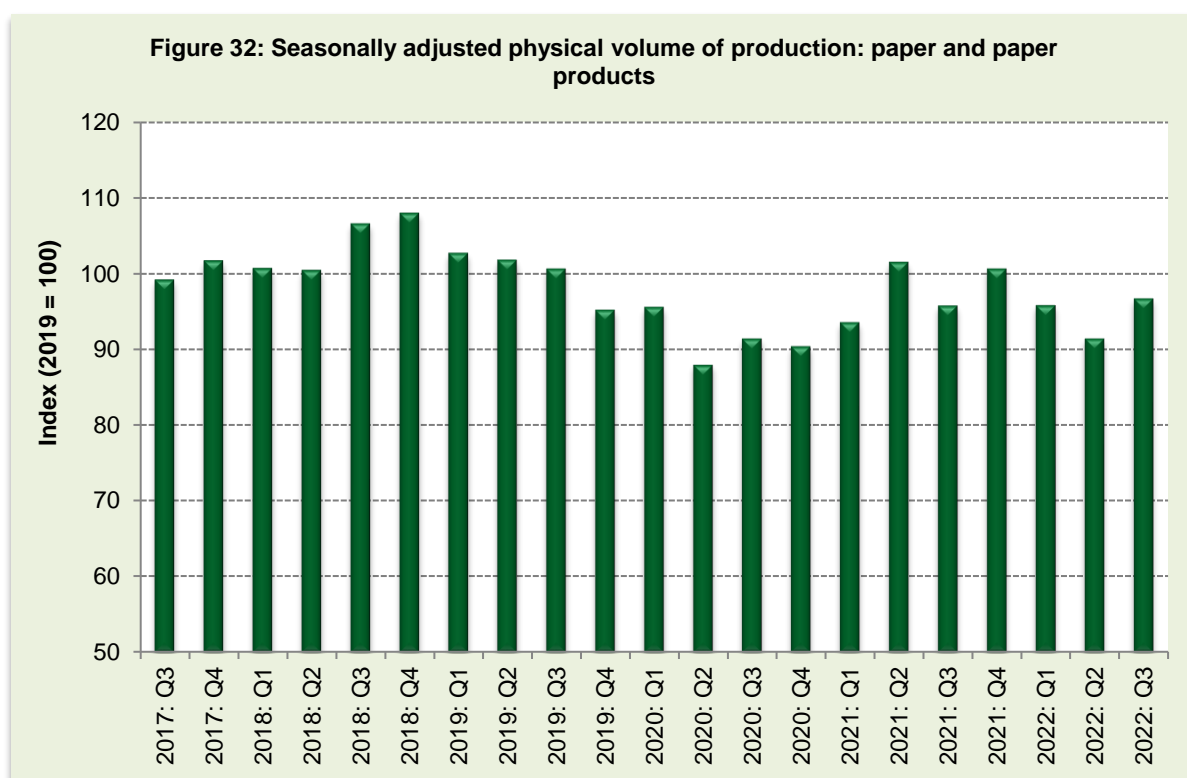
3.9 PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS

In 2022: Q1, the year-on-year and quarter-to-quarter producer price for paper and printed products increased by 10,6% and 3,4%, respectively, during the period under review as illustrated in Table 14.

Table 14: Producer price index for paper and printed products (base 2020 =100)

	Indices			% Change between	
	2021: Q3	2022: Q2	2022: Q3	2021: Q3 and 2022: Q3	2022: Q2 and 2022: Q3
Domestic output					
Paper and paper products	101,5	108,6	112,3	10,6	3,4

Source: Statistics SA (2022)



Source: Quantec, 2022

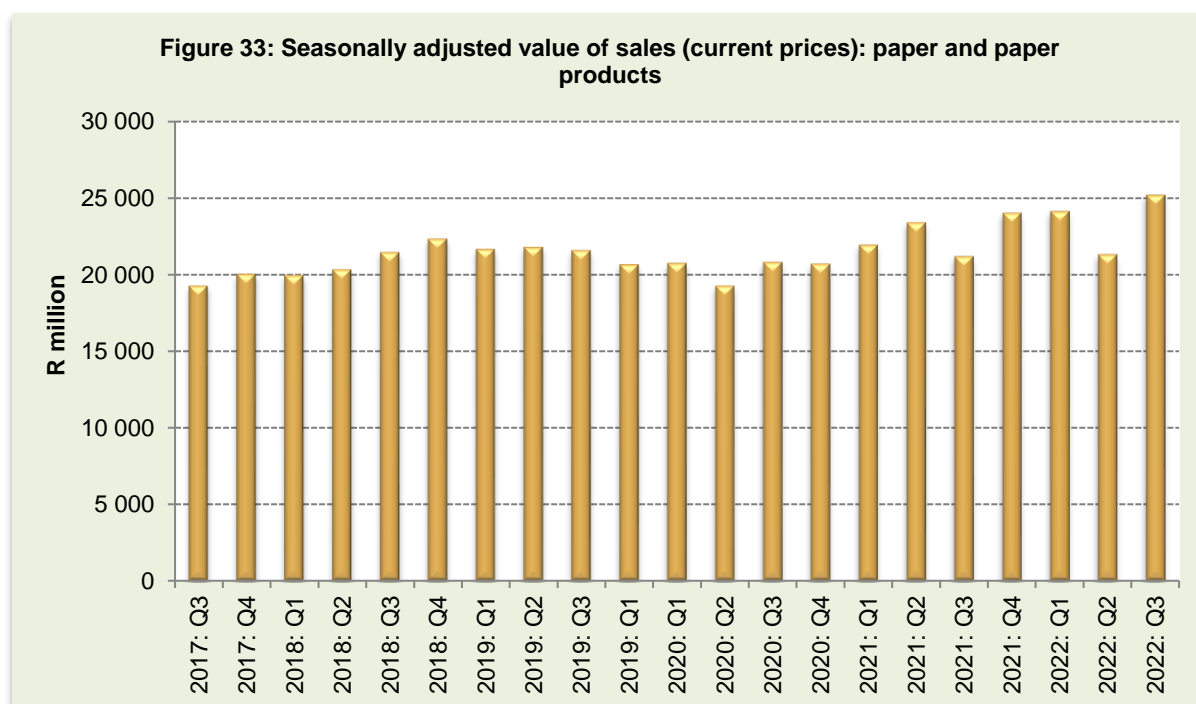
The quarter-to-quarter physical volume of production for the paper and paper products division rebounded by 5,8% in 2022: Q3 from a 4,6% contraction in 2022: Q2. Similarly, it rebounded by 0,9% year-on-year from an 10,0% contraction registered in 2022: Q2 (see Figure 32).

Table 15: Utilisation and reasons for underutilisation of production capacity by large enterprises: Paper and paper products (percentage)

Period	Utilisation	Reasons for underutilisation					
		Total underutilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
			Raw materials	Labour			
				Skilled	Semi and unskilled		
2021: Q3	87,8	12,2	1,2	0,6	0,1	6,0	4,3
2022: Q2	83,0	17,0	1,7	0,6	0,4	8,1	6,2
2022: Q3	84,4	15,6	1,8	0,8	0,1	7,1	5,7

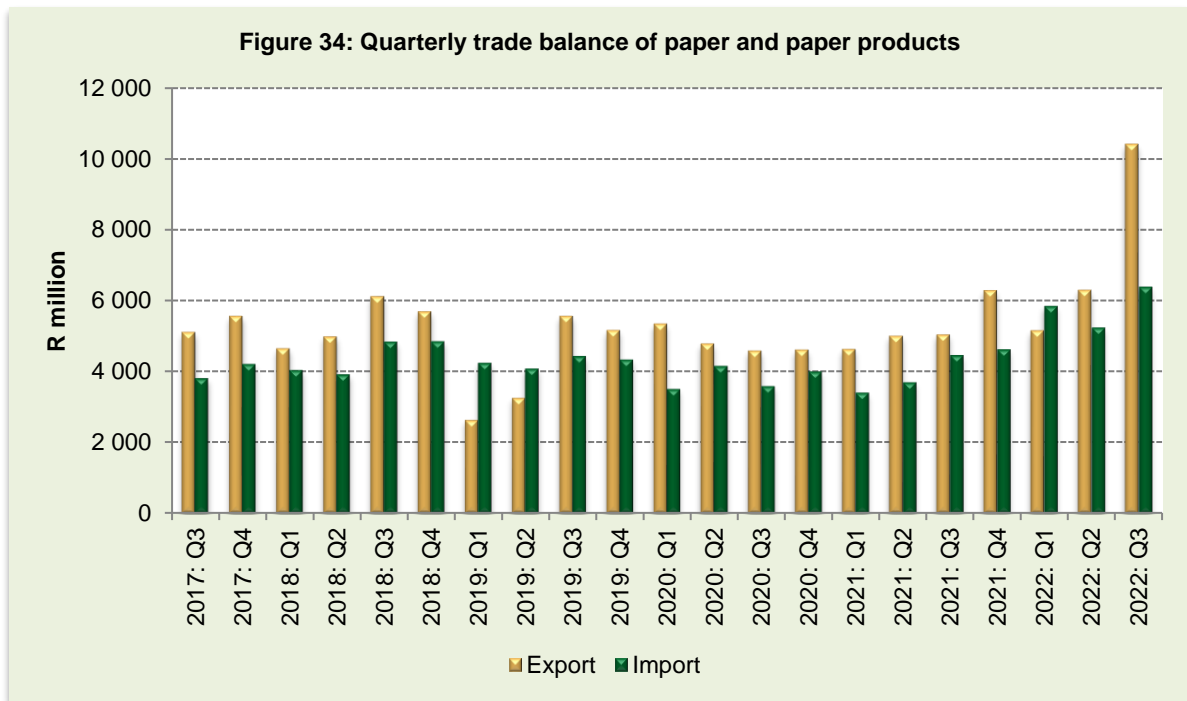
Source: Statistics SA (2022)

Table 15 shows utilisation of production capacity by large enterprises in the paper and paper products division. Utilisation of production capacity declined year-on-year by approximately 3,4 percentage points. However, the utilisation of production capacity increased by 1,4 percentage points quarter-to-quarter. Insufficient demand remains the main reason for underutilisation during the period under review.



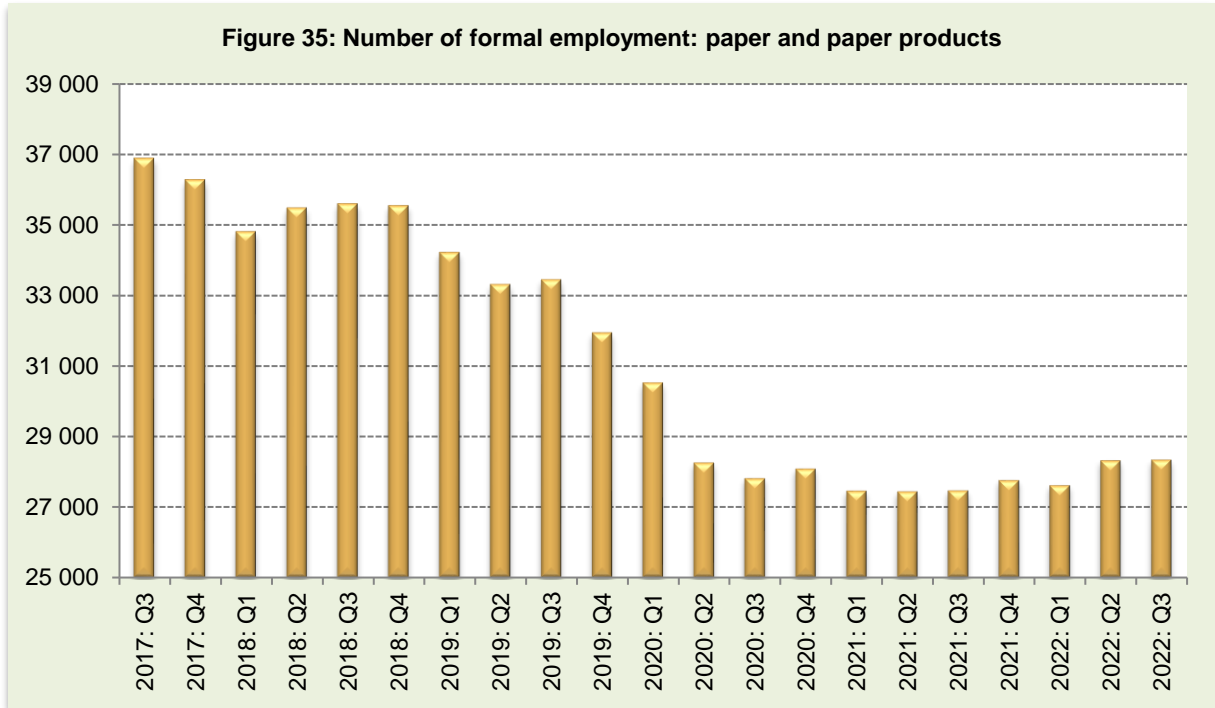
Source: Quantec, 2022

During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year seasonally adjusted value of sales for paper and paper products division rebounded by 18,2% and 19,0% from a 11,7% and 8,9% contraction in the previous quarter (see Figure 33). Sales for paper and paper products division increased from R21 311,9 million in 2022: Q2 to R25 199,4 million in 2022: Q3.



Source: Quantec, 2022

The quarter-to-quarter imports of the paper and paper products division rebounded by 22,0% in 2022: Q3, from a 10,5% contraction as recorded in the last quarter, while year-on-year imports grew by 43,2% in 2022: Q3 following a 41,9% growth in the last quarter. Similarly, exports of the paper and paper products grew quarter-to-quarter by 65,4% from a 22,1% growth, while, year-on-year, exports accelerated by 106,8% in 2022: Q3 from a growth of 25,8% in 2022: Q2. As a result, trade surplus of about R4 011,4 million was recorded in 2022: Q3 (see Figure 34).



Source: Statistics SA (2022)

The quarter-to-quarter formal employment in the paper and paper products division remained slightly unchanged in 2022: Q3 as compared to a 2,6% growth in 2022: Q2. However, it moderated year-on-year by 3,1% from a 3,2% growth in the last quarter. As a result, the paper and paper products division gained about 12 jobs in 2022: Q3 (see Figure 35).

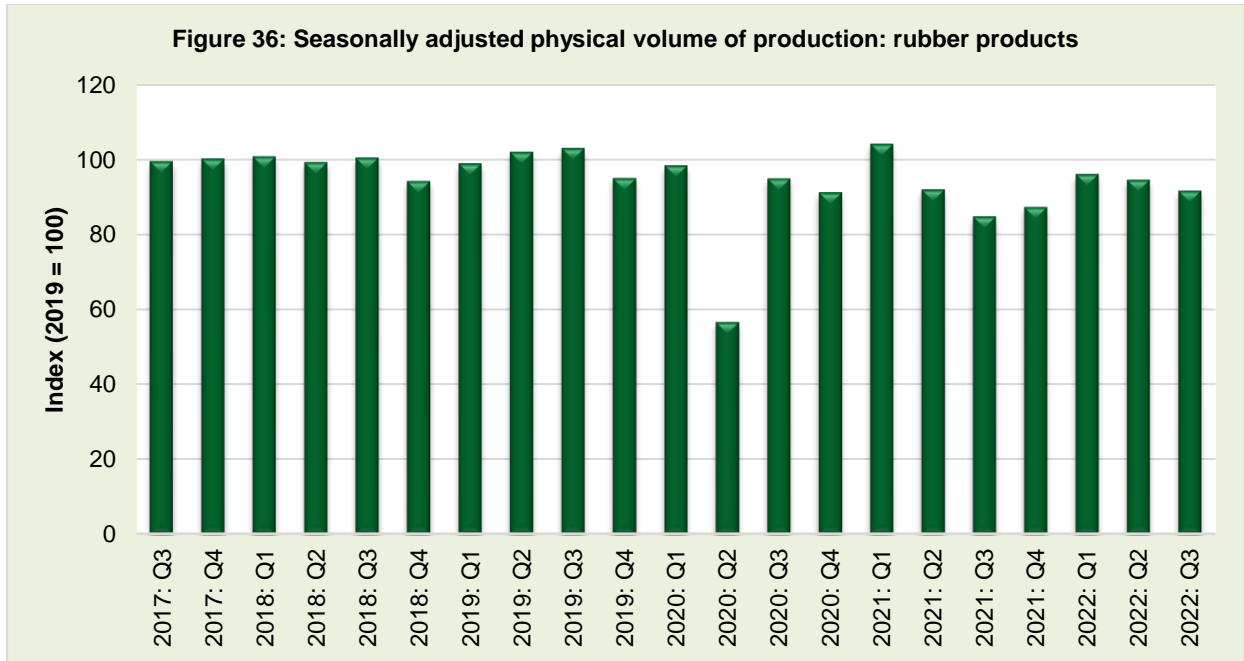
3.9 RUBBER PRODUCTS

The year-on-year producer price for domestic output of rubber and plastic products increased by 13,2%, however, it rebounded by 4,2% quarter-to-quarter as presented in see Table 16.

Table 16: Producer price index for rubber products (base 2020 =100)

	Indices			% Change between	
	2021: Q3	2022: Q2	2022: Q3	2021: Q3 and 2022: Q3	2022: Q2 and 2022: Q3
Domestic output					
Rubber products	110,5	120,1	125,1	13,2	4,2

Source: Statistics SA (2022)



Source: Quantec, 2022

The quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted physical volume of production for rubber products division decelerated by 3,1% in 2022: Q3, following a 1,6% contraction in 2022: Q2, however, it grew by 8,1% year-on-year in 2022: Q3 (see Figure 36).

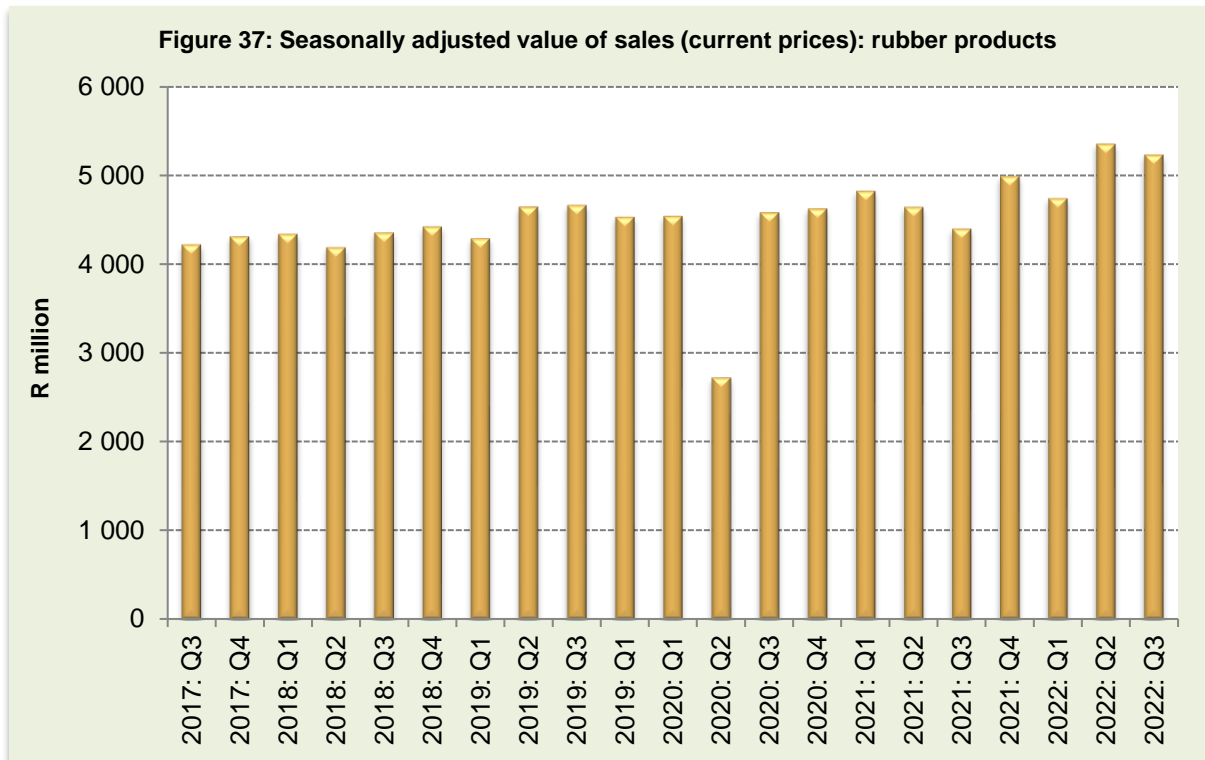
Table 17: Utilisation and reasons for underutilisation of production capacity by large enterprises: Rubber products (percentage)

Period	Utilisation	Reasons for underutilisation					
		Total underutilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
			Raw materials	Labour			
				Skilled	Semi and unskilled		
2021: Q3	83,5	16,5	8,2	1,2	0,4	2,8	3,9
2022: Q2	78,5	21,5	3,7	1,2	0,4	8,5	7,8
2022: Q3	78,4	21,6	2,3	0,5	0,0	10,9	7,9

Source: Statistics SA (2022)

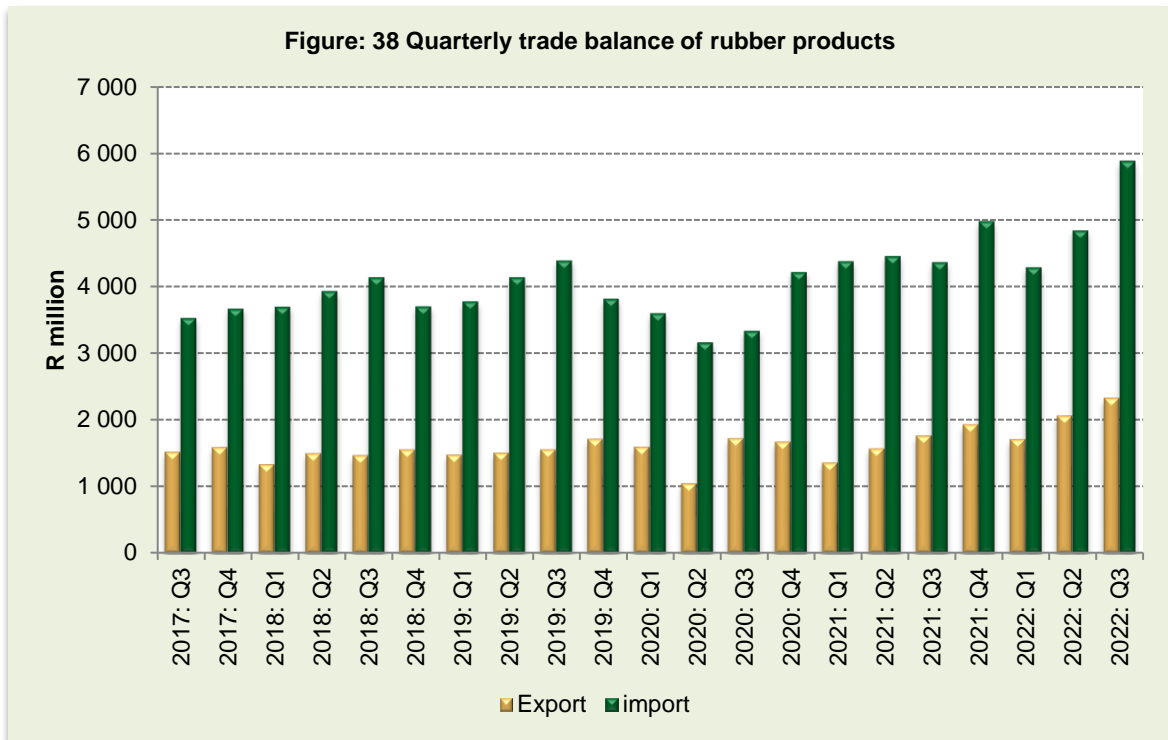
As shown in Table 17, the utilisation of production capacity by large enterprises in the rubber products division declined year-on-year by approximately 5,1 percentage points. Likewise, it

declined by 0,1 percentage point quarter-to-quarter. Insufficient demand remains the main reason for underutilisation.



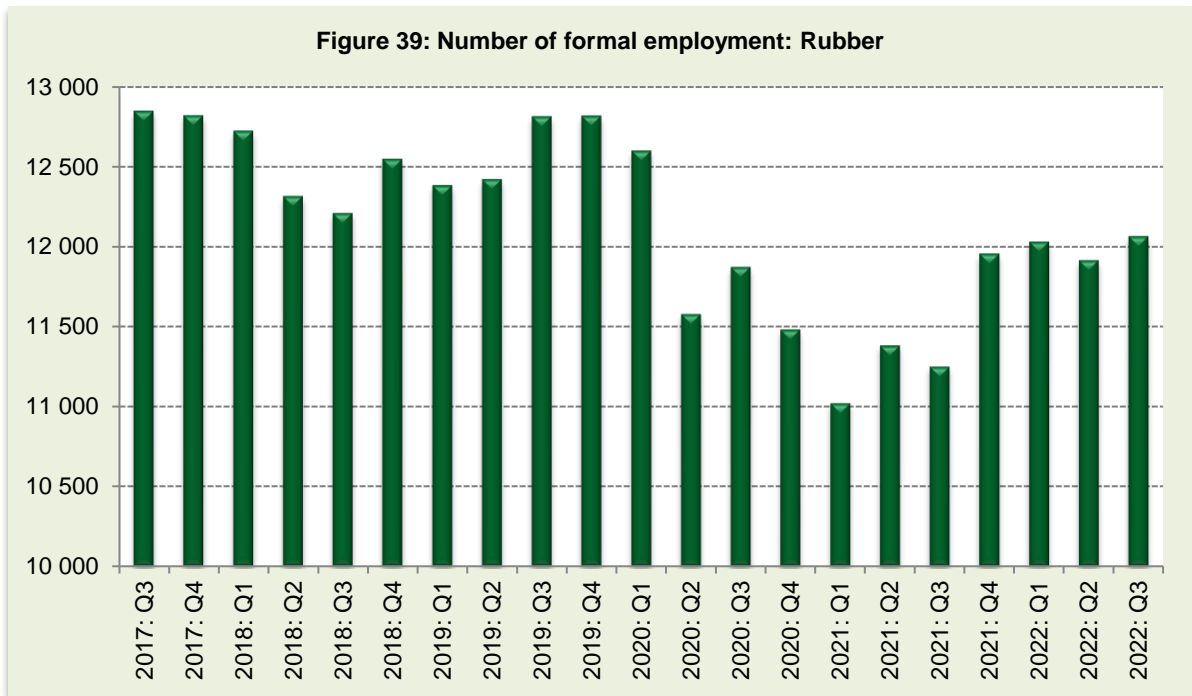
Source: Quantec, 2022

The quarter-to-quarter value of sales in the rubber products division contracted by 2,3% in 2022: Q3, from a 13,0% growth in the previous quarter, however, year-on-year it grew by 18,9% from a 15,3% growth recorded in the preceding quarter. Consequently, the value of sales for rubber products division declined from about R5 355,2 million to around R5 232,6 million in 2022: Q3 (see Figure 37).



Source: Quantec, 2022

The quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year imports of rubber products division registered a growth of 21,7% and 34,9% in 2022: Q3 following a 12,9% and 8,6% respective growth in the preceding quarter. Similarly, exports of rubber products grew year-on-year by 32,0% from a 31,3% growth in the last quarter. The exports of rubber products, on the other hand, moderated quarter-to-quarter by 12,9% in 2022: Q3 from about 20,4% growth in the preceding quarter. As a result, the trade deficit widened from R2 784,9 million in the previous quarter to R3 569,0 million in 2022: Q3.



Source: Statistics SA (2022)

The quarter-to-quarter formal employment in the rubber products division rebounded by 1,3% in 2022: Q3 as compared to a 1,0% contraction recorded in the last quarter. However, it grew by 7,2% year-on-year from a 4,7% growth in the last quarter (see Figure 39). As a result, about 149 jobs were created in the rubber products division in 2022: Q3.

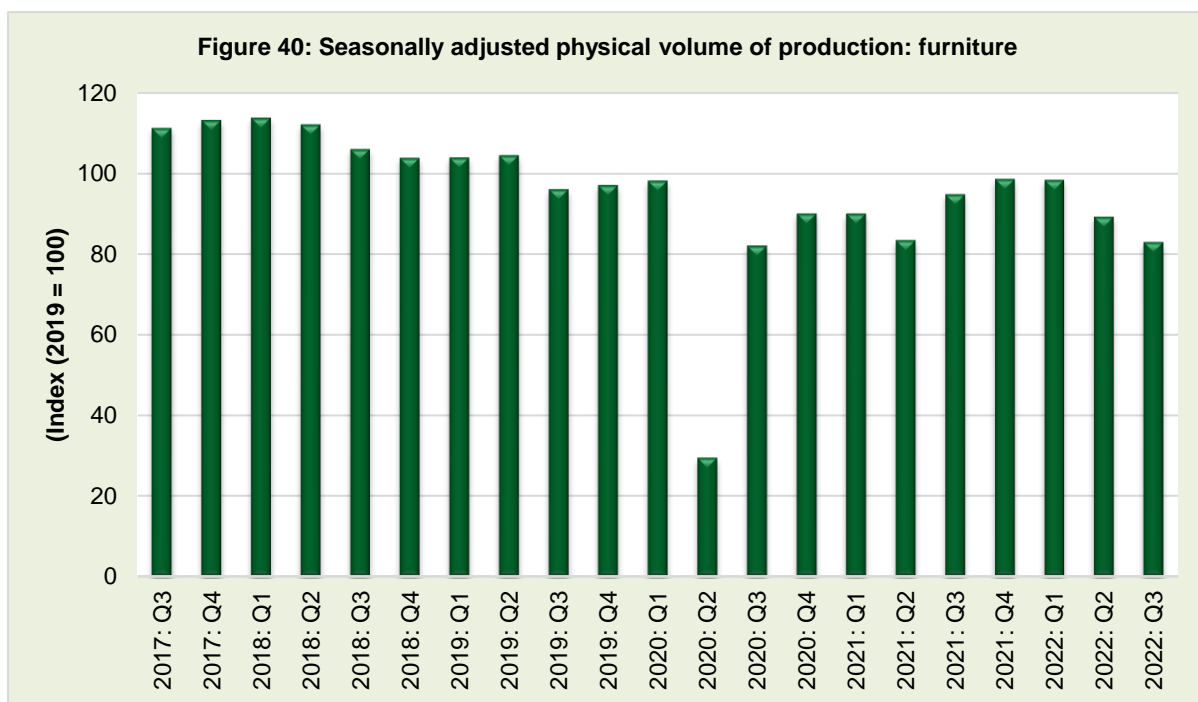
3.10 FURNITURE

The year-on-year producer price index for domestic output of furniture and other manufacturing grew by 14,7%, however, it rebounded by 2,5% quarter-to-quarter in 2022: Q3 as illustrated in see Table 18.

Table 18: Producer price index for furniture and other manufacturing (Base 2020=100)

Indices			% Change between	
2021: Q3	2022: Q2	2022: Q3	2021: Q3 and 2022: Q3	2022: Q2 and 2022: Q3
Domestic output				
100,6	112,6	115,4	14,7	2,5

Source: Statistics SA (2022)



Source: Quantec, 2022

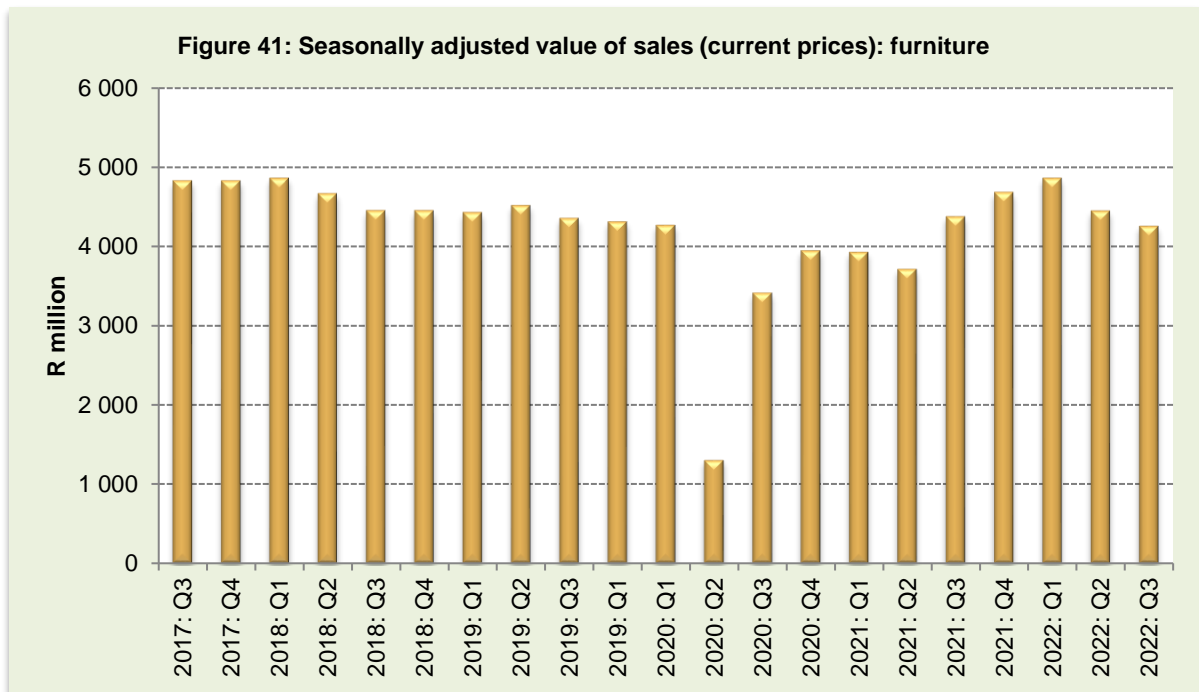
The quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted physical volume of production for the furniture division receded further by 7,0% in 2022: Q3 following a 9,3% contraction in 2022: Q2. However, the year-on-year seasonally adjusted volume of production for the furniture division contracted by 12,5% in 2022: Q3(see Figure 40).

Table 19: Utilisation and reasons for underutilisation of production capacity by large enterprises: Furniture (percentage)

Period	Utilisation	Reasons for underutilisation					
		Total underutilisation	Shortage of			Insufficient demand	Other
			Raw materials	Labour			
				Skilled	Semi and unskilled		
2021: Q3	78,0	22,0	3,0	0,0	0,0	18,9	0,0
2022: Q2	75,0	25,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	25,0	0,0
2022: Q3	78,0	22,0	3,0	0,0	0,0	18,9	0,0

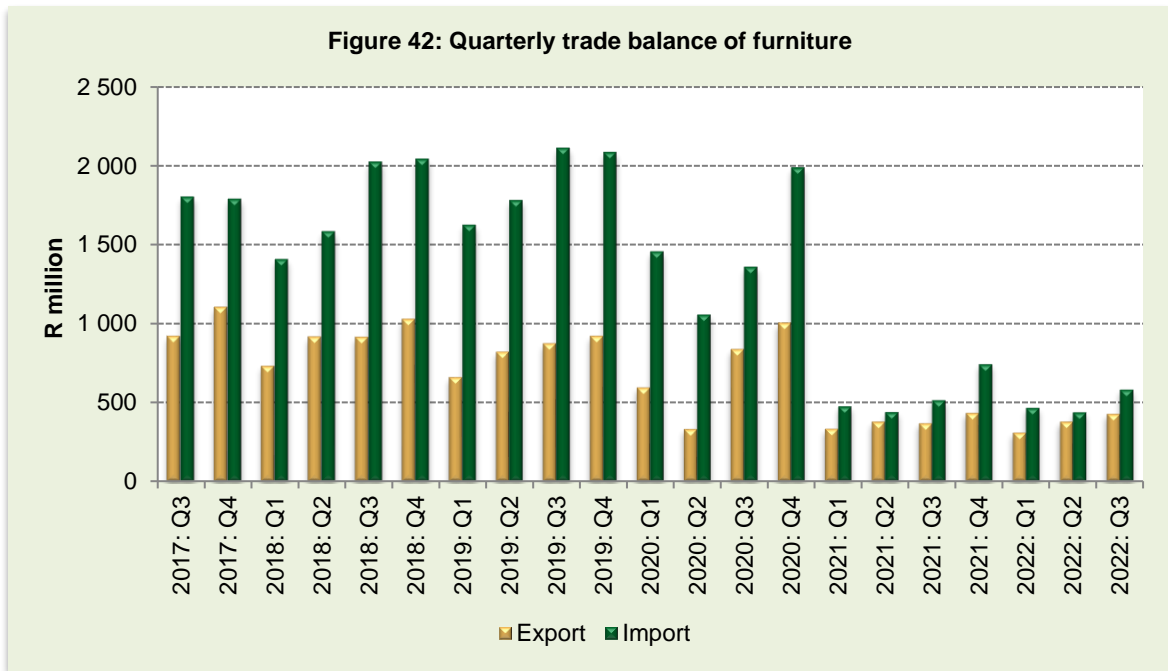
Source: Statistics SA (2022)

The utilisation of production capacity by large enterprises in the furniture division stagnated year-on-year, however, it grew quarter-to-quarter by about 3,0 percentage points. As Table 19 shows, insufficient demand remained the main reasons for underutilisation of production capacity followed by other reasons such as seasonal changes.



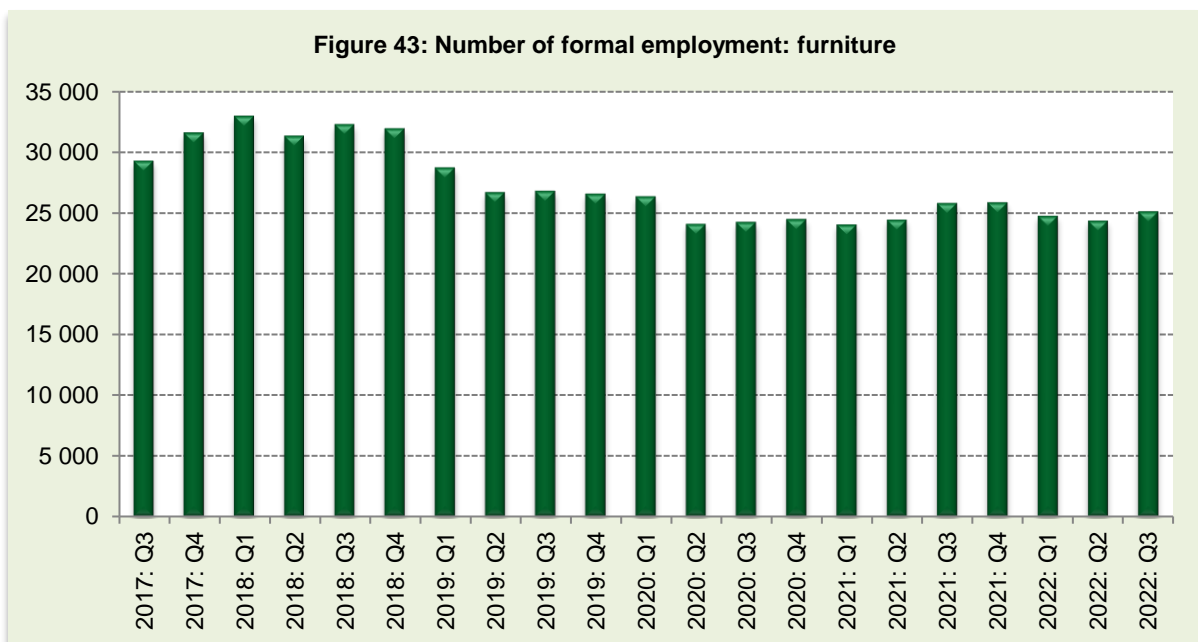
Source: Quantec, 2022

The quarter-to-quarter seasonally adjusted value of sales for furniture division receded further by 7,0% in 2022: Q3, following a 9,3% contraction in 2022: Q2. However, it contracted by 2,8% year-on-year in 2022: Q3 from a 6,9% growth in 2022: Q2. The value of sales in the division declined from R4 447,4 million in the previous quarter to R4 252,4 million 2022: Q3 (see Figure 41).



Source: Quantec, 2022

The quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year imports of furniture division rebounded by 33,5% and 13,0% in 2022: Q3 as compared to a 6,3% and 0,5% contraction respectively in the last quarter. Similarly, year-on-year exports rebounded by about 16,3% during 2022: Q3 following a contraction of 0,1%, however, quarter-to-quarter it moderated by 13,3% following a 21,9% growth in the preceding quarter (see Figure 42). As a result, the trade deficit widened from R60,8 million in the previous quarter to about R156,9 million in 2022: Q3.



Source: Statistics SA (2022)

During 2022: Q3, the quarter-to-quarter formal employment in the furniture division rebounded by 3,1% following a 1,6% contraction in the last quarter. However, it decelerated year-on-year by 2,7% from a 0,3% contraction in the previous quarter. As a result, approximately 751 jobs were gained during the period under review (see Figure 43).

4. CONCLUSION

The South African economy expanded by 1,6% in 2022: Q3 primarily due to the expanded growths in the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors. Higher field crops and the increased output of horticultural products resulted in the increased output of agricultural production in the third quarter. As a result, the quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year seasonally adjusted volume of the agro-processing industry rebounded by 4,1% and by 4,8% respectively. Similarly, the seasonally adjusted value of sales grew quarter-to-quarter and year-on-year by 5,4% and 16,0% respectively in 2022: Q3.

The formal employment in the agro-processing industry receded further by 0,4% as compared to a 3,2% contraction registered in the last quarter, representing job losses of about 2113 during the period under review. The trade deficit for the agro-processing industry widened. The divisions that were at a trade deficit were: wearing apparel, rubber, footwear, textiles, food, (leather and leather products) and furniture. However, paper and paper products, beverages, (wood and wood products) and tobacco divisions were at a trade surplus during the current period of review.

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NOTES:

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