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SOUTH AFRICAN RESERVE BANK

Financial Markets Department

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Information notice on the official gold and foreign exchange reserves of the South African Reserve Bank as at 31 May 2026

This notice provides detail of the US dollar equivalent of the level of the South African Reserve Bank's (SARB) official gold and foreign exchange reserves, Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), and foreign currency deposits received from customers, published today in the SARB's Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 May 2026.

	31 May 2026 (US\$ millions)	30 April 2026 (US\$ millions)	Change ⁽¹⁾ (US\$ millions)
Gold reserves	18 274	18 700	(426)
SDR holdings	6 648	6 664	(16)
Foreign exchange reserves ⁽²⁾	51 661	51 725	(64)
Gross reserves	76 583	77 089	(506)
Foreign currency deposits received ⁽³⁾	(3 700)	(3 918)	218
Forward position ^(4,5,6)	584	586	(2)
International liquidity position (ILP)	73 467	73 757	(290)
Exchange rates			% change
EUR/US\$	1.1644	1.1701	(0.49)
GBP/US\$	1.3427	1.3511	(0.62)
US\$/ZAR	16.2227	16.7776	(3.31)
SDR/US\$	1.3688	1.3720	(0.23)
US\$/CNY	6.7674	6.8304	(0.92)
Gold price			% change
Market (US\$)	4 528.50	4 634.00	(2.28)
Statutory (ZAR)	73 464.50	77 747.40	(5.51)

1. Figures might not add up due to rounding.
2. Foreign exchange reserves include foreign currency deposits received (FDR).
3. FDR balances include the foreign loans and foreign exchange purchases by the National Treasury (NT), both through outright purchases and foreign exchange swaps.
4. The forward position mainly reflects outstanding foreign exchange forward transactions. These include foreign exchange swaps to sterilise foreign exchange purchases and liquidity management swaps.
5. Sterilisation foreign exchange swaps refer to forward exchange contracts conducted to sterilise foreign exchange purchases from foreign direct investments and other foreign exchange inflows, such as from International Finance Institutions (IFI'S).
6. Liquidity management swaps refer to forward exchange contracts conducted in the normal course of business to manage money market liquidity.

The decreases in the gross reserves and international liquidity position were mainly due to the decrease in the US dollar gold price and foreign exchange payments made on behalf of government. These factors were partially offset by asset price movements.