

Statistical Release P0141.1

Prices : Consumer Price Index

February 1997
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EXTENSION OF COVERAGE OF THE CPI

For the first time, the CSS makes available consumer price indices for urban areas other than metropolitan areas, as well as aggregate indices for each of the nine provinces.

These indices are published in tables 1, 3.1, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 6. For example from Table 4.1 it is seen that the monthly increase in the CPI was 0.2% for the Western Cape compared with the 0,8% for Mpumalanga. For "other urban areas" in the Free State the monthly increase was 0,4%.

The weighting structure used to derive these indices was obtained from the results of the October 1995 Income and Expenditure Survey of Households and is published in P0141.5 of 27 March 1995.

INFLATION RATE INCREASED TO 9,8% FOR FEBRUARY 1997

The official inflation rate, i.e. the annual rate of change in the Consumer Price Index, is 9,8% for February 1997. This rate is 0,4 of a percentage point higher than the corresponding rate of 9,4% for January 1997.

The monthly increase (i.e. from January 1997 to February 1997) in the Consumer Price Index is 0,5%, while the seasonally adjusted index shows an increase of 0,5% for the same period.

An alternative expression of the change in the CPI is to annualise the changes between the average index of the three months up to February 1997 and the average index of the previous three months. This approach, when using seasonally adjusted data, shows an increase of 10,8%, while unadjusted data show a 10,7% increase.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MONTHLY INCREASE OF 0,5%

The monthly increase of 0,5% can be attributed to increases in the price indices for food (contributing +0,1 of a percentage point), housing (contributing +0,1 of a percentage point), communication (contributing +0,1 of a percentage point, mainly due to an increase in the costs of telephone calls) and "other" items (contributing +0,2 of a percentage point).

FOOD PRICES

The price index for food shows an annual rate of increase 10,0% at February 1997. This rate is 1,1 of a percentage higher than the corresponding rate of 8,9% at January 1997.

The monthly rate of increase of 0,6% was caused by increases in the price indices for grain products (+0,3%), meat (+2,1%), milk, cheese and eggs (+2,2%), fats and oils (+0,9%), fruit and nuts (+1,3%) and coffee, tea and cocoa (+0,6%). These increases were partially counteracted by decreases in the price indices of fish and other seafood (-0,4%), vegetables (-3,3%), sugar (-0,4%) and "other" items (-0,3%).

MONTHLY INCREASE IN THE PRICE INDEX FOR NON-FOOD ITEMS AT 0,4%

The monthly increase of 0,4% in the price index for all items excluding food resulted from monthly increases in the price indices for non-alcoholic beverages (+2,9%), alcoholic beverages (+3,1%), cigarettes, cigars and tobacco (+0,7%), clothing and footwear (+0,3%), housing (+0,3%), fuel and power (+0,1%), household operation (+0,9%), transport (+0,1%), communication (+5,3%) and "other" items (+0,5%).

METROPOLITAN AREA INDICES

The highest inflation rate of 10,6% was recorded for Bloemfontein, while the lowest inflation rate of 8,0% was recorded for Free State Goldfields.

Regarding food, the highest annual increase of 12,4% was recorded for Port Elizabeth and Durban/Pinetown, while the lowest annual rate of 6,3% was recorded for Free State Goldfields.

INFLATION RATE FOR PENSIONERS

The inflation rate for pensioners is 9,8% at February 1997. The highest rate of increase of 10,7% was recorded for Cape Peninsula, while the lowest rate of increase of 7,0% was recorded for Free State Goldfields.

FOOD INFLATION AS MEASURED AT CHAIN-STORES AND OTHER RETAILERS

Food prices at chain-stores show an annual rate of increase of 10,3% at February 1997, while food prices at other retailers show an annual rate of increase of 7,9%. From January 1997 to February 1997, food prices at chain-stores increased by 0,6% while food prices at other retailers decreased by 0,9%.

CPI FOR MARCH 1997

In addition to the normal price surveys for March 1997, it has come to the attention of the CSS that changed prices apply with effect from March 1997 with regard to water tariffs, electricity fees, parking fees, motor vehicle insurance and bus tariffs in certain urban areas.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. All price information refers to the first seven days of the reference month.
2. By the phrase "each area compared with itself", the CSS reminds the user that the consumer price indices relating to various metropolitan and other urban areas as shown in Table 4 and Table 6 do not permit inter-urban comparison of price levels or living costs. The indices do not indicate whether it is more expensive to live in one city than in another. The indices indicate for each urban area, independently of any of the other urban areas, the price changes which have taken place from time to time.
3. The indices for all items excluding food, Table 4.4, have been calculated for each area separately as from July 1994. These indices are calculated by means of the index for all items and the index for food of each area.
4. Value Added Tax (VAT) is included in general in the prices of all items on which VAT is applicable.
5. The five expenditure group categories or quintiles were defined according to total expenditure per household as in October 1995 as:

Very low expenditure group - up to R6 340

Low expenditure group - R6 341 up to R11 590

Middle expenditure group - R11 591 up to R21 909

High expenditure group - R21 910 up to R49 498

Very high expenditure group - R49 499 and more

6. A more detailed set of weights for the metropolitan and other urban areas in total according to the new 1995-weighting structure of the CPI, as well as that for the core basket are published in Statistical release P0141.5 of 27 March 1997 embargoed 11:00.

TABLE 1 INCOME GROUP INDICES AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE

BASE : 1995 = 100

Group	Feb. 1997	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996	Percentage change compared with		
				Jan. 1997		Feb. 1996
				Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual
Expenditure groups						
Very Low	114,0	113,7	..	+0,3	..	..
Low	113,8	113,2	..	+0,5	..	..
Middle	113,9	113,3	..	+0,5	..	..
High	113,9	113,3	..	+0,5	..	..
Very High	114,3	113,8	..	+0,4	..	..
All income groups - Metropolitan	113,9	113,3	103,7	+0,5	+0,5	+9,8
All income groups - Metro and other urban areas	114,0	113,5	..	+0,4	..	..
Food only - Metropolitan	113,5	112,8	103,2	+0,6	..	+10,0
Food only - Metro and other urban areas	113,6	113,3	..	+0,3	..	..
All items excluding food - Metropolitan	114,0	113,5	103,9	+0,4	+0,4	+9,7
All items excluding food - Metro and other urban areas	114,1	113,5	..	+0,5	..	..
All income groups (VAT EXCLUDED) - Metropolitan	113,9	113,3	103,7	+0,5	+0,5	+9,8
All income groups (VAT EXCLUDED) - Metro and other urban areas	114,0	113,5	..	+0,4	..	..
Core inflation - Metropolitan	113,3	112,7	103,6	+0,5	-	+9,4
Core inflation - Metro and other urban areas	114,0	113,3	..	+0,6	-	..

1) On theoretical grounds and due to rounding off, these rates of change can differ.

TABLE 2 EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES ON THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
- ALL INCOME GROUPS

Group	Contribution
Food	+0,1
Housing	+0,1
Communication	+0,1
All other items	+0,2
All items	+0,5

TABLE 3 GROUP INDICES - WEIGHTED AVERAGE
3.2 METRO AND OTHER URBAN AREAS

BASE : 1995 = 100

Group	Feb. 1997	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996	Percentage change compared with		Weights
				Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996	
All items	114,0	113,5	..	+0,4	..	100,00
Expenditure groups - Very low	113,9	113,6	..	+0,3	..	0,93
Low	113,7	113,2	..	+0,4	..	2,99
Middle	113,6	113,1	..	+0,4	..	7,58
High	114,0	113,4	..	+0,5	..	20,09
Very high	114,0	113,5	..	+0,4	..	68,41
Commodities	112,1	111,7	..	+0,4	..	57,34
Services	116,5	115,8	..	+0,6	..	42,66
All items, excluding housing	113,1	112,5	..	+0,5	..	77,55
All items, excluding food	114,1	113,5	..	+0,5	..	80,52
Food	113,6	113,3	..	+0,3	..	19,48
Expenditure groups - Very low	113,6	113,7	..	-0,1	..	44,17
Low	114,1	113,9	..	+0,2	..	38,83
Middle	114,2	113,9	..	+0,3	..	32,67
High	113,9	113,5	..	+0,4	..	25,61
Very high	113,3	112,9	..	+0,4	..	15,02
Processed	112,8	112,5	..	+0,3	..	10,52
Unprocessed	114,4	114,0	..	+0,4	..	8,96
Grain products	120,1	119,2	..	+0,8	..	3,73
Meat	110,9	110,0	..	+0,8	..	5,84
Fish and other seafood	113,3	112,9	..	+0,4	..	0,77
Milk, cheese and eggs	116,6	115,2	..	+1,2	..	2,02
Fats and oils	112,2	112,0	..	+0,2	..	0,94
Fruit and nuts	104,6	103,6	..	+1,0	..	1,07
Vegetables	118,5	122,0	..	-2,9	..	1,94
Sugar	109,7	110,1	..	-0,4	..	0,73
Coffee, tea and cocoa	103,8	103,3	..	+0,5	..	0,79
Other	112,2	112,3	..	-0,1	..	1,65
Non-alcoholic beverages	118,1	114,0	..	+3,6	..	0,82
Alcoholic beverages	114,5	111,1	..	+3,1	..	1,17
Cigarettes, cigars and tobacco	126,9	126,2	..	+0,6	..	1,04
Clothing and footwear	105,8	105,9	..	-0,1	..	5,07
Clothing	105,3	105,3	..	0,0	..	3,80
Footwear	107,4	107,8	..	-0,4	..	1,27
Housing	117,3	116,9	..	+0,3	..	22,45
Fuel and power	111,2	110,6	..	+0,5	..	3,54
Furniture and equipment	107,3	107,3	..	0,0	..	4,34
Furniture	108,6	108,7	..	-0,1	..	1,77
Appliances	105,6	105,6	..	0,0	..	1,19
Other household equipment and textiles	107,1	107,1	..	0,0	..	1,38
Household operation	122,7	121,5	..	+1,0	..	4,87
Household consumables	115,1	114,7	..	+0,3	..	1,27
Domestic workers	126,9	125,3	..	+1,3	..	3,25
Other household services	111,3	111,3	..	0,0	..	0,35
Medical care and health expenses	119,9	119,9	..	0,0	..	5,81
Transport	110,8	110,6	..	+0,2	..	13,65
Vehicles	105,5	104,9	..	+0,6	..	5,31
Running cost	118,1	118,2	..	-0,1	..	5,16
Public and hired transport	107,9	107,9	..	0,0	..	3,18
Communication	111,4	105,8	..	+5,2	..	3,21
Recreation and entertainment	104,5	104,5	..	0,0	..	2,18
Reading matter	115,4	115,4	..	0,0	..	0,69
Education	110,7	110,7	..	0,0	..	1,82
Personal care	113,2	113,2	..	0,0	..	3,08
Other	114,2	113,7	..	+0,4	..	6,78

TABLE 3 GROUP INDICES - WEIGHTED AVERAGE
3.1 METROPOLITAN AREAS

BASE : 1995 = 100

Group	Feb. 1997	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996	Percentage change compared with		Weights
				Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996	
All items	113,9	113,3	103,7	+0,5	+9,8	100,00
Expenditure groups - Very low	114,0	113,7	..	+0,3	..	0,51
Low	113,8	113,2	..	+0,5	..	1,78
Middle	113,9	113,3	..	+0,5	..	5,24
High	113,9	113,3	..	+0,5	..	17,70
Very high	113,8	113,3	..	+0,4	..	74,77
Commodities	112,1	111,6	102,8	+0,4	+9,0	55,00
Services	116,7	116,1	105,4	+0,5	+10,7	45,00
All items, excluding housing	113,0	112,4	103,4	+0,5	+9,3	75,93
All items, excluding food	114,0	113,5	103,9	+0,4	+9,7	81,98
Food	113,5	112,8	103,2	+0,6	+10,0	18,02
Expenditure groups - Very low	113,9	113,9	..	0,0	..	40,73
Low	114,3	113,8	..	+0,4	..	34,39
Middle	114,1	113,6	..	+0,4	..	31,12
High	113,8	113,1	..	+0,6	..	25,42
Very high	113,1	112,4	..	+0,6	..	14,84
Processed	112,7	112,3	103,7	+0,4	+8,7	9,12
Unprocessed	114,3	113,3	102,5	+0,9	+11,5	8,90
Grain products	118,7	118,4	107,8	+0,3	+10,1	3,31
Meat	112,9	110,6	100,0	+2,1	+12,9	5,33
Fish and other seafood	113,3	113,7	105,0	-0,4	+7,9	0,80
Milk, cheese and eggs	116,6	114,1	103,4	+2,2	+12,8	1,90
Fats and oils	113,6	112,6	103,7	+0,9	+9,5	0,85
Fruit and nuts	107,1	105,7	105,6	+1,3	+1,4	1,08
Vegetables	115,1	119,0	104,7	-3,3	+9,9	1,80
Sugar	109,4	109,8	104,0	-0,4	+5,2	0,59
Coffee, tea and cocoa	104,2	103,6	101,1	+0,6	+3,1	0,72
Other	113,1	113,4	104,2	-0,3	+8,5	1,64
Non-alcoholic beverages	117,3	114,0	104,8	+2,9	+11,9	0,82
Alcoholic beverages	113,2	109,8	102,9	+3,1	+10,0	1,18
Cigarettes, cigars and tobacco	128,4	127,5	105,8	+0,7	+21,4	0,95
Clothing and footwear	106,1	105,8	102,0	+0,3	+4,0	4,76
Clothing	105,5	105,3	101,8	+0,2	+3,6	3,55
Footwear	109,0	108,4	102,4	+0,6	+6,4	1,21
Housing	118,8	118,5	105,8	+0,3	+12,3	24,07
Fuel and power	112,0	111,9	104,3	+0,1	+7,4	3,11
Furniture and equipment	106,8	106,8	101,4	0,0	+5,3	3,94
Furniture	107,4	107,5	101,8	-0,1	+5,5	1,62
Appliances	105,7	105,7	100,7	0,0	+5,0	1,08
Other household equipment and textiles	106,7	106,6	101,6	+0,1	+5,0	1,24
Household operation	119,8	118,7	106,5	+0,9	+12,5	4,69
Household consumables	116,0	115,4	104,7	+0,5	+10,8	1,14
Domestic workers	126,8	125,3	109,6	+1,2	+15,7	3,19
Other household services	112,5	112,5	103,9	0,0	+8,3	0,36
Medical care and health expenses	122,5	122,5	105,7	0,0	+15,9	5,95
Transport	111,5	111,4	102,5	+0,1	+8,8	14,74
Vehicles	106,9	106,4	101,6	+0,5	+5,2	5,25
Running cost	118,4	118,6	101,5	-0,2	+16,7	5,75
Public and hired transport	110,0	110,0	106,4	0,0	+3,4	3,74
Communication	108,1	102,7	107,2	+5,3	+0,8	3,06
Recreation and entertainment	108,0	108,0	102,0	0,0	+5,9	2,38
Reading matter	116,6	116,6	106,3	0,0	+9,7	0,74
Education	110,8	110,8	101,4	0,0	+9,3	2,04
Personal care	112,8	112,8	103,9	0,0	+8,6	3,06
Other	112,6	112,0	103,7	+0,5	+8,6	6,49

TABLE 4 AREAS INDICES

TABLE 4.1 Index for all items
Each area compared with itself

BASE : 1995 = 100

Urban area	All items			Percentage change compared with	
	Feb. 1997	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996
Western Cape	114,3	114,0	..	+0,3	..
Cape Peninsula	114,5	114,2	103,8	+0,3	+10,3
Other urban areas	114,0	113,8	..	+0,2	..
Eastern Cape	115,1	114,7	..	+0,3	..
Port Elizabeth	114,0	113,6	103,4	+0,4	+10,3
East London	114,3	114,0	104,0	+0,3	+9,9
Other urban areas	115,0	114,6	..	+0,3	..
Northern Cape	112,9	112,1	..	+0,7	..
Kimberley	112,7	112,5	103,3	+0,2	+9,1
Other urban areas	112,8	111,9	..	+0,8	..
Free State	111,4	111,0	..	+0,4	..
Bloemfontein	114,2	113,8	103,3	+0,4	+10,6
Free State Goldfields	111,2	111,1	103,0	+0,1	+8,0
Other urban areas	111,0	110,5	..	+0,5	..
Kwazulu/Natal	114,3	113,6	..	+0,6	..
Durban/Pinetown	114,9	114,3	104,0	+0,5	+10,5
Pietermaritzburg	114,6	114,1	104,7	+0,4	+9,5
Other urban areas	113,9	113,1	..	+0,7	..
North West	112,0	111,4	..	+0,5	..
Klerksdorp	112,3	111,7	103,8	+0,5	+8,2
Other urban areas	111,8	111,2	..	+0,5	..
Gauteng	114,2	113,7	..	+0,4	..
Pretoria/Centurion/Akasia	114,5	114,1	104,0	+0,4	+10,1
Witwatersrand	113,1	112,5	103,6	+0,5	+9,2
Other urban areas	113,9	113,5	..	+0,4	..
Mpumalanga	113,5	112,6	..	+0,8	..
Nelspruit/Witbank	113,4	112,8	103,6	+0,5	+9,5
Other urban areas	113,2	112,2	..	+0,9	..
Northern Province	113,4	112,8	..	+0,5	..
Pietersburg	114,6	114,2	104,0	+0,4	+10,2
Other urban areas	113,5	112,8	..	+0,6	..
Weighted average - Metro and other urban areas	114,0	113,5	..	+0,4	..
Weighted average - Metropolitan	113,9	113,3	103,7	+0,5	+9,8

TABLE 4. AREA INDICES

TABLE 4.2 Index for food
Each area compared with itself

BASE : 1995 = 100

Urban area	Food			Percentage change compared with	
	Feb. 1997	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996
Western Cape	113,8	113,8	..	0,0	..
Cape Peninsula	112,5	112,6	102,2	-0,1	+10,1
Other urban areas	113,8	113,8	..	0,0	..
Eastern Cape	114,5	114,8	..	-0,3	..
Port Elizabeth	114,0	113,9	101,4	+0,1	+12,4
East London	115,4	115,9	104,5	-0,4	+10,4
Other urban areas	114,3	114,8	..	-0,4	..
Northern Cape	111,9	112,2	..	-0,3	..
Kimberley	112,0	111,9	101,9	+0,1	+9,9
Other urban areas	111,8	112,2	..	-0,4	..
Free State	108,6	109,0	..	-0,4	..
Bloemfontein	111,1	112,2	102,1	-1,0	+8,8
Free State Goldfields	108,9	109,3	102,4	-0,4	+6,3
Other urban areas	108,3	108,7	..	-0,3	..
Kwazulu/Natal	116,2	115,4	..	+0,7	..
Durban/Pinetown	117,7	117,0	104,7	+0,6	+12,4
Pietermaritzburg	115,2	115,2	106,2	0,0	+8,5
Other urban areas	116,1	115,2	..	+0,8	..
North West	111,6	111,7	..	-0,1	..
Klerksdorp	111,8	111,0	104,2	+0,7	+7,3
Other urban areas	111,4	111,7	..	-0,3	..
Gauteng	113,1	112,5	..	+0,5	..
Pretoria/Centurion/Akasia	114,0	113,6	103,6	+0,4	+10,0
Witwatersrand	112,7	111,6	103,4	+1,0	+9,0
Other urban areas	112,1	112,8	..	-0,6	..
Mpumalanga	113,6	112,8	..	+0,7	..
Nelspruit/Witbank	114,7	113,4	104,3	+1,1	+10,0
Other urban areas	113,5	112,8	..	+0,6	..
Northern Province	117,7	116,5	..	+1,0	..
Pietersburg	116,5	115,6	103,7	+0,8	+12,3
Other urban areas	117,9	116,7	..	+1,0	..
Weighted average - Metro and other urban areas	113,6	113,3	..	+0,3	..
Weighted average - Metropolitan	113,5	112,8	103,2	+0,6	+10,0

TABLE 4 AREAS INDICES

TABLE 4.3 Index for all items excluding housing
Each area compared with itself

BASE : 1995 = 100

Urban area	All items excluding housing			Percentage change compared with	
	Feb. 1997	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996
Western Cape	113,4	113,1	..	+0,3	..
Cape Peninsula	113,6	113,2	103,3	+0,4	+10,0
Other urban areas	113,1	112,9	..	+0,2	..
Eastern Cape	114,1	113,6	..	+0,4	..
Port Elizabeth	113,2	112,7	102,8	+0,4	+10,1
East London	114,0	113,7	103,7	+0,3	+9,9
Other urban areas	113,9	113,4	..	+0,4	..
Northern Cape	111,6	111,2	..	+0,4	..
Kimberley	111,5	111,2	102,5	+0,3	+8,8
Other urban areas	111,5	111,1	..	+0,4	..
Free State	111,6	111,1	..	+0,5	..
Bloemfontein	113,9	113,4	102,8	+0,4	+10,8
Free State Goldfields	111,3	111,2	102,9	+0,1	+8,2
Other urban areas	111,3	110,8	..	+0,5	..
Kwazulu/Natal	113,1	112,3	..	+0,7	..
Durban/Pinetown	114,2	113,5	103,5	+0,6	+10,3
Pietermaritzburg	113,3	112,7	104,3	+0,5	+8,6
Other urban areas	112,7	111,7	..	+0,9	..
North West	111,6	111,0	..	+0,5	..
Klerksdorp	112,2	111,5	103,7	+0,6	+8,2
Other urban areas	111,4	110,9	..	+0,5	..
Gauteng	113,2	112,6	..	+0,5	..
Pretoria/Centurion/Akasia	113,6	113,1	103,5	+0,4	+9,8
Witwatersrand	112,4	111,7	103,4	+0,6	+8,7
Other urban areas	113,0	112,7	..	+0,3	..
Mpumalanga	111,9	111,3	..	+0,5	..
Nelspruit/Witbank	112,5	111,7	103,3	+0,7	+8,9
Other urban areas	111,6	111,0	..	+0,5	..
Northern Province	112,8	112,1	..	+0,6	..
Pietersburg	113,7	113,2	103,4	+0,4	+10,0
Other urban areas	112,7	112,0	..	+0,6	..
Weighted average - Metro and other urban areas	113,1	112,5	..	+0,5	..
Weighted average - Metropolitan	113,0	112,4	103,4	+0,5	+9,3

TABLE 4. AREA INDICES (concluded)

TABLE 4.4 Index for all items excluding food
Each area compared with itself

BASE : 1995 = 100

Urban area	All items excluding food			Percentage change compared with	
	Feb. 1997	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996
Western Cape	114,4	114,1	..	+0,3	..
Cape Peninsula	115,2	114,8	104,4	+0,3	+10,3
Other urban areas	114,1	113,8	..	+0,3	..
Eastern Cape	115,3	114,6	..	+0,6	..
Port Elizabeth	113,9	113,4	104,1	+0,4	+9,4
East London	114,1	113,6	104,0	+0,4	+9,7
Other urban areas	115,2	114,5	..	+0,6	..
Northern Cape	113,3	112,1	..	+1,1	..
Kimberley	112,9	112,6	103,8	+0,3	+8,8
Other urban areas	113,1	111,8	..	+1,2	..
Free State	112,2	111,6	..	+0,5	..
Bloemfontein	115,0	114,3	103,7	+0,6	+10,9
Free State Goldfields	111,8	111,6	103,2	+0,2	+8,3
Other urban areas	111,8	111,1	..	+0,6	..
Kwazulu/Natal	113,8	113,1	..	+0,6	..
Durban/Pinetown	114,3	113,7	103,8	+0,5	+10,1
Pietermaritzburg	114,4	113,7	104,3	+0,6	+9,7
Other urban areas	113,3	112,5	..	+0,7	..
North West	112,1	111,3	..	+0,7	..
Klerksdorp	112,3	111,8	103,7	+0,4	+8,3
Other urban areas	111,9	111,1	..	+0,7	..
Gauteng	114,5	113,9	..	+0,5	..
Pretoria/Centurion/Akasia	114,3	113,9	104,0	+0,4	+9,9
Witwatersrand	113,3	112,8	103,7	+0,4	+9,3
Other urban areas	114,3	113,7	..	+0,5	..
Mpumalanga	113,5	112,6	..	+0,8	..
Nelspruit/Witbank	112,9	112,4	103,5	+0,4	+9,1
Other urban areas	113,1	112,0	..	+1,0	..
Northern Province	112,4	111,9	..	+0,4	..
Pietersburg	114,0	113,7	104,1	+0,3	+9,5
Other urban areas	112,4	111,9	..	+0,4	..
Weighted average - Metro and other urban areas	114,1	113,5	..	+0,5	..
Weighted average - Metropolitan	114,0	113,5	103,9	+0,4	+9,7

TABLE 5 SEASONALLY ADJUSTED INDICES

BASE : 1990 = 100

Group	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Nov.	Weights
	1997	1997	1996	1996	
All items	113,8	113,2	112,4	111,2	100,00
Expenditure groups - Very low	..	..	..	..	0,51
Low	..	..	..	..	1,78
Middle	..	..	..	..	5,24
High	..	..	..	..	17,70
Very high	..	..	..	..	74,77
All items excluding food	114,1	113,6	112,6	111,2	81,98
Commodities	112,0	111,5	110,8	109,8	55,00
Food	112,5	111,8	112,0	111,1	18,02
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	112,8	112,0	112,1	111,2	18,84
Alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, cigars and tobacco	122,7	120,3	120,0	117,3	2,13
Clothing and footwear	106,5	106,2	105,8	105,4	4,72
Furniture and equipment	106,8	106,8	106,3	105,9	3,85
Vehicles	107,2	106,7	105,0	104,3	5,25
Other transport commodities	121,6	121,9	119,0	115,3	4,63
Other commodities	110,9	110,4	110,7	110,0	15,58
Services	116,7	116,1	114,9	113,3	45,00
Housing and domestic workers	120,5	120,1	118,4	115,0	25,99
Transport	108,0	108,0	107,8	107,6	4,86
Other services	115,0	114,4	113,6	113,0	14,15
All items (VAT excluded)	113,8	113,2	112,5	111,3	100,00

TABLE 6 THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR PENSIONERS - AREA INDICES
Each area compared with itself

BASE : 1990 = 100

Urban area	All items			Percentage change compared with	
	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.
	1997	1997	1996	1997	1996
Western Cape	113,8	113,5	..	+0,3	..
Cape Peninsula	115,3	115,0	104,2	+0,3	+10,7
Other urban areas	113,5	113,2	..	+0,3	..
Eastern Cape	114,7	114,2	..	+0,4	..
Port Elizabeth	113,6	113,2	103,3	+0,4	+10,0
East London	114,1	113,9	104,2	+0,2	+9,5
Other urban areas	114,6	114,1	..	+0,4	..
Northern Cape	113,7	112,5	..	+1,1	..
Kimberley	113,7	113,3	104,0	+0,4	+9,3
Other urban areas	113,7	112,4	..	+1,2	..
Free State	110,7	110,3	..	+0,4	..
Bloemfontein	113,8	113,4	103,1	+0,4	+10,4
Free State Goldfields	110,4	110,3	103,2	+0,1	+7,0
Other urban areas	110,4	110,0	..	+0,4	..
Kwazulu/Natal	113,7	113,0	..	+0,6	..
Durban/Pinetown	114,7	114,1	104,1	+0,5	+10,2
Pietermaritzburg	113,3	112,7	104,6	+0,5	+8,3
Other urban areas	113,3	112,5	..	+0,7	..
North West	112,2	111,6	..	+0,5	..
Klerksdorp	112,5	111,6	103,8	+0,8	+8,4
Other urban areas	112,0	111,5	..	+0,4	..
Gauteng	113,7	113,1	..	+0,5	..
Pretoria/Centurion/Akasia	113,7	113,2	103,8	+0,4	+9,5
Witwatersrand	113,6	113,0	104,0	+0,5	+9,2
Other urban areas	113,2	112,6	..	+0,5	..
Mpumalanga	114,0	112,6	..	+1,2	..
Nelspruit/Witbank	114,4	113,7	104,1	+0,6	+9,9
Other urban areas	113,9	112,5	..	+1,2	..
Northern Province	113,5	112,8	..	+0,6	..
Pietersburg	114,9	112,6	103,9	+2,0	+10,6
Other urban areas	113,5	112,8	..	+0,6	..
Weighted average - Metro and other urban areas	113,5	113,0	..	+0,4	..
Weighted average - Metropolitan	114,2	113,6	104,0	+0,5	+9,8

TABLE 7 PERCENTAGE CHANGE BY TYPE OF STORE

TABLE 7.1 Chain-stores 1/

Group	Percentage change compared with	
	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996
Food	+0,6	+10,3
Processed	+0,9	+9,6
Unprocessed	+0,4	+11,1
Grain products	+0,1	+9,8
Meat	+2,0	+12,4
Fish and other seafood	-0,1	+7,4
Milk, cheese and eggs	+4,9	+16,4
Fats and oils	-0,8	+7,9
Fruit and nuts	-0,5	-1,2
Vegetables	-6,2	+8,4
Sugar	+0,7	+5,6
Coffee, tea and cocoa	+0,6	+4,0
Other	-0,3	+9,4

1/ With at least 15 branches

TABLE 7.2 Other retailers 2/

Group	Percentage change compared with	
	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996
Food	-0,9	+7,9
Processed	-0,5	+8,0
Unprocessed	-1,2	+8,0
Grain products	0,0	+10,6
Meat	-3,6	+6,4
Fish and other seafood	0,0	+10,0
Milk, cheese and eggs	+2,9	+10,7
Fats and oils	0,0	+7,7
Fruit and nuts	+0,1	+6,6
Vegetables	+0,6	+6,3
Sugar	0,0	+9,6
Coffee, tea and cocoa	0,0	+3,2
Other	0,0	+7,8

2/ Retailers not considered as chain-stores (see Table 7.1)