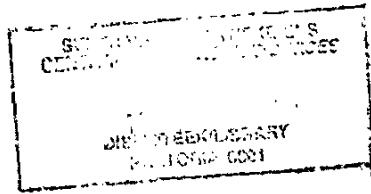


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VERBRUIKERSPRYSINDEKS: OKTOBER 1988

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: OCTOBER 1988

SPERTYD/EMBARGO 10h00

24 NOVEMBER 1988

SUMMARY

The South African inflation rate for October 1988 as measured by the Consumer Price Index is 12,3%. This is virtually the same as the rate for the past four months. The annual rate of increase in the indices for the lower, middle and higher income groups for October 1988 compared with October 1987 is 11,9%, 12,3% and 12,5%, respectively.

The monthly rate of increase in the seasonally adjusted Consumer Price Index is about 1,0%. The monthly non-seasonally adjusted rate of increase is 1,1%. According to Table 2 the largest contribution to the monthly percentage change was the increase in the interest rates on mortgage bonds for housing (the contribution of mortgage rates to the CPI is presently based on a weighted average mortgage interest rate; this rate is calculated by weighting the respective rates of banks and building societies (on both new and existing bonds) with the mortgage amounts applicable - thus the rate calculated for October 1988 amounts to approximately 16%). The present inflation rate is virtually unchanged because the present monthly rate of increase is of the same magnitude as that of a year ago. Certain price increases occurred from September 1987 to October 1987 which were not repeated this year (from September 1988 to October 1988) but of which the effect was replaced by mainly the higher mortgage interest rates. More specifically the increases in the price of food, alcoholic beverages and cigarettes, cigars and tobacco were responsible for almost three-quarters of the rate of increase from September 1987 to October 1987, while these products were responsible for only one-third of the rate of increase from September 1988 to October 1988. Further significant contributions to the monthly rate of increase were due to price changes in respect of "recreation and entertainment" which included increases in the price of sport equipment, television licences and admission fees to bioscopes, as well as price changes of "other commodities and services".

The monthly rate of increase in food prices was 1,6% (seasonally adjusted 1,0%) in October 1988. Relatively large monthly increases occurred in the prices of meat (1,6%), fish and fish products (1,4%), fruit and nuts (4,0%), vegetables (1,8%), coffee, tea and cocoa (6,3%) and "other" food stuffs (3,1%), while a slight decrease occurred in the prices of milk, cheese and eggs (-0,3%) and fats and oils (-1,1%).

With regard to the urban areas, the largest annual price increases occurred in the Klerksdorp/Stilfontein/Orkney area (15,1%), while the lowest price increases occurred in the Bloemfontein area (9,7%).

The Consumer Price Index for pensioners shows an annual percentage change of 11,0%. This is 1,3 percentage points lower than the inflation rate for all income groups of 12,3% for October 1988. The relatively largest annual price increases for pensioners were recorded in the Klerksdorp/Stilfontein/Orkney area (13,1%), with the lowest price increases occurring in the Bloemfontein area (8,5%).

OPSOMMING

Suid-Afrika se inflasiekoers soos gemeet aan die Verbruikersprysindeks vir Oktober 1988 is 12,3%. Dit is in wese dieselfde as die koers vir die vorige vier maande. Die jaarlikse toenamekoers in die indeks van die laer-, middel- en hoëinkomstegroep vir Oktober 1988 vergeleke met Oktober 1987 is onderskeidelik 11,9%, 12,3% en 12,5%.

Die maandelikse toenamekoers in die seisoensaangepaste Verbruikersprysindeks is benaderd 1,0%. Die maandelikse nie-seisoensaangepaste koers van toename is 1,1%. Volgens Tabel 2 word die grootste bydrae tot hierdie maandelikse persentasieverandering gelewer deur die verhoogde rentekoers op huisverbande (tans word die bydrae van verbandrente tot die VPI gebaseer op 'n geweegde gemiddelde verbandrentekoers; dit is 'n koers wat bereken word deur banke en bougenootskappe se onderskeie koerse (op beide nuwe en bestaande verbande) te weeg met die betrokke verbandbedrae wat op die spel is - die aldus berekende koers in Oktober 1988 is ongeveer 16%). Die huidige inflasiekoers is wesentlik onveranderd omdat die huidige maandelikse toenamekoers van soortgelyke omvang is as dié van 'n jaar gelede. Sekere prysverhogings het van September 1987 tot Oktober 1987 voorgekom wat nie weer hierdie jaar (van September 1988 tot Oktober 1988) waargeneem is nie maar waarvan die invloed as ware vervang is deur veral die verhoogde verbandrentekoerse. Meer spesifiek was dié verhoging in die prys van voedsel, alkoholiese drank en sigarette, sihare en tabak vir ongeveer drie-kwart van die toenamekoers van September 1987 tot Oktober 1987 verantwoordelik, terwyl hierdie produkte vir slegs ongevee een-derde van die toenamekoers van September 1988 tot Oktober 1988 verantwoordelik is. Verdere betekenisvolle bydraes tot die huidige maandelikse toenamekoers is veroorsaak deur prysveranderings ten opsigt van "ontspanning en vermaaklikheid" wat toenames in die prys van sporttoerusting, televisielisensies en toegangsgelde tot bioskope insluit, asook deur prysveranderings van "ander goedere en dienste".

Die maandelikse toenamekoers van voedselprysse was 1,6% (seisoensaangepas 1,0%) in Oktober 1988. Relatief groot maandelikse toenames het voorgekom in die prys van vleis (1,6%), vis en ander seekos (1,4%), vrugte en neute (4,0%), groente (1,8%), koffie, tee en kakao (6,3%) en "ander" voedsel (3,1%), terwyl 'n geringe daling in die prys van melk, kaas en eiervleis (-0,3%) en vette en olies (-1,1%) voorgekom het.

Betreffende die stedelike gebiede het die grootste jaarlikse prysstyging voorgekom in die Klerksdorp/Stilfontein/Orkneygebied (15,1%), terwyl die laagste prysstyging voorgekom het in die Bloemfonteingebied (9,7%).

Die Verbruikersprysindeks vir pensionarisse toon vir Oktober 1988 'n jaarlikse persentasieverandering van 11,0%. Dit is 1,3 persentasiepunte laer as die inflasiekoers vir alle inkomstegroep van 12,3% vir Oktober 1988. In die geval van pensionarisse het die grootste jaarlikse prysstyging voorgekom in die Klerksdorp/Stilfontein/Orkneygebied (13,1%), terwyl die laagste prysstyging in die Bloemfonteingebied (8,5%) voorgekom het.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 Price information refers to the first seven days of the relevant month.
- 1.2 The Consumer Price Indices relating to different urban areas (Table 4) do not permit inter-urban comparison of price levels or living costs. They do not indicate whether it is more expensive to live in one city than in another. They indicate for each urban area, independently of any of the other urban areas the price changes which have taken place from time to time.
- 1.3 General sales tax (GST) is included in general in the prices of all items on which GST is applicable.
- 1.4 A more comprehensive description of the weighting system, seasonal adjustment, price collection methodology, etc. appears in the Statistical News Release "The Consumer Price Index" which was published simultaneously with the consumer price index for November 1987 on 22 December 1987.

VERDUIDELIKENDE OPMERKINGS

1. ALGEMEEN

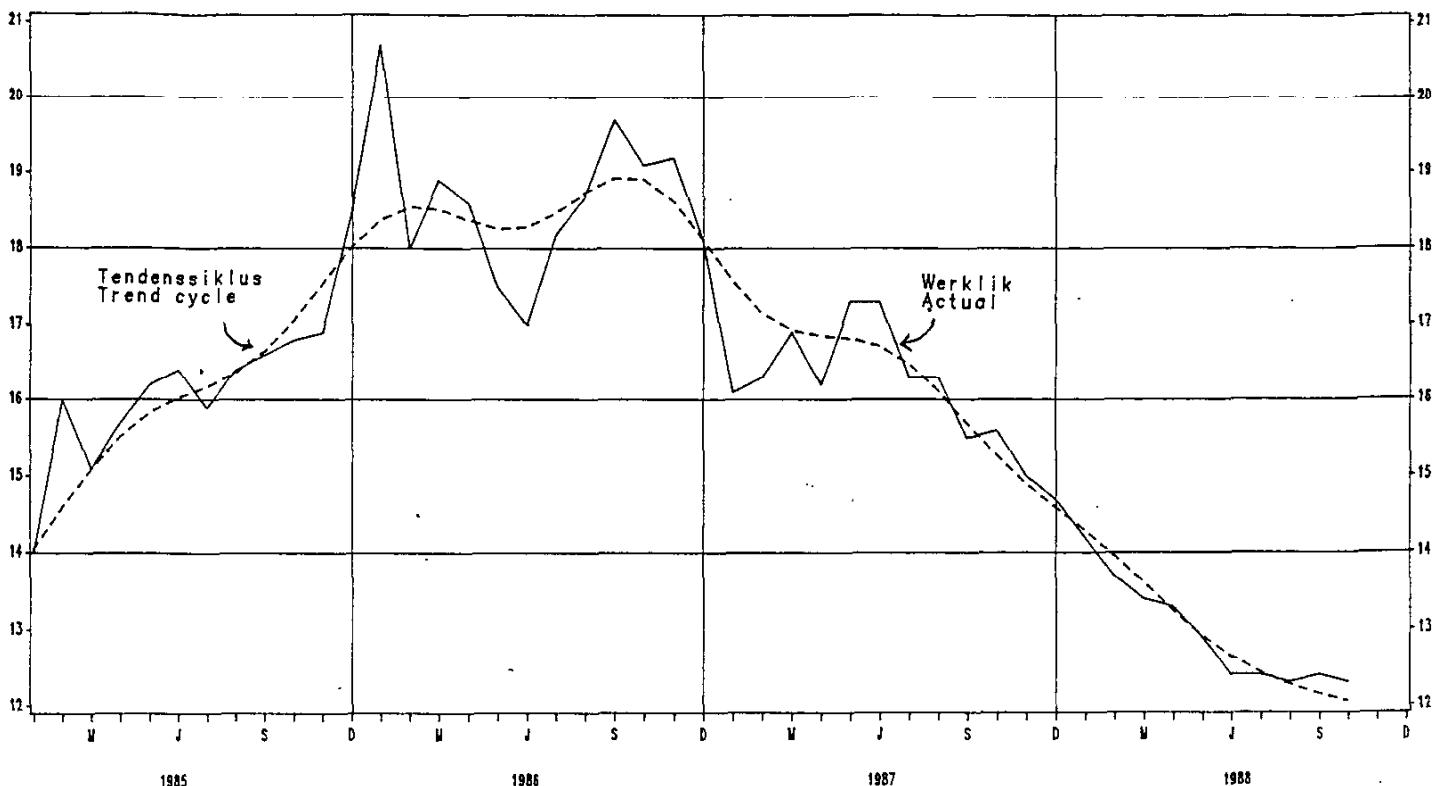
- 1.1 Alle prysinligting het betrekking op die eerst sewe dae van die betrokke maand.
- 1.2 Die Verbruikersprysindekse ten opsigte van verskillende stedelike gebiede soos weergegee in Tabel 4 laat nie tussenstedelike vergelyking van pryspeile of lewenskoste toe nie. Die indekse toon nie of dit duurder is om in een staas in 'n ander te woon nie. Die indekse toon vir elke stedelike gebied, onafhanklik van die ander stedelike gebiede, die prysveranderings wat van tyd tot tyd plaasgevind het.
- 1.3 Algemene verkoopbelasting (AVB) is deurgaans gesluit by die prys van alle items waarop AVB van toepassing is.
- 1.4 'n Meer omvattende beskrywing van die beswaringstelsel, seisoensaanpassing, prysinsamplingsmetodiek, ens. verskyn in die Statistiese Nuusberig "Die Verbruikersprysindeks" wat saam met die verbruikersprysindeks van November 1987 op 22 Desember 1987 gepubliseer is.



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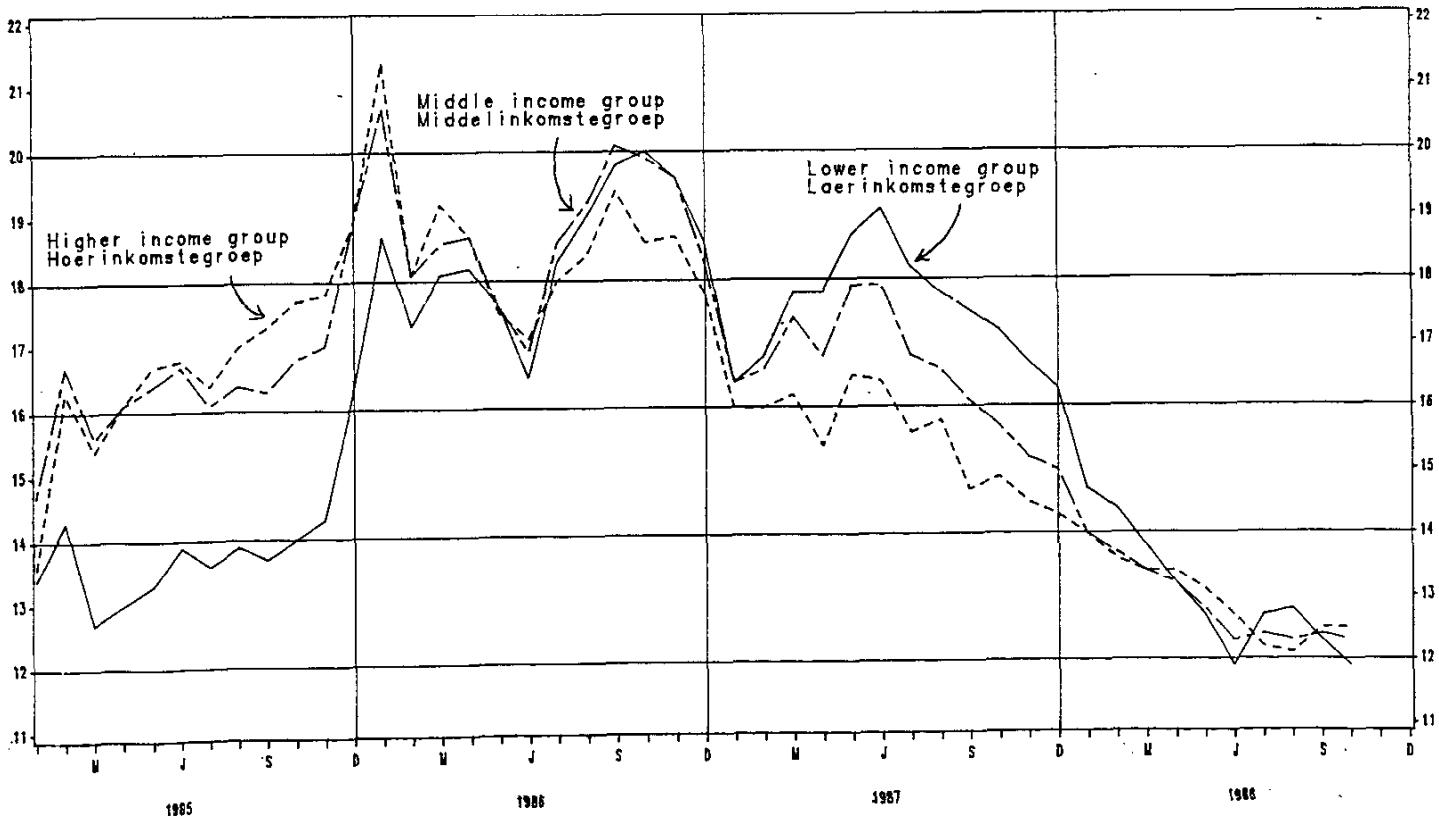
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
ANNUAL CHANGE
PER CENT

VERBRUIKERSPRYSINDEK
JAARLIKSE VERANDERIN
PERSEN



ANNUAL CHANGE
PER CENT

JAARLIKSE VERANDERIN
PERSEN



MONTHLY CHANGE
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
PER CENT

MAANDELIKSE VERANDERIN
SEISOENSAANGEPE/
PERSEN

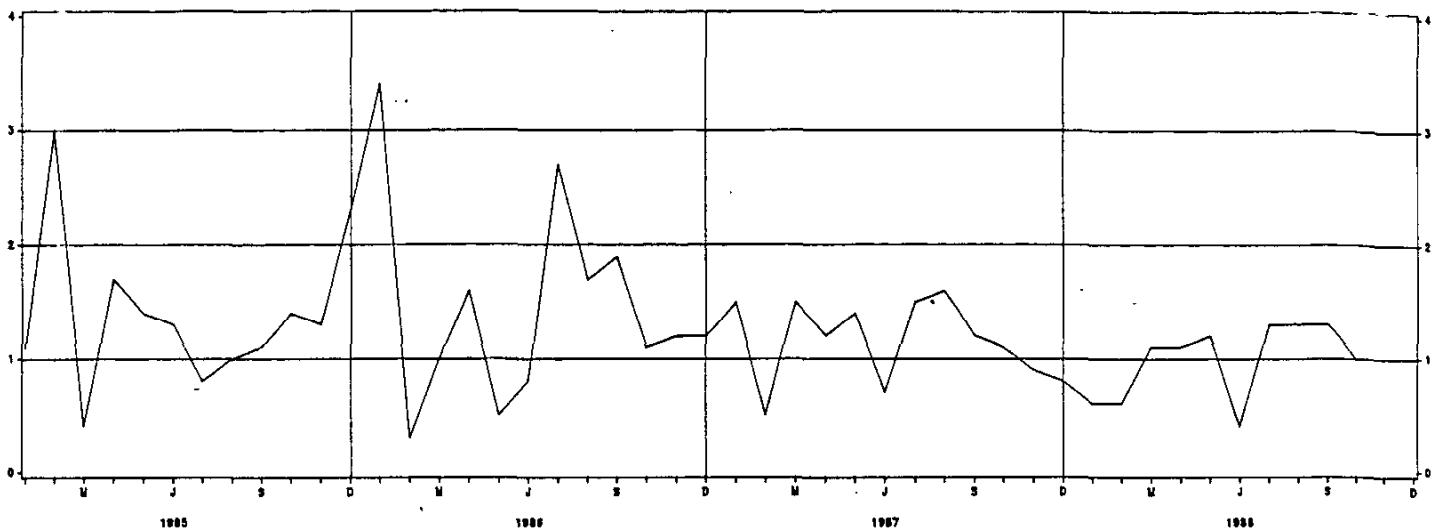


TABLE 1 INCOME GROUP INDICES AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE

BASE - BASIS: 1985 = 100

TABEL 1 INKOMSTEGROEPINDEXE EN PERSENTASIEVERANDERING

	Oct. Okt. 1988	Sept. 1988	Oct. Okt. 1987	Change compared with - Verandering vergeleke met -	
				Sept. 1988	Oct. Okt. 1987
Lower income group Laerinkomstegroep	163,1	161,2	145,7	Actual Werklik	Seasonally adjusted Seisoens-aangepas
Middle income group Middelinkomstegroep	162,2	160,6	144,4	+ 1,2%	+ 0,7%
Higher income group Hoëinkomstegroep	160,4	158,8	142,6	+ 1,0%	+ 0,9%
All income groups Alle inkomstegroepé	161,3	159,6	143,6	+ 1,1%	+ 1,0%
Food only Slegs voedsel	178,0	175,2	156,3	+ 1,6%	+ 1,0%

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

TABEL 2 UITWERKING VAN PRYSVERANDERINGS OP DIE VERBRUIKERSPRYSINDEKS - ALLE INKOMSTEGROEPE

	CONTRIBUTION BYDRAE	Voedsel
Food		
Meat	+ 0,1	
Fruit and nuts	+ 0,1	
Coffee, tea and cocoa	+ 0,1	
Other	+ 0,1	
Housing	+ 0,5	
Recreation and entertainment	+ 0,1	
Other	+ 0,1	
	+ 1,1	
		Behuising Ontspanning en vermaaklikheid
		Ander

TABLE 3 GROUP INDICES - WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF THE PRINCIPAL URBAN AREAS

TABEL 3 GROEP INDEXE - BESWARDE GEMIDDELDE VAN DIE VERNAMSTE STEEDLIKE GEBIEDE

	BASE - BASIS: 1985 = 100				Weights Gewigte	Oct. Okt. 1988	Oct. Okt. 1987	Percentage Change compared with - persentasieverande- ring vergelyk met verdele met	Oct. Okt. 1987
	Sept. 1988	Sept. 1988	Sept. 1998	Okt. 1987					
All items	161,3	159,6	143,6	1,1	12,3	100,00			
Lower income group	163,1	161,2	145,7	1,2	11,9	18,73			
Middle income group	162,2	160,6	144,4	1,0	12,3	27,35			
Higher income group	160,4	158,5	142,6	1,2	12,5	53,93			
Commodities	169,2	167,8	148,2	0,8	14,2	60,50			
Services	147,0	144,5	134,4	1,7	9,4	39,50			
All items excluding housing	165,7	164,3	146,4	0,9	13,2	78,79			
All items excluding food	155,8	154,4	139,3	0,9	11,8	77,28			
Food	178,0	175,2	156,3	1,6	13,9	22,72			
Grain products	151,2	150,0	135,1	0,8	11,9	3,33			
Meat	215,8	212,5	177,8	1,6	21,4	7,71			
Fish and other seafood	203,8	200,9	170,7	1,4	19,4	0,67			
Milk, cheese and eggs	159,9	160,4	149,6	- 0,3	6,9	2,16			
Fats and oils	120,5	121,8	123,5	- 1,1	- 2,5	1,06			
Fruit and nuts	132,9	127,8	126,4	4,0	5,1	1,49			
Vegetables	174,2	171,1	162,9	1,8	6,9	2,45			
Sugar	177,8	177,6	142,8	0,1	24,5	0,64			
Coffee, tea and cocoa	149,8	140,9	144,8	6,3	3,5	0,71			
Other	167,2	162,1	148,9	3,1	12,3	2,49			
Non-alcoholic beverages	179,9	175,9	154,5	1,7	15,8	0,53			
Alcoholic beverages	164,0	159,3	134,5	3,0	21,9	1,29			
Cigarettes, cigars and tobacco	153,5	153,6	133,7	- 0,1	14,8	1,02			

TABLE 3 GROUP INDICES - WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF
THE PRINCIPAL URBAN AREAS (CONCLUDED)

TABEL 3 GROEPINDEXE - BESWAARDE GEMIDDELDE GEBIEDE VAN DIE
VERNAAMSTE STEDELIKE GEBIEDE (AFGESLUIT)

BASE - BASIS: 1985 = 100

	Oct. Okt. 1988	Sept. 1988	Oct. Okt. 1987	Percentage change compared with - Persentasieverande- ring vergeleke met		Weights Gewigte
				Sept. 1988	Okt. 1987	
Clothing and footwear	166,0	165,6	147,2	0,2	12,8	5,98
Clothing	163,9	163,4	146,8	0,3	11,6	4,81
Footwear	174,1	173,7	148,3	0,2	17,4	1,17
Housing, fuel and power	142,2	139,2	130,4	2,2	9,0	21,21
Furniture and equipment	153,6	153,4	138,0	0,1	11,3	2,44
Furniture	158,0	157,8	145,2	0,1	8,8	4,72
Appliances	161,3	161,3	145,3	-	11,0	2,16
Other household equipment and textiles	152,5	151,5	145,6	0,7	4,7	1,15
Household operation	157,9	157,9	144,8	-	9,0	1,41
Household consumable goods	172,0	171,0	146,1	0,6	17,7	3,77
Domestic servants	205,4	204,9	167,0	0,2	23,0	1,52
Other household services	158,7	157,0	138,6	1,1	14,5	1,84
Medical care and health expenses	130,4	129,5	120,1	0,7	8,6	0,41
Transport, vehicles, running costs, public and hired transport	162,1	161,3	146,7	0,5	10,5	2,56
Communication and entertainment	150,1	150,1	131,7	-	14,0	17,23
Reading matter	207,3	207,3	172,4	-	20,2	5,48
Education	123,3	123,3	107,6	-	14,6	6,95
Personal care	119,6	119,6	116,7	-	2,5	4,80
Other	173,7	171,3	155,5	-	-	-

TABLE 4 URBAN AREAS INDICES

TABEL 4 STEDELIKE GEBIEDSINDEKS

BASE: EACH AREA COMPARED WITH ITSELF IN 1985 = 100
 BASIS: ELKE GEBIED VERGELEKE MET SIGSELF IN 1985 = 100

Urban area Stedelike gebied	All items Alle items			Percentage change compared with - Persentasieverandering vergeleke met -	
	Oct. Okt. 1988	Sept. Sept. 1988	Oct. Okt. 1987	Sept. 1988	Oct./Okt. 1987
1. Cape Peninsula - Kaapse Skiereiland	161,0	159,3	143,9	1,1	11,9
2. Port Elizabeth/Uitenhage	163,6	162,0	145,3	1,0	12,6
3. East London - Oos-Londen	157,3	155,8	141,1	1,0	11,5
4. Kimberley	157,3	155,6	141,1	1,1	11,5
5. Pietermaritzburg	158,3	156,5	141,6	1,2	11,8
6. Durban/Pinetown	153,0	151,6	137,2	0,9	11,5
7. Pretoria/Verwoerdburg/Akasia	168,3	166,1	148,8	1,3	13,1
8. Witwatersrand	162,3	160,8	144,4	0,9	12,4
9. Klerksdorp/Stilfontein/Orkney	171,3	168,7	148,8	1,5	15,1
10. Vaal Triangle - Vaaldriehoek	159,7	157,2	142,0	1,6	12,5
11. OFS Goldfields - OVS-goudveldé	163,8	161,8	145,3	1,2	12,7
12. Bloemfontein	150,3	148,7	137,0	1,1	9,7
Weighted average of the twelve areas Bewaarde gemiddelde van die twaalf gebiede	161,3	159,6	143,6	1,1	12,3

Urban area Stedelike gebied	All items, excluding housing Alle items, uitgesonderd behuising			Food Slegs voedsel		
	Oct. Okt. 1988	Sept. Sept. 1988	Oct. Okt. 1987	Oct. Okt. 1988	Sept. Sept. 1988	Oct. Okt. 1987
1. Cape Peninsula - Kaapse Skiereiland	162,8	161,5	144,1	183,6	180,9	160,5
2. Port Elizabeth/Uitenhage	169,8	168,7	149,0	183,9	182,3	159,5
3. East London - Oos-Londen	159,8	158,8	142,3	157,6	155,9	140,8
4. Kimberley	162,8	161,2	144,8	171,1	167,2	149,5
5. Pietermaritzburg	162,6	157,8	145,1	178,2	175,6	157,6
6. Durban/Pinetown	158,8	157,8	141,1	168,3	166,4	150,1
7. Pretoria/Verwoerdburg/Akasia	174,1	172,4	152,8	185,4	179,4	163,1
8. Witwatersrand	166,7	165,6	147,6	176,3	174,1	155,6
9. Klerksdorp/Stilfontein/Orkney	176,0	173,4	151,9	199,3	192,5	165,2
10. Vaal Triangle - Vaaldriehoek	164,3	161,8	144,0	171,2	166,5	147,7
11. OFS Goldfields - OVS-goudveldé	168,2	166,2	147,8	189,0	186,1	160,7
12. Bloemfontein	153,2	152,5	139,1	168,2	166,7	152,0
Weighted average of the twelve areas Bewaarde gemiddelde van die twaalf gebiede	165,7	164,3	146,4	178,0	175,2	156,3

TABLE 5 SEASONALLY ADJUSTED INDICES

TABEL 5 SEISOENSAANGEPASTE INDEXEN

1985 = 100

	1986						Weights Gewigte
	Oct. Okt.	Sept. Aug.	July Julie	June Junie	May Mei	1985 = 100	
All items	161,4	159,8	157,8	155,7	153,7	153,1	100,00
Lower income group	163,1	161,9	160,5	158,4	155,0	154,6	18,73
Middle income group	162,3	160,9	158,9	156,9	154,4	153,9	27,35
Higher income group	160,5	159,1	156,6	154,3	153,5	152,3	53,93
Commodities	169,7	168,5	166,2	163,4	161,0	160,4	60,50
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	175,1	176,6	175,1	173,4	170,4	171,0	23,25
Alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, cigars and tobacco	156,4	158,8	157,9	153,3	147,9	146,4	2,31
Clothing and footwear	165,4	164,6	162,1	159,7	159,0	156,8	5,98
Furniture and equipment	157,3	156,6	157,8	156,4	154,7	153,7	4,72
Vehicles	210,7	209,1	208,5	199,8	197,2	193,7	5,48
Other transport goods	124,7	125,2	112,2	111,6	112,1	109,9	6,22
Other commodities	172,3	164,5	163,8	160,0	156,9	157,2	12,54
Services	146,2	143,6	142,7	141,9	141,2	139,5	39,50
Housing and domestic servants	140,7	140,9	140,3	139,0	136,9	135,4	23,05
Transport	119,9	119,5	117,1	114,9	115,2	114,8	5,52
Other services	168,4	159,0	158,2	159,1	160,9	158,1	10,93

TABLE 6: THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
FOR PENSIONERS - URBAN
AREAS INDICES

TABEL 6: DIE VERBRUIKERSPRIJSINDEX
VIR PENSIONARISSE -
STEDELIKE GEBIEDS INDEKS

BASE: EACH AREA COMPARED WITH ITSELF IN 1985 = 100
BASIS: ELKE GEBIED VERGELIKE MET SIGSELF IN 1985 = 100

Urban area Stedelike gebied	All items Alle items			Percentage change compared with - Persentasieverandering vergelyk met - Oct./Okt. 1987
	Oct. Okt. 1988	Sept. Sept. 1988	Oct. Okt. 1987	
1. Cape Peninsula - Kaapse Skiereiland	165,4	164,3	148,1	0,7 11,7
2. Port Elizabeth/Uitenhage	163,9	162,7	146,2	0,7 12,1
3. East London - Oos-Londen	158,0	156,7	143,0	0,8 10,5
4. Kimberley	155,8	154,4	140,8	0,9 10,7
5. Pietermaritzburg	151,6	150,3	136,9	0,9 10,7
6. Durban/Pinetown	153,3	152,3	138,9	0,7 10,4
7. Pretoria/Verwoerdburg/Akasia	159,6	158,4	143,4	0,8 11,3
8. Witwatersrand	159,4	159,4	143,6	0,6 11,0
9. Klerksdorp/Stilfontein/Ottery	168,0	166,1	148,5	1,1 13,1
10. Vaal Triangle - Vaaldrifhoek	159,8	158,3	145,2	0,9 10,1
11. OFS Goldfields - OVS-goudveld	164,2	162,8	146,5	0,9 12,1
12. Bloemfontein	149,3	148,6	137,6	0,5 8,5
Weighted average of the twelve areas Beswaarde gemiddelde van die twaalf gebiede	159,8	158,7	143,9	0,7 11,0