



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Production Price Index March 1996



Statistical release P0142.1

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PRODUCTION PRICE INFLATION DECREASES FURTHER

The production price index for all commodities for South African consumption increased by 5,9% from March 1995 to March 1996. This rate is 0,4 of a percentage point lower than the corresponding rate of 6,3% for February 1996, which is the lowest rate since that of 5,3% for October 1993. The monthly decrease in this index was 0,2%, while the seasonally adjusted index increased by 0,4%.

PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN THE PPI FOR LOCALLY PRODUCED COMMODITIES SLIGHTLY LOWER

The annual percentage change in the PPI for locally produced commodities for South African consumption for March 1996 is 6,6%, which is 0,1 of a percentage point lower than the corresponding rate of 6,7% for February 1996. From February 1996 to March 1996 this index decreased by 0,1%, while the seasonally adjusted index increased by 0,5% during this period.

SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN THE PPI FOR IMPORTED COMMODITIES

The annual rate of increase in the PPI for imported commodities is 3,5% for March 1996, which is the lowest since April 1994, when it was 3,0%. The rate of 3,5% for March 1996 is 1,7 percentage points lower than the corresponding rate of 5,2% for February 1996. The monthly decrease in this index was 0,5%, while the seasonally adjusted index decreased by 0,2%. The monthly decrease in this index was mainly caused by a decrease of 9,9% in the price of crude petroleum.

MONTHLY CHANGES

Relatively large monthly decreases occurred in the price indices for agricultural products (-2,0%), forestry products (-0,4%), mining and quarrying products (-3,1%, mainly due to a decrease of 9,9% in the price of imported crude petroleum), textiles and made-up goods (-0,1%) and electricity (-0,9%). Against these, relatively large increases occurred in the price indices for food at manufacturing (+0,7%), wearing apparel (+2,6%), leather and leather products (+1,4%), paper, paper products and printing (+0,4%, due to an increase of 0,8% in the prices of the category publishing and printing), products of petroleum and coal (+1,7%) and non-electrical machinery and equipment (+0,2%, due to an increase of 0,4% in the prices of special purpose machinery).

NOTE

As the significant deterioration in the exchange rate of the rand took place since April 1996, the March 1996 indices do therefore not reflect the possible effect thereof.

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PRODUCTION PRICE INDEX

BASE : June 1995 = 100

DESCRIPTION	INDICES			PERCENTAGE CHANGE COMPARED WITH -		
	Mar. 1996	Feb. 1996	Mar. 1995	Feb. 1996		Mar. 1995
				Actual %	Seasonally adjusted %	Actual %
All commodities for consumption in South Africa	103,0	103,2	97,3	-0,2	+0,4	+5,9
Locally produced commodities	103,7	103,8	97,3	-0,1	+0,5	+6,6
Imported commodities	100,9	101,4	97,5	-0,5	-0,2	+3,5
Output of South African industry						
Total output	104,2	104,2	97,0	0,0	+0,6	+7,4
For South African consumption	103,7	103,8	97,3	-0,1	+0,5	+6,6

TABLE 1.1 - PRICE INDICES FOR COMMODITIES FOR SOUTH AFRICAN CONSUMPTION (CONCLUDED)

BASE : June 1995 = 100

GROUP	WEIGHT	INDICES			% CHANGE	
		Mar. 1996	Feb. 1996	Mar. 1995	Feb. 1996	Mar. 1995
2.13 Non-metallic mineral products	2,52	104,6	104,6	97,6	0,0	+7,2
Glass and glass products	0,49	101,9	101,9	95,8	0,0	+6,4
Other	2,03	105,3	105,3	98,3	0,0	+7,1
2.14 Basic metals	4,39	103,7	103,7	97,5	0,0	+6,4
Ferrous	3,29	105,7	105,7	96,6	0,0	+9,4
Non-ferrous	1,10	97,8	97,8	100,3	0,0	-2,5
2.15 Metal products	3,93	102,2	102,2	97,3	0,0	+5,0
Structural metal products	1,61	102,1	102,1	..	0,0	..
Other	2,32	102,3	102,3	..	0,0	..
2.16 Non-electrical machinery and equipment	6,95	101,6	101,4	98,3	+0,2	+3,4
General purpose machinery	2,12	100,8	100,8	..	0,0	..
Special purpose machinery	4,30	102,1	101,7	..	+0,4	..
Household appliances	0,53	101,1	101,1	..	0,0	..
2.17 Office, accounting and computing machinery	0,77	100,0	100,0	..	0,0	..
2.18 Electrical machinery and apparatus	2,45	101,8	101,8	100,0	0,0	+1,8
Electric motors, generators and transformers	0,63	101,2	101,2	..	0,0	..
Electricity distribution and control apparatus	0,54	100,6	100,6	..	0,0	..
Insulated wire and cable	0,58	102,9	102,9	..	0,0	..
Other	0,70	102,4	102,4	..	0,0	..
2.19 Radio, television and communication equipment and apparatus	1,52	100,1	100,1	..	0,0	..
2.20 Medical, precision and optical instruments	0,82	100,9	100,9	99,3	0,0	+1,6
Medical appliances and instruments for measuring, checking, testing and navigating	0,66	100,9	100,9	..	0,0	..
Other, including watches and clocks	0,16	100,6	100,6	..	0,0	..
2.21 Transport equipment	9,34	101,7	101,7	97,3	0,0	+4,5
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	8,20	101,9	101,9	97,3	0,0	+4,7
Motor vehicles	6,19	101,9	101,9	..	0,0	..
Bodies, trailers and semi-trailers	0,23	104,8	104,8	..	0,0	..
Parts and accessories	1,78	103,4	103,4	..	0,0	..
Other transport equipment	1,14	100,1	100,1	98,4	0,0	+1,7
2.22 Furniture	1,13	103,4	103,4	96,9	0,0	+6,7
2.23 Other manufactures	0,98	100,5	100,5	..	0,0	..
3. ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER	5,80	98,7	99,5	95,8	-0,8	+3,0
3.1 Electricity	5,02	98,1	99,0	95,6	-0,9	+2,6
3.2 Gas and water	0,78	102,8	102,8	97,1	0,0	+5,9

TABLE 1.2 - PRICE INDICES FOR OUTPUT OF SOUTH AFRICAN INDUSTRY GROUPS
1.2.1 - TOTAL OUTPUT (CONCLUDED)

BASE : June 1995 = 100

GROUP	WEIGHT	INDICES			% CHANGE	
		Mar. 1996	Feb. 1996	Mar. 1995	Feb. 1996	Mar. 1995
2.13 Non-metallic mineral products	2,29	104,8	104,8	97,8	0,0	+7,2
Glass and glass products	0,43	102,0	102,0	96,5	0,0	+5,7
Other	1,86	105,4	105,4	98,2	0,0	+7,3
2.14 Basic metals	6,61	104,6	104,6	97,1	0,0	+7,7
Ferrous	5,10	108,1	108,1	95,9	0,0	+12,7
Non-ferrous	1,51	92,7	92,7	100,4	0,0	-7,7
2.15 Metal products	3,59	102,2	102,2	97,2	0,0	+5,1
Structural metal products	1,51	102,2	102,2	..	0,0	..
Other	2,08	102,2	102,2	..	0,0	..
2.16 Non-electrical machinery and equipment	3,90	102,5	102,5	97,1	0,0	+5,6
General purpose machinery	0,78	102,7	102,7	..	0,0	..
Special purpose machinery	2,73	102,7	102,7	..	0,0	..
Household appliances	0,39	101,4	101,4	..	0,0	..
2.17 Office, accounting and computing machinery	0,05	100,0	100,0	..	0,0	..
2.18 Electrical machinery and apparatus	1,74	102,4	102,4	98,4	0,0	+4,1
Electric motors, generators and transformers	0,44	101,7	101,7	..	0,0	..
Electricity distribution and control apparatus	0,29	101,0	101,0	..	0,0	..
Insulated wire and cable	0,53	103,0	103,0	..	0,0	..
Other	0,48	103,5	103,5	..	0,0	..
2.19 Radio, television and communication equipment and apparatus	0,94	100,1	100,1	..	0,0	..
2.20 Medical, precision and optical instruments	0,15	104,8	104,8	96,8	0,0	+8,3
Medical appliances and instruments for measuring, checking, testing and navigating	0,12	105,2	105,2	..	0,0	..
Other, including watches and clocks	0,03	103,1	103,1	..	0,0	..
2.21 Transport equipment	6,44	102,4	102,4	97,3	0,0	+5,2
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	5,96	102,5	102,5	97,2	0,0	+5,5
Motor vehicles	4,40	102,3	102,3	..	0,0	..
Bodies, trailers and semi-trailers	0,30	105,2	105,2	..	0,0	..
Parts and accessories	1,26	103,5	103,5	..	0,0	..
Other transport equipment	0,48	100,4	100,4	98,2	0,0	+2,2
2.22 Furniture	1,08	103,4	103,4	96,8	0,0	+6,8
2.23 Other manufactures	0,87	105,2	105,2	..	0,0	..
3. ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER	5,56	98,7	99,5	95,8	-0,8	+3,0
3.1 Electricity	4,83	98,1	99,0	95,6	-0,9	+2,6
3.2 Gas and water	0,73	102,8	102,8	97,1	0,0	+5,9

TABLE 1.2 - PRICE INDICES FOR OUTPUT OF SOUTH AFRICAN INDUSTRY GROUPS
1.2.2 - FOR SOUTH AFRICAN CONSUMPTION (CONCLUDED)

BASE : June 1995 = 100

GROUP	WEIGHT	INDICES			% CHANGE	
		Mar.	Feb.	Mar.	Feb.	Mar.
		1996	1996	1995	1996	1995
2.13 Non-metallic mineral products	2,86	105,1	105,1	97,9	0,0	+7,4
Glass and glass products	0,49	102,3	102,3	96,4	0,0	+6,1
Other	2,37	105,6	105,6	98,2	0,0	+7,5
2.14 Basic metals	4,79	104,2	104,2	97,4	0,0	+7,0
Ferrous	3,67	106,4	106,4	96,4	0,0	+10,4
Non-ferrous	1,12	97,3	97,3	100,3	0,0	-3,0
2.15 Metal products	4,23	102,3	102,3	97,1	0,0	+5,4
Structural metal products	1,90	102,2	102,2	..	0,0	..
Other	2,33	102,4	102,4	..	0,0	..
2.16 Non-electrical machinery and equipment	4,70	102,5	102,5	96,8	0,0	+5,9
General purpose machinery	0,81	102,7	102,7	..	0,0	..
Special purpose machinery	3,39	102,6	102,6	..	0,0	..
Household appliances	0,50	101,4	101,4	..	0,0	..
2.17 Office, accounting and computing machinery	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.18 Electrical machinery and apparatus	2,13	102,5	102,5	98,7	0,0	+3,9
Electric motors, generators and transformers	0,56	101,7	101,7	..	0,0	..
Electricity distribution and control apparatus	0,33	101,1	101,1	..	0,0	..
Insulated wire and cable	0,66	103,2	103,2	..	0,0	..
Other	0,58	103,6	103,6	..	0,0	..
2.19 Radio, television and communication equipment and apparatus	1,19	100,1	100,1	..	0,0	..
2.20 Medical, precision and optical instruments	0,13	106,2	106,2	96,8	0,0	+9,7
Medical appliances and instruments for measuring, checking, testing and navigating	0,10	107,0	107,0	..	0,0	..
Other, including watches and clocks	0,03	103,6	103,6	..	0,0	..
2.21 Transport equipment	7,83	102,5	102,5	97,2	0,0	+5,5
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	7,35	102,7	102,7	97,3	0,0	+5,5
Motor vehicles	5,60	102,3	102,3	..	0,0	..
Bodies, trailers and semi-trailers	0,26	105,2	105,2	..	0,0	..
Parts and accessories	1,49	103,5	103,5	..	0,0	..
Other transport equipment	0,48	100,4	100,4	98,4	0,0	+2,0
2.22 Furniture	1,36	103,4	103,4	96,8	0,0	+6,8
2.23 Other manufactures	0,96	106,1	106,1	..	0,0	..
3. ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER	7,16	98,7	99,5	95,8	-0,8	+3,0
3.1 Electricity	6,20	98,1	99,0	95,6	-0,9	+2,6
3.2 Gas and water	0,96	102,8	102,8	97,1	0,0	+5,9

TABLE 2.2 - PRICE INDICES FOR SELECTED MATERIALS (CONCLUDED)

BASE : June 1995 = 100

ITEM	INDICES			% CHANGE	
	Mar. 1996	Feb. 1996	Mar. 1995	Feb. 1996	Mar. 1995
Ironmongery	101,4	101,2	99,2	+0,2	+2,2
Drainage	100,0	100,0	95,6	0,0	+4,6
Plumbing	100,0	100,0	97,6	0,0	+2,5
Ceramic and encaustic wall and floor tiles and mosaics	101,3	101,3	99,0	0,0	+2,3
Ceiling materials	102,5	102,5	98,8	0,0	+3,7
Partitioning materials	102,5	102,5	96,3	0,0	+6,4
Fibrous insulation - Preformed pipe sections	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
- Batten board	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
- Mattresses	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
- Ceiling insulation	100,0	100,0	89,5	0,0	+11,7
Insulator, porcelain	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
Containers, glass	102,5	102,5	96,1	0,0	+6,7
Billets, mild steel	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
Angles, mild steel	100,0	100,0	98,9	0,0	+1,1
Structural steel, unworked	103,5	103,5	98,8	0,0	+4,8
Reinforcing steel	104,8	104,8	95,0	0,0	+10,3
Plate, mild steel	103,1	103,1	99,0	0,0	+4,1
Sheet, uncoated	103,9	103,9	97,9	0,0	+6,1
Sheet, galvanized	100,0	100,0	98,9	0,0	+1,1
Tinplate	100,0	100,0	93,4	0,0	+7,1
Steel tubes, pipes and fittings	104,3	104,3	99,8	0,0	+4,5
Copper, basic forms	98,6	98,6	99,4	0,0	-0,8
Aluminium - Anodising	100,0	100,0	89,3	0,0	+12,0
- Basic forms	95,9	95,9	99,0	0,0	-3,1
- Extruded products	100,0	100,0	90,5	0,0	+10,5
- Sheetting	88,0	88,0	92,6	0,0	-5,0
Bearings, ball and roller	100,6	100,6	95,7	0,0	+5,1
Electrical contracting materials	106,2	106,1	97,7	+0,1	+8,7
Construction machinery (excluding trucks)	100,9	100,9	98,7	0,0	+2,2
Trucks	99,3	99,3	96,8	0,0	+2,6
Mining machinery	101,0	101,0	97,3	0,0	+3,8
Rubber industry's indices:					
Natural rubber (imported)	89,5	89,5	118,5	0,0	-24,5
SBR tyres 1500 (local)	146,9	146,9	98,1	0,0	+49,7
Acrylonitrile butadiene rubber KRYNOC 805	100,0	100,0	90,7	0,0	+10,3
Polychloroprene rubber WRT type (imported)	100,0	100,0	90,9	0,0	+10,0
Carbon black - N774 (local)	100,0	100,0	88,6	0,0	+12,9
- N660	105,4	105,4	91,8	0,0	+14,8
Accelerator ORAC NS (local)	95,5	95,5	100,0	0,0	-4,5
Anti-oxidant OROX - ER (local)	102,9	102,9	100,0	0,0	+2,9
- Q	112,6	112,6	100,0	0,0	+12,6
Anti-ozonant ORFLEX PP (local)	114,6	114,6	100,0	0,0	+14,6
Bulk yarn - Nylon	105,5	105,5	89,4	0,0	+18,0
- Cotton	103,9	103,9	89,0	0,0	+16,7
Stearic acid (local)	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
Plasticiser DODP (local)	122,3	122,3	93,6	0,0	+30,7
Coumarone indene resin (imported)	110,0	110,0	92,9	0,0	+18,4
Chlorobutyl rubber (imported)	101,0	101,0	96,5	0,0	+4,7
EPDM Vistalon 5600 (imported)	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
Zinc oxide	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
Synthetic rubber - 1502	110,2	110,2	87,4	0,0	+26,1
- 1712	109,2	109,2	85,0	0,0	+28,5
Polybutadiene	107,8	107,8	86,1	0,0	+25,2
Processing oil	105,4	105,4	91,7	0,0	+14,9
Bead wire	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0
Steel cord wire	118,5	118,5	100,0	0,0	+18,5
Nylon fabric - 940 X 2	103,3	103,3	98,8	0,0	+4,6
- 1400 X 2	103,1	103,1	95,3	0,0	+8,2
Rayon fabric - 1840 X 2	104,9	104,9	98,7	0,0	+6,3

NOTES1. WEIGHTING BASIS

<u>TABLE 1.1:</u> Commodities for South African consumption	- Value of South African production, excluding exports plus imports
<u>TABLE 1.2:</u> Output of South African industry groups	
- Total output	- Value of South African production
- For South African consumption	- Value of South African production minus exports
<u>TABLE 2.1:</u> Materials used in certain industries	- Value of materials used

2. PRICING BASIS

All indices are based on producer prices at the point of production in the case of commodities produced in South Africa, and wholesale prices "ex-warehouse", in the case of imported commodities. Prices "delivered" or "free on rail" are accepted if this is the normal basis of quotation. Price information refers to the first seven days of the relevant month. General sales tax is excluded but can be accounted for by multiplying a particular index by 1,04 prior to March 1982; 1,05 from March 1982; 1,06 from September 1982; 1,07 from February 1984; 1,10 from July 1984; 1,12 from April 1985; and 1,13 from April 1989. Value added tax can be added by multiplying the relevant index by 1,10 from October 1991; and by 1,14 from April 1993.

THE PRICES OF ALL ITEMS EXCLUDE VAT.

Further details are provided in the *Bulletin of Statistics* and the annual statistical release on production prices of commodities (P0142.3).

SYMBOLS USED

- .. = not available.
- = nil or not applicable.
- * = revised since previous publication.