

# Quarterly economic review

## General observations

Various economic indicators show that although the *rate* of increase in economic activity, which had accelerated from about the beginning of the fourth quarter of 1972, tended to slow down towards the end of 1973 and the beginning of 1974, it remained at a high level. Both manufacturing and mining production showed a levelling-off tendency in their growth rates during the closing months of 1973 and the first few months of 1974. In the case of manufacturing production, the slowing-down in the rate of increase is not surprising in view of the fact that the high rate of increase of 9,0 per cent attained during 1973 could not be expected to be maintained indefinitely because the factors of production came to be more fully utilised in various sections of industry. In the case of non-gold mining, the levelling-off in production was caused mainly by transportation difficulties and production delays resulting from flood damages, and was therefore of a temporary nature, whereas gold mining production declined at a more rapid rate during the first quarter of 1974 mainly owing to the mining of lower grade ore which was made possible by a further sharp increase in the price of gold on the private market. Certain external developments such as the adverse effects of the oil crisis, the general world financial and political instability, the slowing-down in the economic growth rate of South Africa's main trading partners and a scarcity of certain important raw materials also contributed to the levelling-off tendency in South Africa's growth rate. Nevertheless, further substantial increases in production were registered by the sectors agriculture, electricity, gas and water, construction and retail and wholesale trade, all of which contributed to the further rise in the real gross domestic product during the first quarter of the year.

Although the rate of increase in the real gross domestic product declined from the peak reached in the third quarter of 1973 to a lower level during the fourth quarter of 1973 and the first quarter of 1974, the growth rate is still at a relatively high level. An excellent growth year is in fact foreseen for 1974 in view of considerations such as the expected bumper crops, the high price of gold and other export commodities, large investment programmes of public authorities and corporations, the expansion in fixed investment by private manufacturing and the rise in demand that should result from salary and wage in-

creases. In view of the low rates of economic growth expected in most industrialised countries during 1974, South Africa's growth rate for 1974 should compare very favourably with the rest of the world. In fact, a growth rate of more than 1 per cent above the 5 $\frac{3}{4}$  per cent target rate of the Economic Development Programme is expected for 1974.

South Africa's balance of payments also compares favourably with those of most other countries in the world. Whereas large deficits caused mainly by the substantial increases in the price of oil are expected in many countries, South Africa's balance of payments has derived great benefit from the simultaneous increase in the price of gold, so that despite the higher oil bill and the increase in the value of other imports associated with the high level of domestic activity and world inflation, it is still on a sound basis, with the total gold and other foreign reserves amounting to R1 068 million at the end of March 1974. In fact, the deficit on the current account declined from R226 million in the fourth quarter of 1973 to about R60 million in the first quarter of 1974 and at the same time a small net outflow of capital recorded during the fourth quarter of 1973 changed to a net inflow of approximately R140 million in the first quarter of 1974. This change in the capital account was brought about largely by a reduction in the outflow of short-term private capital which, in turn, may be ascribed largely to the following factors: (1) The unfounded speculation on a possible devaluation of the rand towards the end of 1973 and early in 1974 disappeared and the leads and lags in foreign payments and receipts changed in South Africa's favour; (2) Additional domestic bank credit became more difficult to obtain and this made the switching of foreign to domestic financing more difficult; and (3) South African interest rates were raised and the margin between these rates and rates ruling abroad narrowed in certain instances.

The money and banking situation was characterised by a continued sharp rise in money, near-money and bank credit until February 1974, but thereafter bank credit to the private sector levelled off during March and April. The liquidity position of the banks deteriorated markedly during January and February 1974, and for commercial banks also during March, and shortfalls in the actual, as compared to the required, liquid assets were recorded for the first time since the implementation of the Banks Act of 1965. After tightening markedly during January and February and again for a few days around the end of April, money market



conditions eased considerably after the first few days of May largely as a result of a sharp further drop in Government deposits. Towards the end of May the banks' liquidity position improved to such an extent that most of them complied with the liquid asset requirements.

Capital market conditions also tightened during the first quarter of 1974 and interest rates moved to higher levels. On 30 May 1974 the Reserve Bank announced increases in a number of controlled interest rates, including a rise of 1 per cent in Bank rate, an increase of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent in most prescribed maximum deposit interest rates and upward adjustments of between  $\frac{1}{4}$  and 1 per cent in the pattern of rates quoted for government stocks. These adjustments are deemed to be in the interest not only of economic stability and a strong balance of payments but also of continued rapid economic growth. The justification for these changes was given in the statement made by the Governor and published elsewhere in this *Bulletin*.

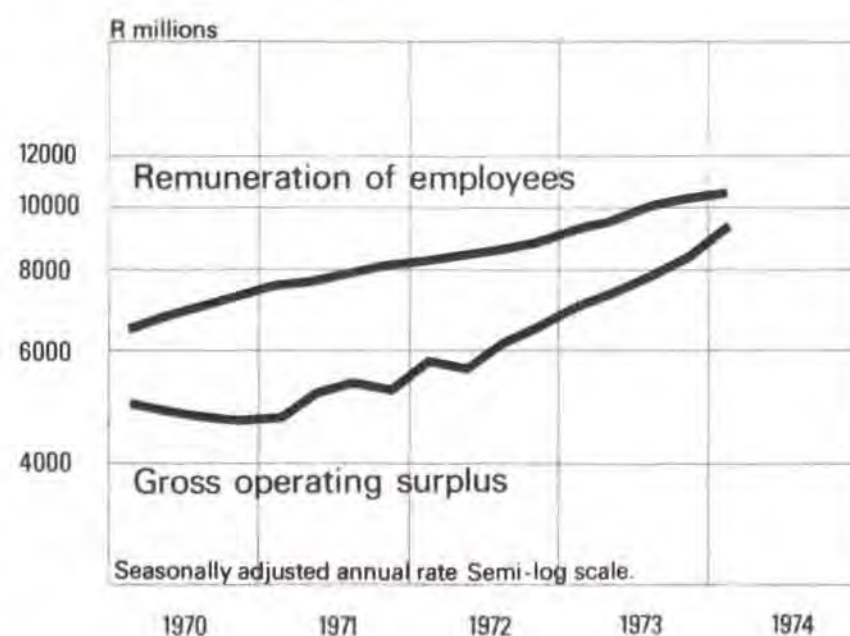
In South Africa, as elsewhere in the world, the high rate of inflation remains one of the most pressing economic problems facing the authorities. During 1973 the consumer price index rose by 10.0 per cent, but showed a slightly lower rate of 9.6 per cent from April 1973 to April 1974. The acceleration in the rate of increase which occurred in the fourth quarter of 1973 did not continue during the first four months of 1974, but about the same high rate of increase was recorded. A notable feature of price tendencies early in 1974 was the sharp acceleration in the rate of increase in the wholesale prices of imported goods.

## National accounts

### *Lower rate of increase in real gross domestic product*

After reaching a very high level in the third quarter of 1973, the rate of increase in the real gross domestic product declined to a lower level during the fourth quarter of 1973 and the first quarter of 1974. The growth rate is nevertheless still high and an excellent economic growth rate is expected for 1974. The slowing-down in the rate of increase in the real gross domestic product after the third quarter of 1973 was not unexpected in view of such considerations as the fuller utilisation of production and labour capacity and international economic uncertainties, including problems related to the supply of oil and other raw materials. The present general slowing-down in the rate of increase in economic activity experienced by South Africa's main trading partners may also have an influence on the growth in domestic economic activity, but, as these external forces usually take time to affect the South African economy, the growth rate for 1974 will compare very favourably with those of most other industrial countries. A growth rate significantly higher than the target rate of  $5\frac{3}{4}$  per cent set by

## Gross domestic product



the Economic Development Programme is expected, notwithstanding a further decline in the volume of gold production.

At current market prices, the rate of increase in the gross domestic product accelerated further during the first quarter of 1974. This acceleration was again almost entirely attributable to a large rise in the gross operating surplus, particularly of the sectors agriculture, mining, manufacturing and wholesale and retail trade. The remuneration of employees increased only moderately.

### *Further increase in gross domestic demand*

After increasing at an exceptionally high rate during the fourth quarter of 1973, aggregate domestic demand, as measured by gross domestic expenditure, increased substantially further during the first quarter of 1974, although the rate of increase was lower. However, important changes occurred in the rate of increase in the components of gross domestic expenditure over the past two quarters. Whereas the rate of increase in total consumption and fixed investment expenditure accelerated slightly further in the first quarter of 1974, fluctuations in inventory investment caused the rate of increase in total monetary demand to decline. After changing from a decline in the third to a substantial addition in the fourth quarter of 1973, adding markedly to the rate of increase in total demand, little change occurred in the net addition to inventories in the first quarter of 1974, i.e. it remained on the high level reached in the fourth quarter of 1974. In the case of the other major expenditure components, the rate of increase in private consumption expenditure and gross domestic fixed investment remained more or less the same, whereas that of government consumption expenditure accelerated. Nevertheless,



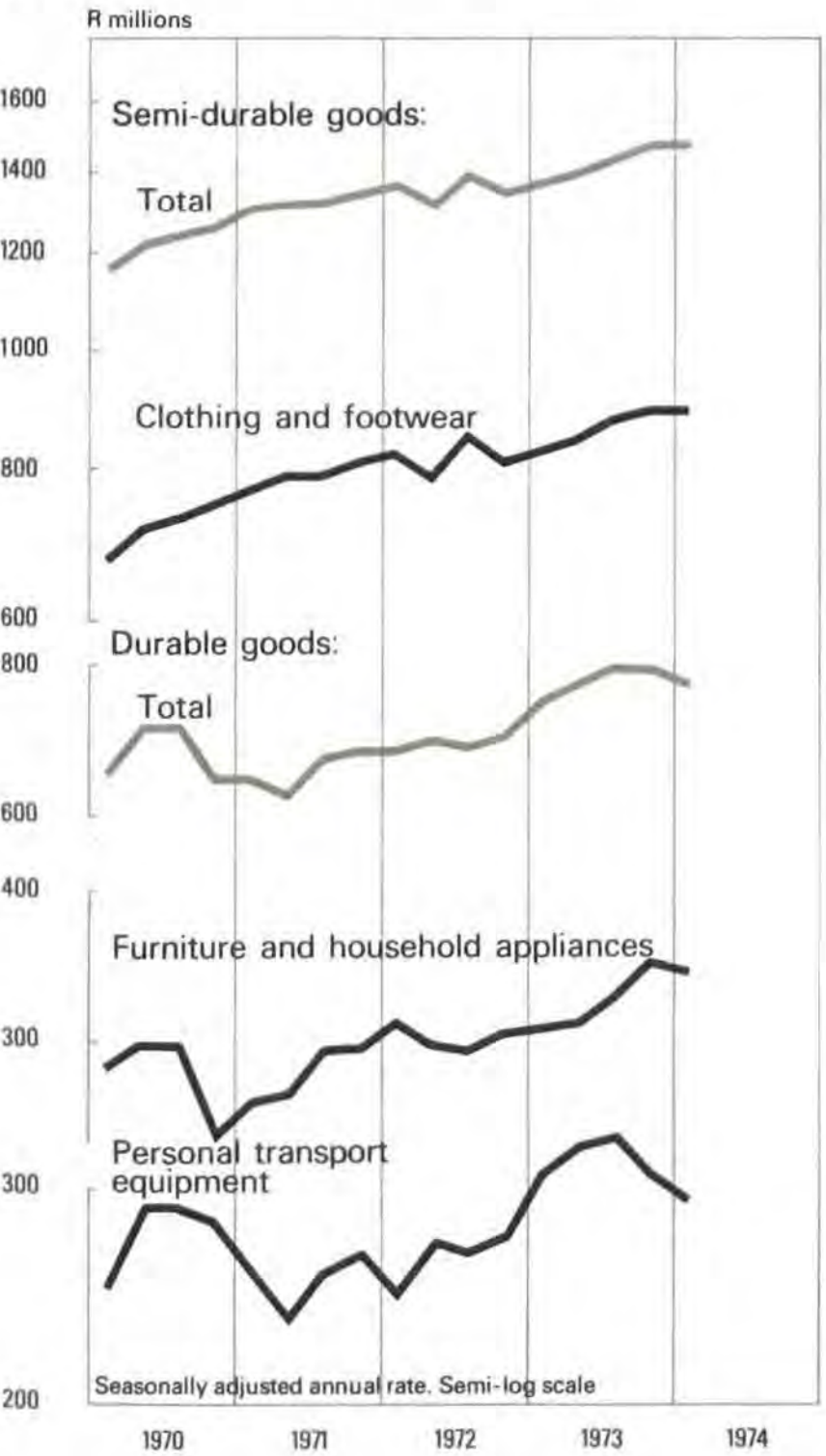
the rate of increase in total monetary demand remained on a high level during the first quarter of 1974.

The slower rate of increase in gross domestic expenditure than in the gross domestic and national product was also reflected in a marked decline in the deficit on the current account of the balance of payments from the fourth quarter of 1973 to the first quarter of 1974.

*Private consumption expenditure*

The rate of increase in private consumption expenditure at both current and constant prices did not change materially between the fourth quarter of 1973 and the first quarter of 1974. At current prices, notable increases were recorded in expenditure on non-durable and semi-durable goods, particularly motor fuel and oil and clothing and footwear. Substantial rises in the

**Private consumption expenditure at constant 1963 prices**



prices of these articles were, however, mainly responsible for the increased expenditure. Real expenditure on semi-durable goods, in fact, increased only marginally during the first quarter of 1974, as against a relatively high rate of increase during the preceding four quarters, whereas real expenditure on non-durable goods and on services showed its usual moderate rise.

Expenditure on durable goods at both current and constant prices declined for the second consecutive quarter. These declines were mainly due to a decline in the value and number of new motor cars sold because of the impact of government measures to curb fuel consumption by motorists. However, after the sharp drop in December, the number of motor cars sold recovered again during the first quarter. Real expenditure on furniture, which had recorded notable increases during the last half of 1973, also declined during the first quarter of 1974. The relatively slow rate of increase in real consumption expenditure, and the decline in expenditure on durable goods in particular, may generally be ascribed to the lower rate of increase in the real incomes of a large part of the population.

*Acceleration in government consumption expenditure*

After increasing very sharply during the second and third quarters of 1973, government consumption expenditure showed a lower rate of increase during the fourth quarter of 1973, but resumed its strong upward trend during the first quarter of 1974. In contrast to developments during 1973, when increases in salaries and wages together with higher prices for goods and other services accounted for the major part of the sharp rise in total current government outlays, the further rise during the first quarter of 1974 was mainly reflected in increased expenditure on goods and other services. All levels of government, ranging from central to local government, contributed to the further increase in government consumption expenditure.

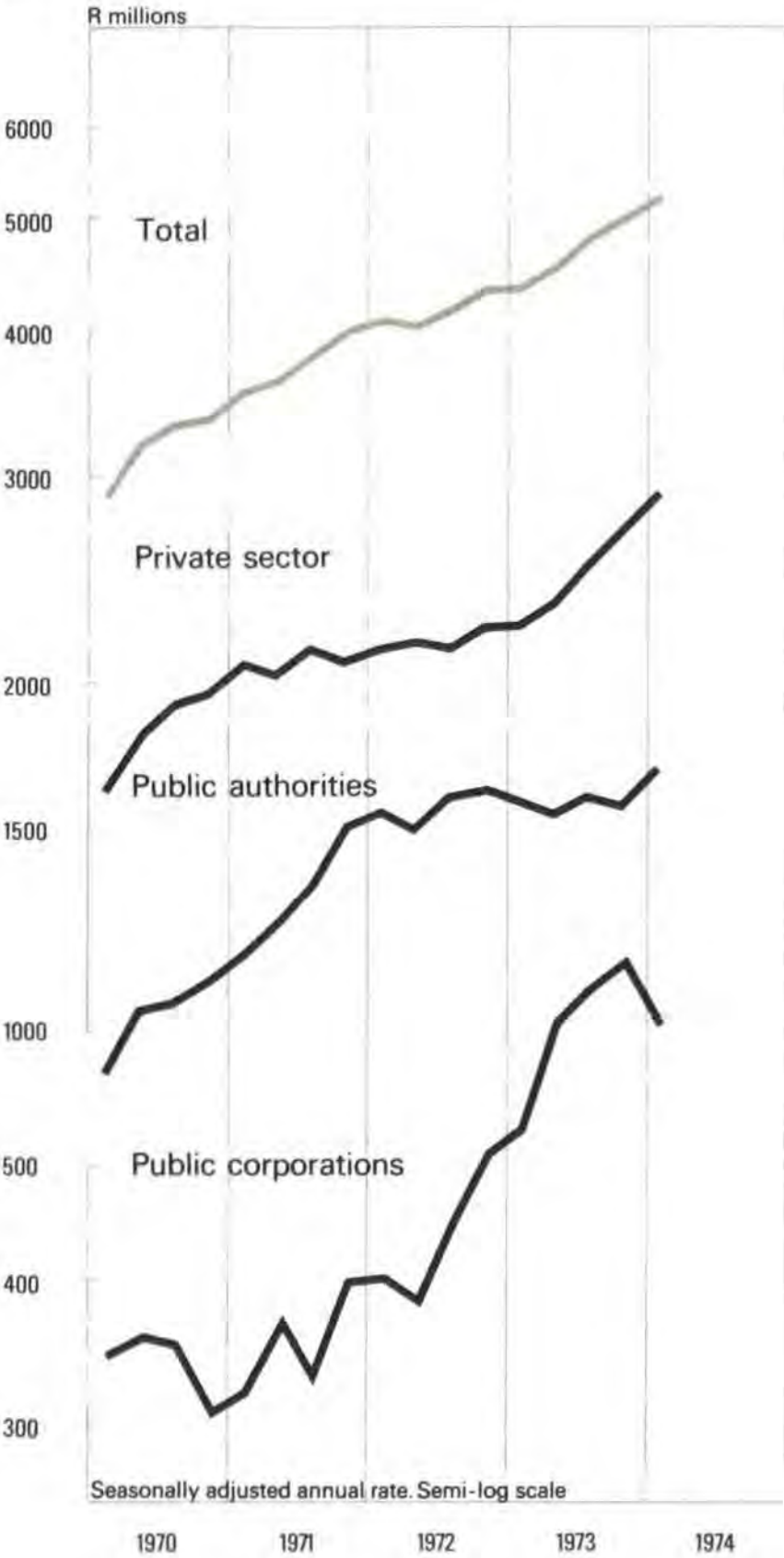
*Further upward tendency in gross domestic fixed investment*

Gross domestic fixed investment at current prices continued to increase at the same relatively high rate during the first quarter of 1974 as during the second half of 1973. The further increase recorded during the first quarter of 1974 was about evenly distributed between buildings and construction works, on the one hand, and transport equipment, machinery and other equipment, on the other hand.

During the first quarter of 1974 the same high rate of increase was recorded in fixed capital outlays by the private sector as during the previous quarter with major contributions made by agriculture, gold and non-gold mining and residential construction. The anticipated large agricultural crops induced farmers



**Gross domestic fixed investment at current prices**



to buy more capital equipment and the gold and non-gold mines increased their capital outlays to exploit the benefits of the higher prices of gold and other minerals. Fixed investment of the private manufacturing sector did not increase much further during the first quarter of 1974, but remained on the high level reached during the fourth quarter of 1973. The latest quarterly figures now confirm a distinct upturn in fixed investment of the private manufacturing sector from the third quarter of 1973, i.e. for three consecutive quarters.

Fixed investment by public corporations, which often shows large quarterly fluctuations, declined

substantially during the first quarter of 1974, but this decline was completely offset by a notable increase in capital outlays by public authorities. After showing a declining tendency during the course of 1973, fixed investment on community and social services by public authorities increased during the first quarter of 1974, mainly on account of increased outlays on buildings by the central government and on roads by provincial administrations. Capital expenditure by government business enterprises such as the South African Railways and Harbours and the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, did not change significantly during the first quarter of 1974.

*Inventory investment*

The book value of total inventories again showed a large increase during the first quarter of 1974 as was also the case during the fourth quarter of 1973. Substantial additions to industrial and commercial stocks accounted almost entirely for the large increase during the past quarter. The large additions to inventories during the past two quarters led to a reversal in the downward tendency of the ratio of non-agricultural stocks to the comparable gross domestic product since the beginning of 1971 and small increases were recorded during both the fourth quarter of 1973 and the first quarter of 1974.

*Increase in gross domestic saving*

Gross domestic saving, which increased sharply during the third and fourth quarters of 1973 from the low level attained during the second quarter of 1973, increased substantially further during the first quarter of 1974, but was nevertheless still inadequate to finance total domestic investment. The increase in total domestic saving during the first quarter was mainly accounted for by increased corporate saving on account of higher profits and a further increase in the current surplus of general government, brought about *inter alia* by higher tax receipts. With provision for depreciation showing its normal increase, it would appear that personal saving dropped to a very low level during the first quarter of 1974.

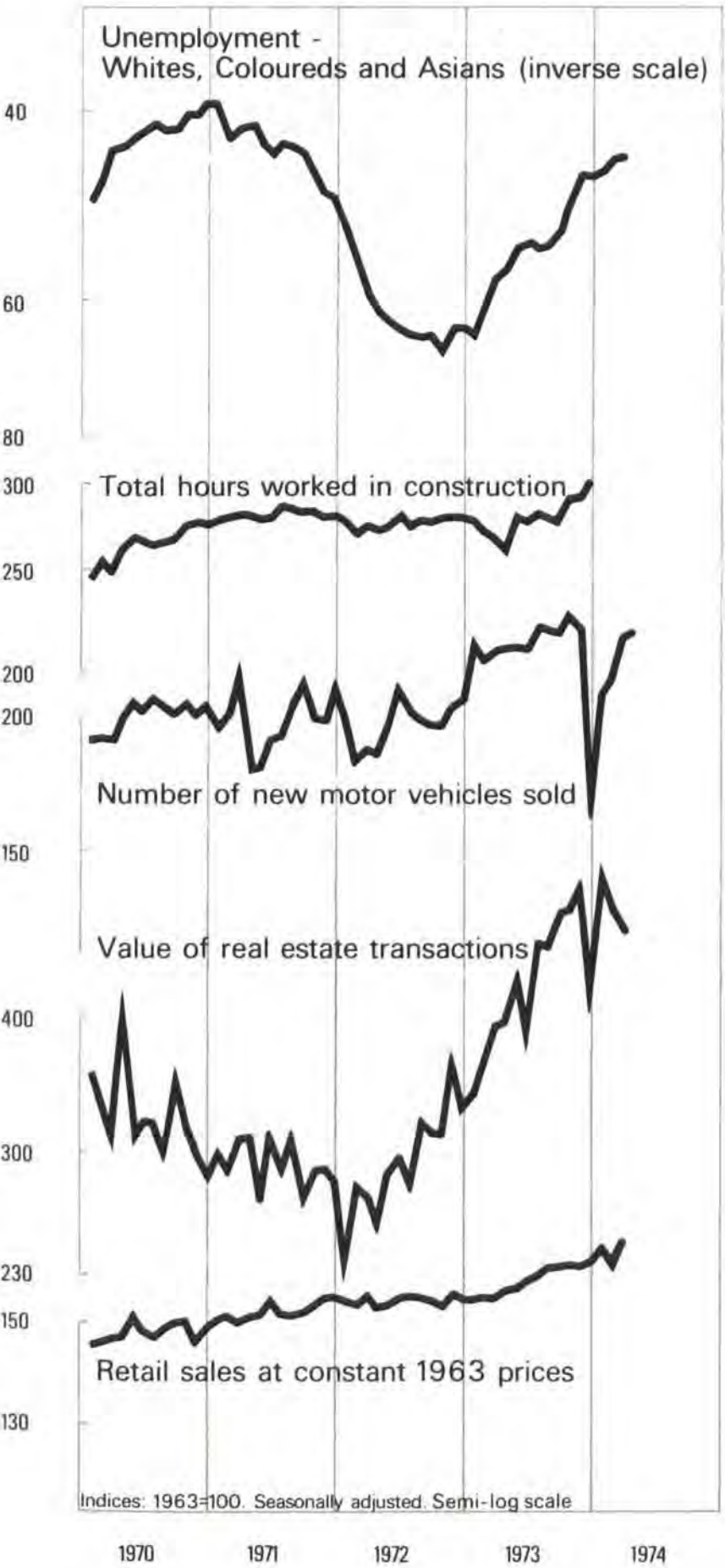
**General economic indicators**

National accounts statistics and various other economic indicators give the impression that the rate of increase in economic activity, which had started to rise towards the end of 1972, did not continue to *accelerate* further during the fourth quarter of 1973 and the first quarter of 1974, but nevertheless remained on a high level. A number of indicators show that after the growth rate had been accelerating continuously for more than a year, the South African economy reached a stage, particularly during the first quarter of 1974, where many sections of industry were operating at high levels of production capacity and the labour situation became more tight.



Other general economic indicators such as the number of mortgages registered, the value of real estate transactions, and bank debits also indicate that the high rate of increase in economic activity experienced during most of 1973 was not maintained during the first quarter of 1974. The same general tendency is observed in the seasonally adjusted number of registered unemployed Whites, Coloureds

General economic indicators



and Asians. After declining sharply from 13 267 in October 1972 to 9 118 in November 1973, the number of unemployed declined only slightly further to 8 755 in March 1974.

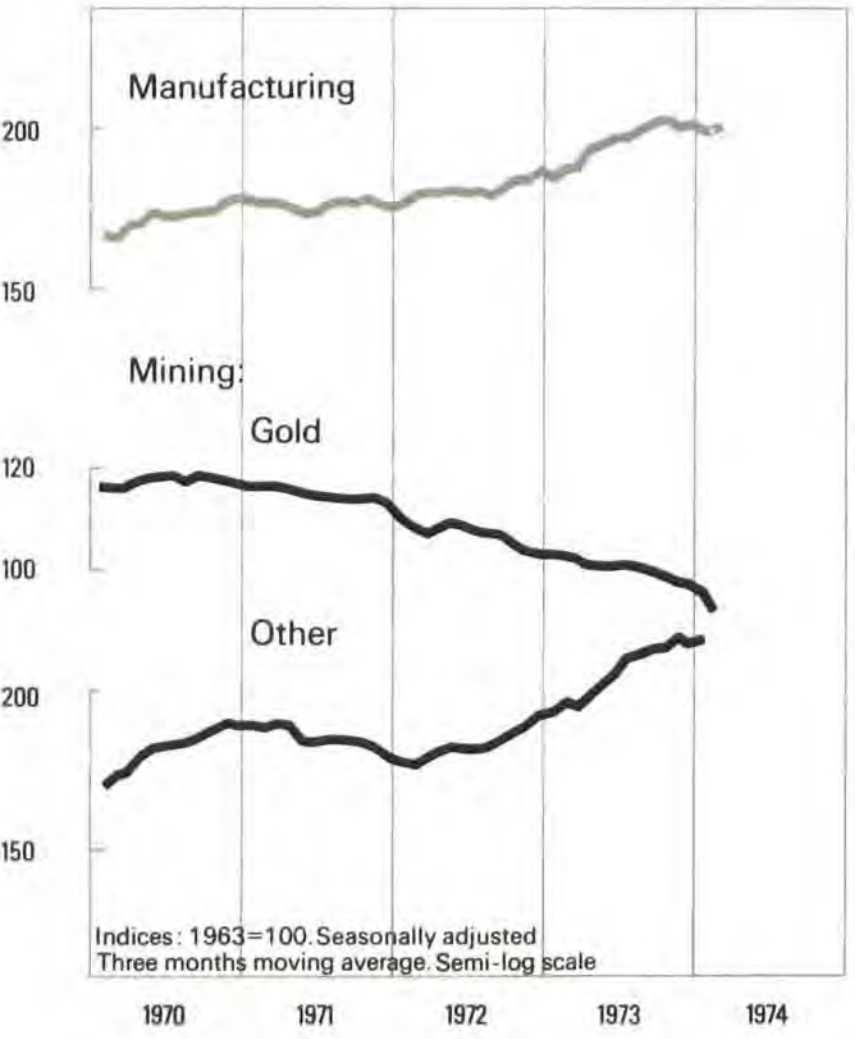
Manufacturing and construction

After increasing at a low rate during 1971 and 1972, the volume of manufacturing production increased at a very satisfactory rate of 9,0 per cent during 1973. This high rate of growth was particularly evident during the first eleven months of 1973, but tended to level off during the subsequent four months. Nevertheless, the level of production during the four months ended March 1974 was still 8,3 per cent higher than that of the corresponding period a year ago.

Contrary to the change in the trend of production, the value of unfilled orders continued to increase up to February 1974. The levelling-off tendency in production may have been caused by scarcities of certain raw materials, the influence of the oil crisis and also by the fact that some sections of the manufacturing sector are currently operating at levels close to full capacity. The latter is substantiated by the further increase and high level recorded for the percentage capacity utilisation in manufacturing as calculated by the Department of Statistics.

As far as the labour situation is concerned, it is

Physical volume of production





significant to observe that overtime as a percentage of ordinary hours worked in manufacturing continued to increase until December 1973 (the latest figure available) and that the total number of registered unemployed Whites, Coloureds and Asians reached a low level of 8 755 in March 1974, both developments indicating that labour conditions have recently become tighter.

As pointed out earlier, fixed investment in private manufacturing showed a distinct upturn for the three consecutive quarters starting from the third quarter of 1973, and although there is a time lag between increased fixed investment and higher production, the prospects for a further expansion of production seem good.

After recovering slowly from the beginning of 1973, building and construction activity increased markedly during the last three quarters of the year and, according to preliminary data, this upward tendency continued during the first quarter of 1974. The upturn in building and construction activity is evident from such series as the total number of hours worked, wholesale sales of building materials, cement production, the value of building plans passed and, to a lesser extent, the value of buildings completed.

### Mining

The volume of mining production, which had increased fairly sharply during the first three quarters of 1973, levelled off during the fourth quarter and the first two months of 1974. This levelling-off during the five months to February 1974 was the net result of a faster rate of decline in the volume of gold production and a slower rate of growth in non-gold mining production.

Notwithstanding an increase in the volume of gold ore milled since the second quarter of 1972, the volume of gold production showed a continuous decline as a result of a lower grade of ore being milled. This, in turn, was made possible by the sharp increase in the price of gold on the private market. During the first quarter of 1974, for example, the kilograms gold

produced were 9,6 per cent less than that produced during the first quarter of 1973, whereas the volume of gold produced during the calendar year 1973 was 5,8 per cent less than during the previous year.

The volume of non-gold mining production declined sharply in January 1974 and recovered only partly in February. The main cause of the decline would appear to be transportation problems and production delays caused by flood damages during the early part of 1974. Average non-gold mining production during the first two months of 1974 was slightly below the level of the fourth quarter of 1973 but still 10,7 per cent higher than during the first two months of 1973.

### Commerce

Conditions in the wholesale and retail trade remained buoyant during the first quarter. Sharp increases were registered in both wholesale and retail sales, particularly at current prices. It is significant, however, that expenditure on furniture and household appliances declined sharply in February and March 1974. This may have been caused by the tighter credit conditions during the first quarter of 1974 and the eroding effect of the high rate of inflation on the purchasing power of consumers.

As a result of an initial over-reaction to the oil crisis, the number of motor vehicles sold declined sharply in December 1973, but recovered remarkably during the subsequent four months. Nevertheless, the number of new motor vehicles sold during the first four months of 1974 was still slightly less than the number sold during the same period a year ago.

### Prices

One of the most pressing economic problems in South Africa, as elsewhere in the world, continues to be the very high rates of price increases.

During the first quarter of 1974 the rate of increase in the average consumer price index remained at the same high level reached in the fourth quarter of 1973.

### Consumer prices

Percentage rate of change in seasonally adjusted indices

	1st quarter 1973 to 2nd quarter 1973	2nd quarter 1973 to 3rd quarter 1973	3rd quarter 1973 to 4th quarter 1973	4th quarter 1973 to 1st quarter 1974	April 1973 to April 1974
Services	2.3	2.0	1.6	1.8	8.1
Housing	2.5	1.5	1.3	1.9	7.7
Other	1.9	3.0	2.3	1.5	8.9
Goods	2.1	1.5	3.3	3.0	10.4
Food	3.7	1.2	4.5	1.3	9.1
Furniture and equipment	1.5	1.7	1.7	3.2	10.2
Clothing and footwear	2.3	2.6	2.4	4.3	14.1
Vehicles	-0.2	1.1	1.5	2.1	5.4
Other	0.8	1.5	2.9	5.4	12.8
Total	2.1	1.7	2.6	2.6	9.6



Wholesale prices

Percentage rate of change in seasonally adjusted indices

	1st quarter 1973 to 2nd quarter 1973	2nd quarter 1973 to 3rd quarter 1973	3rd quarter 1973 to 4th quarter 1973	4th quarter 1973 to 1st quarter 1974	March 1973 to March 1974
Goods produced in South Africa . . . . .	3,3	3,3	3,6	3,4	13,2
Agriculture, forestry and fishing . . . . .	3,2	1,7	5,1	-0,5	6,7
Manufacturing . . . . .	3,5	3,4	3,3	4,4	14,4
Beverages and tobacco . . . . .	1,7	0,6	1,2	1,7	5,3
Textiles, clothing and footwear . . . . .	4,3	4,6	5,9	6,0	23,4
Basic metals and metal products . . . . .	3,7	4,8	2,8	4,2	17,4
Machinery and transport equipment . . . . .	1,9	3,1	1,7	2,9	11,0
Food . . . . .	5,8	2,4	4,4	2,3	9,6
Other . . . . .	2,6	3,8	3,1	7,6	18,6
Other . . . . .	0,4	7,5	3,2	3,4	16,5
Imported goods . . . . .	2,1	4,0	3,7	4,7	16,2
Total . . . . .	3,0	3,4	3,6	3,8	13,8

From April 1973 to April 1974 the consumer price index increased by 9,6 per cent. However, divergent tendencies were observed in the rate of increase in various components of the index. During January and February food prices dropped, largely owing to declines in prices of vegetables and fruit, but rose again in March and April. The monthly average prices of all goods other than food, however, increased by no less than 4,1 per cent or at an annual rate of 17,6 per cent from the fourth quarter of 1973 to the first quarter of 1974. This acceleration was accounted for by marked increases in the prices of petroleum products, clothing, footwear, furniture and non-electrical equipment. The rate of increase in the prices of services also increased slightly faster in the first quarter of 1974, mainly owing to rises in housing costs.

Wholesale prices increased by 13,8 per cent between March 1973 and March 1974. From the fourth quarter of 1973 to the first quarter of 1974, prices accelerated further to an annual rate of about 16 per cent. As a result of a decline in prices of South African produced agricultural goods and a lower rate of increase in prices of processed food during the first quarter of 1974, the rate of increase in prices of South African produced goods slowed down to an annual rate of increase of 14,5 per cent from the fourth quarter of 1973 to the first quarter of 1974, compared with an increase of 15,3 per cent during the preceding quarter. After slowing down somewhat during the first half of 1973, the rate of increase in prices of imported goods accelerated in the subsequent three quarters and rose at an annual rate of 20,1 per cent from the fourth quarter of 1973 to the first quarter of 1974.

Balance of payments

During the first quarter of 1974, the overall balance of payments, as reflected in the change in the gold and other foreign reserves, improved considerably

from a deficit of R238 million in the fourth quarter of 1973 to a surplus of R80 million in the first quarter of this year. This marked improvement in the overall balance occurred in both the current and the capital account. The deficit on current account declined noticeably during the first quarter mainly owing to a sharp rise in the net gold output and to higher proceeds from the export of diamonds, which together outweighed the increase in the value of merchandise imports including the higher oil bill. Concurrently the capital outflow during the fourth quarter of 1973 changed to an inflow of capital during the first quarter of 1974. This change was brought about by an inflow of capital to the central government and banking sector, substantial overseas borrowing by public corporations and a decline in the outflow of short-term capital from the private sector.

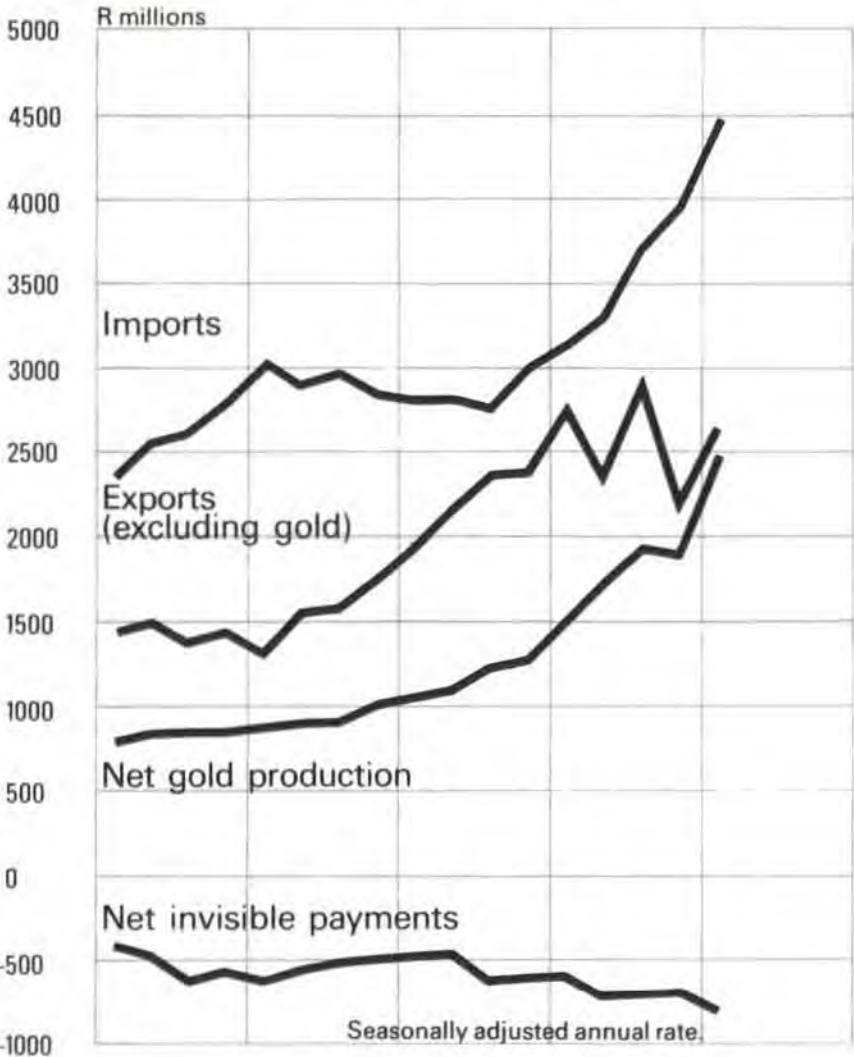
Substantial improvement on current account

The deficit on current account declined from R226 million in the fourth quarter of last year to only about R63 million in the first quarter of this year. If these figures are adjusted for seasonal fluctuations and taken at an annual rate, the improvement on current account is even more marked, as it changed from a deficit of R582 million in the fourth quarter to a deficit of only R138 million in the first quarter of 1974. This improvement on current account was primarily the result of sharp increases in the net gold output and the exports of diamonds which were considerably more than the increase in merchandise imports and the rise in net invisible payments to the rest of the world.

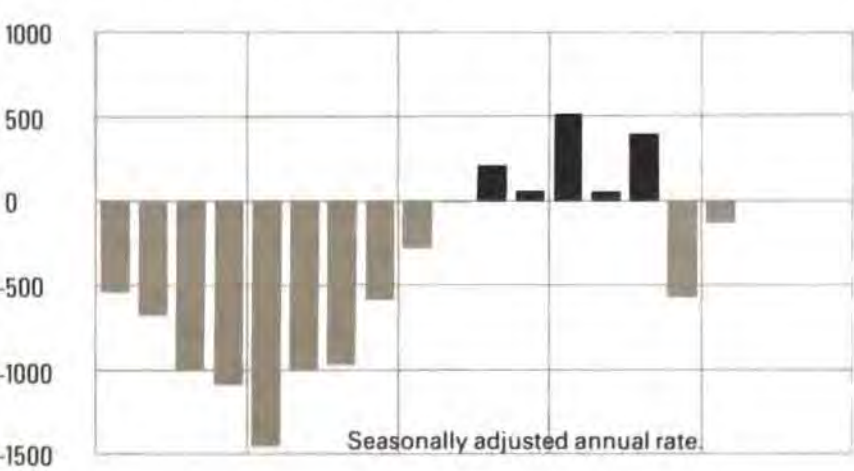
As during most of 1973, an increase in the gold price on the private market brought about a considerable increase in the net gold output during the first quarter of 1974. The average price of gold on the private market in London, for example, rose from slightly more than \$100 per fine ounce in the fourth quarter of last year to just less than \$150 per fine



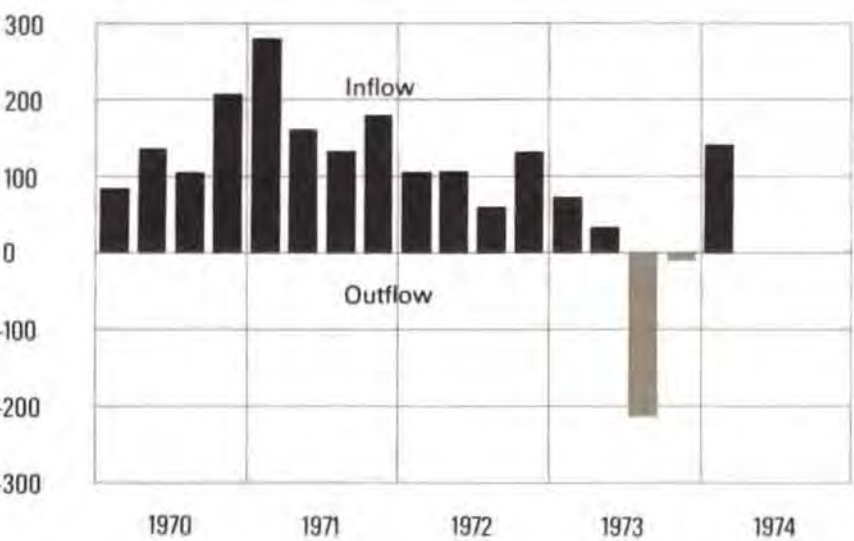
Balance of payments current account



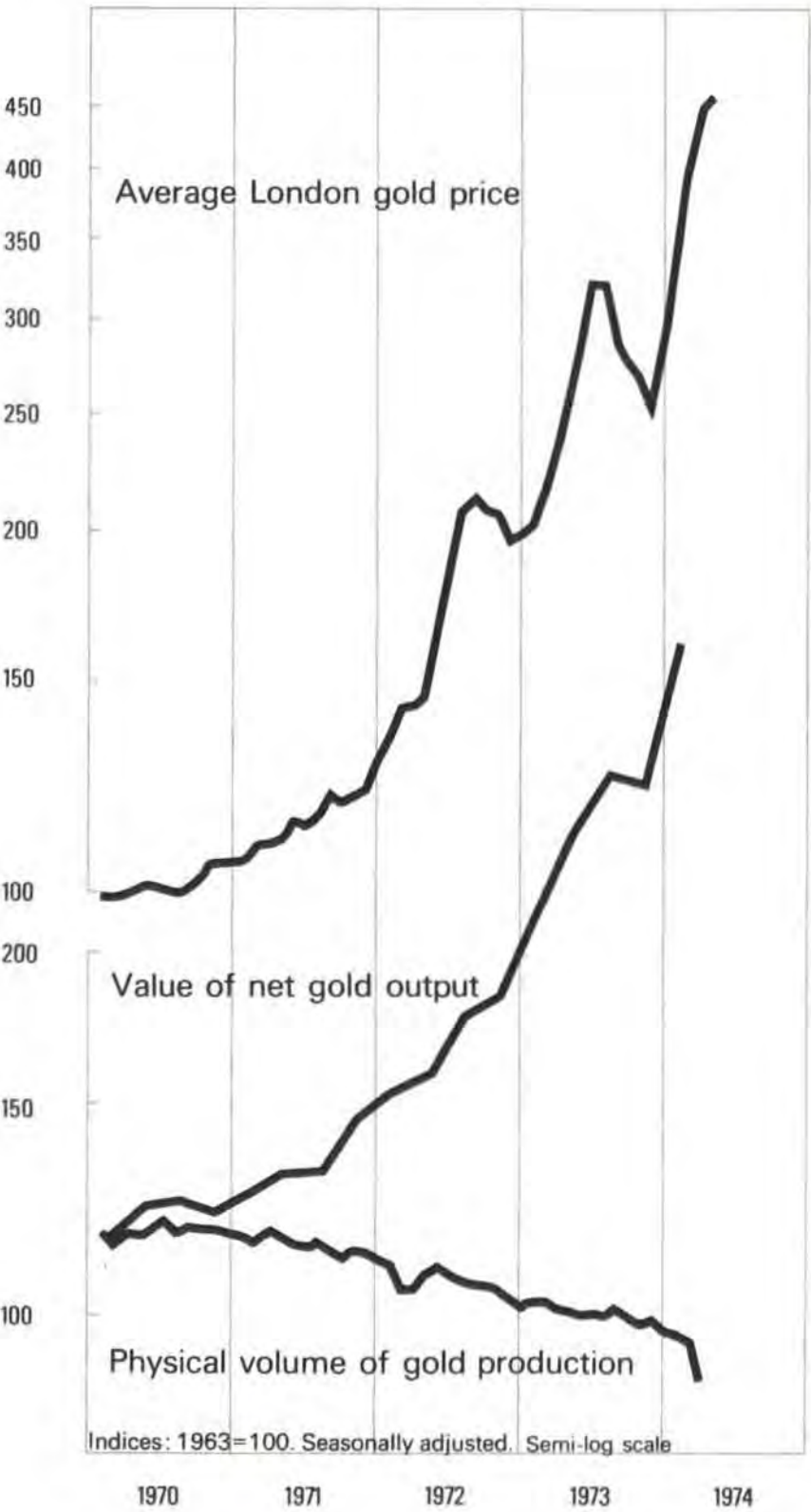
Balance on current account



Total capital movements



Net gold output



ounce in the first quarter of this year. Although the physical volume of gold production again declined during the first quarter, the net gold output still amounted to a seasonally adjusted annual figure of R2 482 million, compared with R1 894 million in the previous quarter, i.e. an increase of 31 per cent.

After declining from a seasonally adjusted annual rate of R2 904 million in the third quarter to R2 194 million in the fourth quarter of 1973, merchandise exports again increased sharply to R2 655 million in the first quarter of 1974. This marked increase in exports was mainly the result of a considerable rise in the export proceeds of diamonds and to a lesser extent also to an increase in the exports of deciduous



fruit. On the other hand, the exports of textile products and food products declined during the first quarter of this year.

Merchandise imports likewise showed a big increase from a seasonally adjusted annual rate of R3 972 million in the fourth quarter of 1973 to no less than R4 474 million in the first quarter of 1974. An important contributory factor to this increase was the substantial rise in the price of oil and related products towards the end of 1973 and the beginning of this year. Domestic shortages of certain materials, e.g. that of base metals, however, also induced higher imports. Net invisible payments to the rest of the world increased markedly *inter alia* because the higher gold price led to a considerable increase in the dividend payments to foreigners. Larger interest payments by public corporations and the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, which had borrowed substantial amounts abroad during 1973, also contributed to the rise in net invisible payments during the first quarter of 1974.

Moderate net capital inflow

In contrast to a small net capital outflow of R12 million during the fourth quarter of 1973, a net inflow of capital of R143 million was recorded during the first quarter of 1974. As the accompanying table shows, this change was brought about mainly by an increase in the amount of capital borrowed abroad by public corporations, a decline in the outflow of short-term capital from the private sector and an inflow of capital to the central government and banking sector. The substantial reduction in the outflow of short-term capital from the private sector during the first quarter occurred mainly because of: (1) the disappearance of the unfounded speculation on a possible devaluation of the rand; (2) the leads and lags in foreign payments and receipts discontinued to be against South Africa; (3) additional domestic bank credit became difficult

to obtain which made the switching from foreign to local financing more difficult; and (4) the interest rate differential between rates ruling abroad and South African rates narrowed slightly as a result of the increase in South African rates, although the differential remained large.

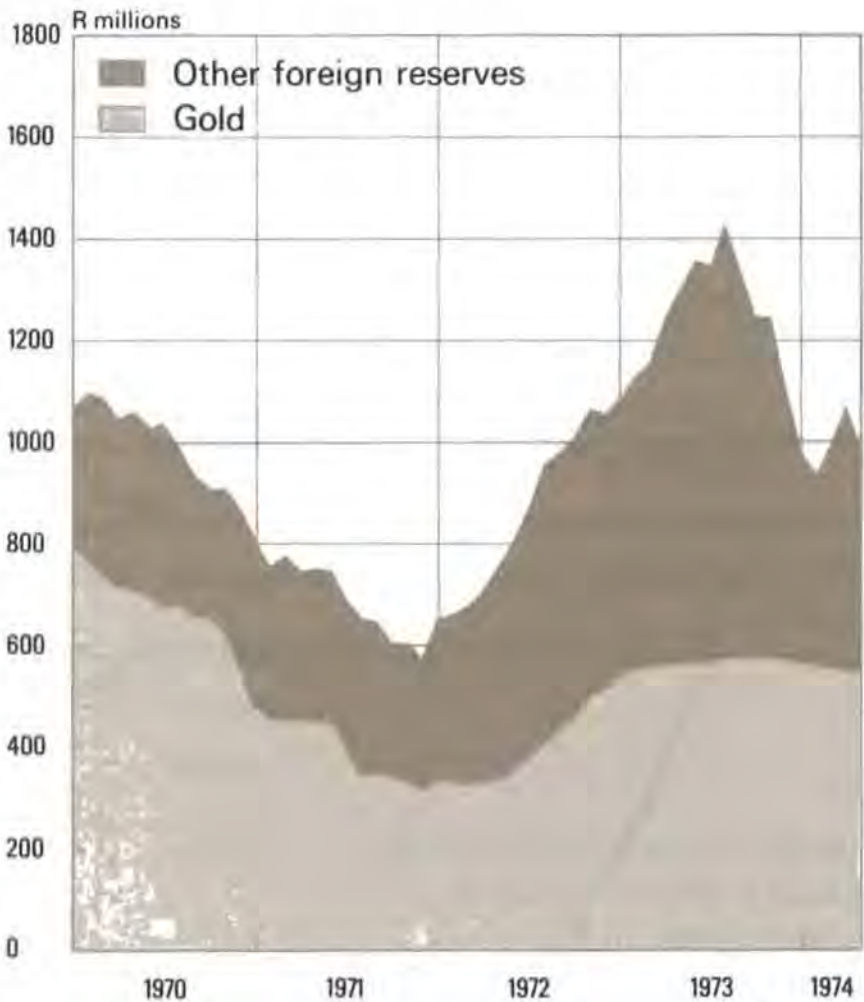
Increase in the gold and other foreign reserves

As a result of the favourable overall balance of payments and valuation adjustments the gold and other foreign reserves increased by R92 million in the first quarter of 1974, compared with a decline of R269 million during the previous quarter. In fact, the gold and other foreign reserves increased by R131 million during February and March 1974, after it had declined by R39 million in January. The increase during the first quarter, to a level of R1 068 million at the end of March, occurred mainly in the foreign exchange holdings of the Reserve Bank, whereas the gold holdings of the Bank declined slightly during the quarter under review. The foreign exchange holdings of the monetary banking institutions declined by R36 million during the first quarter of the year.

Net capital movements  
R millions

	4th qtr. of 1973	1st qtr. of 1974
Private sector	15	104
Long-term loans of public corporations	113	139
Other long-term capital	20	-10
Short-term capital, including errors and unrecorded transactions	-118	-25
Central government and banking sector	-27	39
Long-term loans of central government	3	15
Other	-24	24
Total	-12	143

Gold and other foreign reserves



Developments during April and May

During April and May the gold and other foreign reserves of the Reserve Bank again declined by no less than R124 million to a level of R799 million at the



end of May. The decline during April and May occurred in spite of the fact that all newly mined gold was sold on the private sector and that the average price of gold on the London market was averaging about \$172.

Monthly trade figures released by the Department of Customs and Excise showed a widening in the deficit on South Africa's merchandise trade account during April. Merchandise imports increased from a seasonally adjusted annual rate of R4 265 million in March to R4 733 million in April and merchandise exports declined from R3 139 million to R2 984 million.

Monetary and banking situation

Renewed acceleration in increase in money and near-money

During the first quarter of 1974 the rate of increase in the seasonally adjusted quantity of money and near-money was again substantially faster than during the preceding quarter, and also faster than during the second and third quarters of 1973 and during the year as a whole. The money supply alone, i.e. exclud-

ing near-money, actually increased at a very high annual rate of no less than 45 per cent during the first quarter of 1974. This compares with an increase of approximately 21 per cent during 1973.

Causes of changes in money and near-money

As during most of 1973, the most important single factor contributing to the rise in money and near-money during the first quarter of 1974 continued to be the sharp rise in bank credit to the private sector. However, after having increased by R170 million and R164 million during January and February 1974, respectively, banking sector claims on the private sector increased by only R21 million during March. As there have been no indications of a weakening of the demand for bank credit, this sudden decline in the rate of bank credit expansion may be a reflection of the banks' delayed reactions to the pronounced tightening of their liquidity positions since November last year, and to the more conservative policy stance adopted by the monetary authorities. In addition, however, net remittances in transit declined markedly during March from the unusually high level that had been recorded at the end of February.

Significant changes also occurred in other causes of changes in money and near-money in the course of the first quarter of 1974. The net gold and other foreign reserves, which had still shown a decline during January 1974, increased fairly substantially during both February and March, before declining again during April. Net claims on the government sector, which had decreased substantially during the first two months of the year in line with the sharply rising level of government deposits, increased again during March. Long-term deposits of the private sector with the banking sector declined during the first quarter of 1974.

Increases in money and near-money

Seasonally adjusted

	R millions	Annual rate %
1973: 1st quarter	372	35
2nd quarter	258	22
3rd quarter	278	22
4th quarter	198	15
1974: 1st quarter	384	29

Causes of changes in money and near-money – first quarter 1974

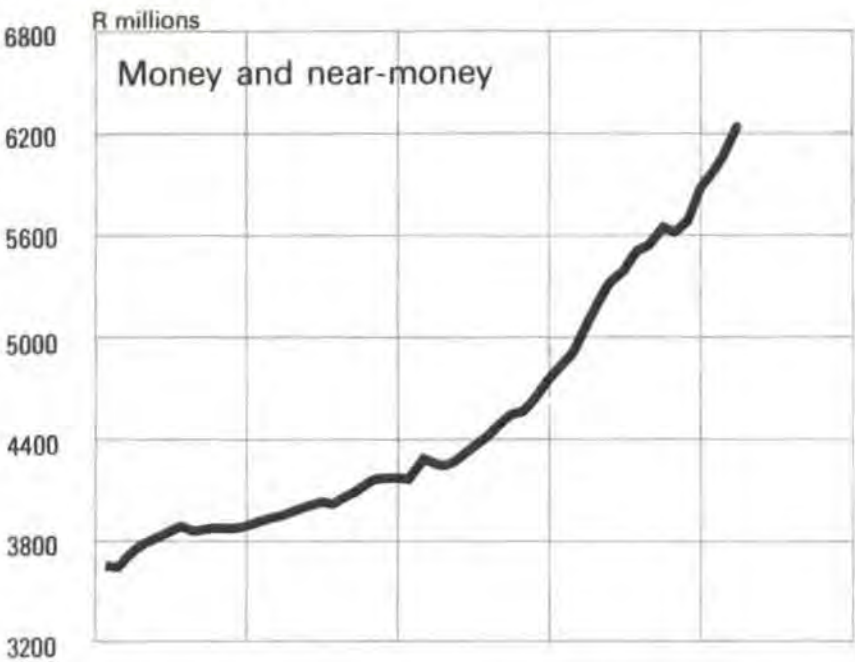
R millions

	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted			
	Jan.	Feb.	March	First quarter 1974	Jan.	Feb.	March	First quarter 1974
Net gold and other foreign reserves	-45	53	38	46	-63	13	66	17
Claims on government sector:								
Gross claims	18	64	-40	42				
Government deposits*	-173	-234	146	-261				
Net claims	-155	-171	106	-219	-18	-156	124	-50
Claims on private sector	170	164	21	355	186	138	9	333
Long-term private deposits*	-24	38	23	37	59	-51	64	72
Net other assets	-47	72	-65	-41				
Total causes of changes	-102	156	123	178	100	122	163	384

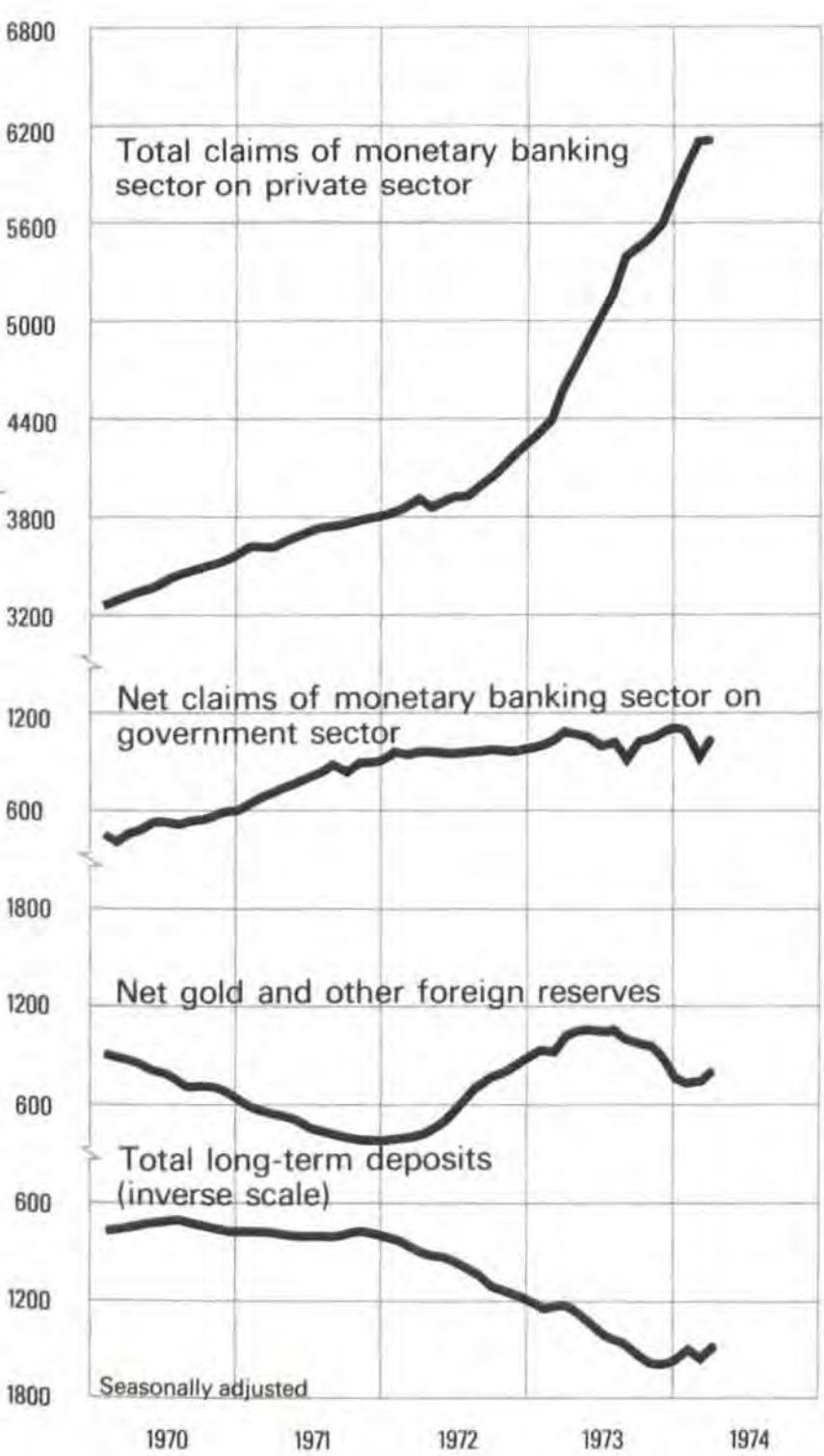
\*increase —, decrease +



Monetary analysis



Causes of changes in money and near-money



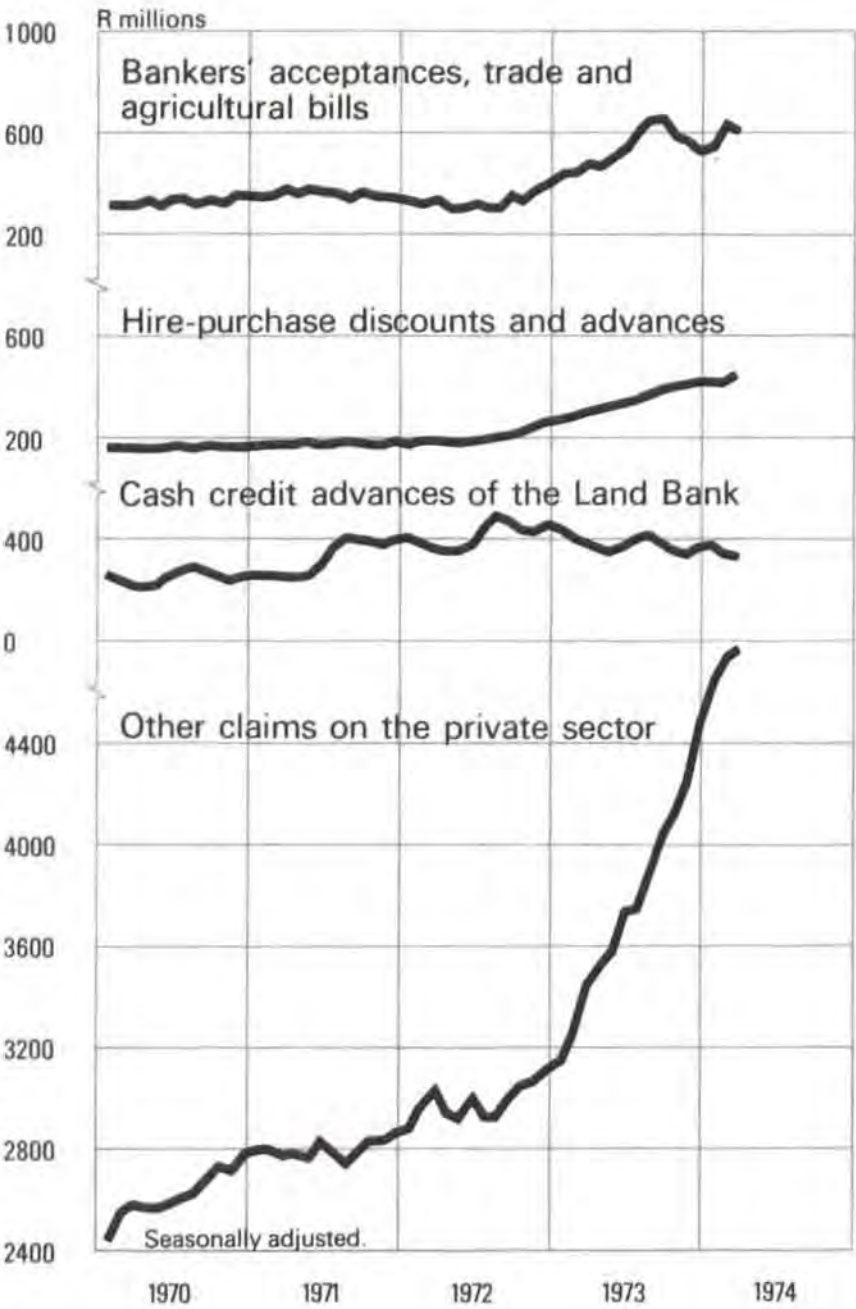
Bank credit

Owing to the sharply reduced increases in the monetary banking sector's claims on the private sector during March, the seasonally adjusted annual rate of increase in bank credit to the private sector was 25 per cent during the first quarter of 1974 as a whole. This rate compares with seasonally adjusted annual rates of increase of 36, 41, 38 and 27 per cent during the four quarters of 1973, and with an increase in bank credit to the private sector of 36 per cent (R1 536 million) during 1973 as a whole.

Unusually high rates of increase continued to be recorded in the monetary banks' holdings of leasing contracts and of trade bills and bankers' acceptances. Leasing contracts increased by R28 million to R303 million and trade bills and bankers' acceptances by R81 million to R493 million during the first quarter of 1974.

According to preliminary figures for the five largest banks and their subsidiaries, the increase in their discounts and advances during April 1974 was sub-

Claims of monetary banking sector on private sector





stantially smaller than that during each of the first three months of the year.

### Bank liquidity

After a marginal improvement during December 1973, the liquidity position of commercial banks, merchant banks and monetary hire-purchase and general banks deteriorated markedly during January and February 1974, and in the case of the commercial banks also during March 1974. At the end of March, the aggregate shortfall of the monetary banks' actual as compared with their required liquid asset holdings amounted to as much as R282 million, or 3,5 per cent of their total liabilities to the public.

### Excess or deficit liquidity ratios

	1973		1974	
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March
Commercial banks . . . . .	2,0	-2,3	-4,4	-5,6
Merchant banks . . . . .	0,4	-0,2	-0,8	1,0
Monetary hire-purchase and general banks . . . . .	2,7	0,4	0,5	0,4
Total of all above monetary banking institutions:				
Ratio . . . . .	1,9	-1,4	-3,0	-3,5
Amount of excess or shortfall (—) (R millions)	149	-113	-239	-282

Between the end of December 1973 and the end of March 1974 the monetary banks' liquidity position changed from a surplus of R149 million to a deficit of R282 million, i.e. a shift of R431 million. This change was accounted for by an increase of R270 million in the required amount of liquid assets and a decline of R161 million in the actual holdings of liquid assets. The former figure resulted partly from an increase in the banks' liabilities to the public and partly from a shift from longer term to shorter term deposits. The decline in liquid asset holdings to a certain extent reflected the effect of the pledging of liquid assets as security for accommodation granted by the Reserve Bank. By the end of May most banks again complied with the liquid asset requirements.

### Money market situation and interest rates

The money market situation became very tight at the end of February, largely because of an increase in government deposits with the Reserve Bank of over R270 million between 22 and 28 February. The market eased fairly steadily again, however, during March, mostly as a result of an increase in the gold and other foreign reserves and a marked decline in government deposits. During most of April it continued to ease as the continuing decline in government deposits outweighed renewed decreases in the foreign reserves.

Although the usual month-end tightening of the market at the end of April was fairly limited, aggressive bidding for funds by certain banking institutions to improve their month-end liquidity positions and to reduce their indebtedness to the Reserve Bank caused a sharp drop in call loans to the discount houses and a corresponding increase in the houses' recourse to the Bank. After the first few days of May, however, the market eased dramatically, mostly as a result of a sharp further drop in Government deposits brought about mainly by the mid-month redemption of maturing government stock.

Reserve Bank accommodation in the form of overdrafts and loans to banks, plus overnight borrowing and the discounting of Treasury bills by the discount houses, decreased from R391 million on 5 March to R202 million at the end of April and to only R14 million on 17 May.

Call loans with the discount houses, excluding those of the Public Debt Commissioners, increased fairly steadily throughout most of March and April but then dropped to only R114 million on 3 May. Thereafter, however, they rose sharply to a peak of R395 million on 20 May. Under these conditions, Public Debt Commissioners deposits with the discount houses were maintained at R111 million until 14 May before being withdrawn entirely during the next seven days.

The Treasury bill tender rate, which had reached a level of 4,70 per cent in the middle of February, increased to 4,82 per cent in the middle of March and, after declining somewhat during April, rose again to 4,79 per cent on 24 May. The rate on 90-day NCDs declined from 9,25 to 8,25 per cent from the middle of March to the middle of April. During the tight position of the discount houses during the April month-end and the first few days of May, this rate was available "on application" only; it was subsequently quoted at 10,0 per cent on 10 May and 9,0 per cent on 17 May. The rate on 3-months' bankers' acceptances has been maintained at 7,5 per cent since early January.

The published call rate and deposit interest rates of the commercial banks and other banking institutions were kept at their deposit rate control maxima since 14 January 1974, but were raised by 1½ per cent effective from 1 June 1974 when Bank rate was also increased by 1 per cent to 7½ per cent and the pattern of rates quoted by the Reserve Bank was adjusted upwards between ¼ and 1 per cent.

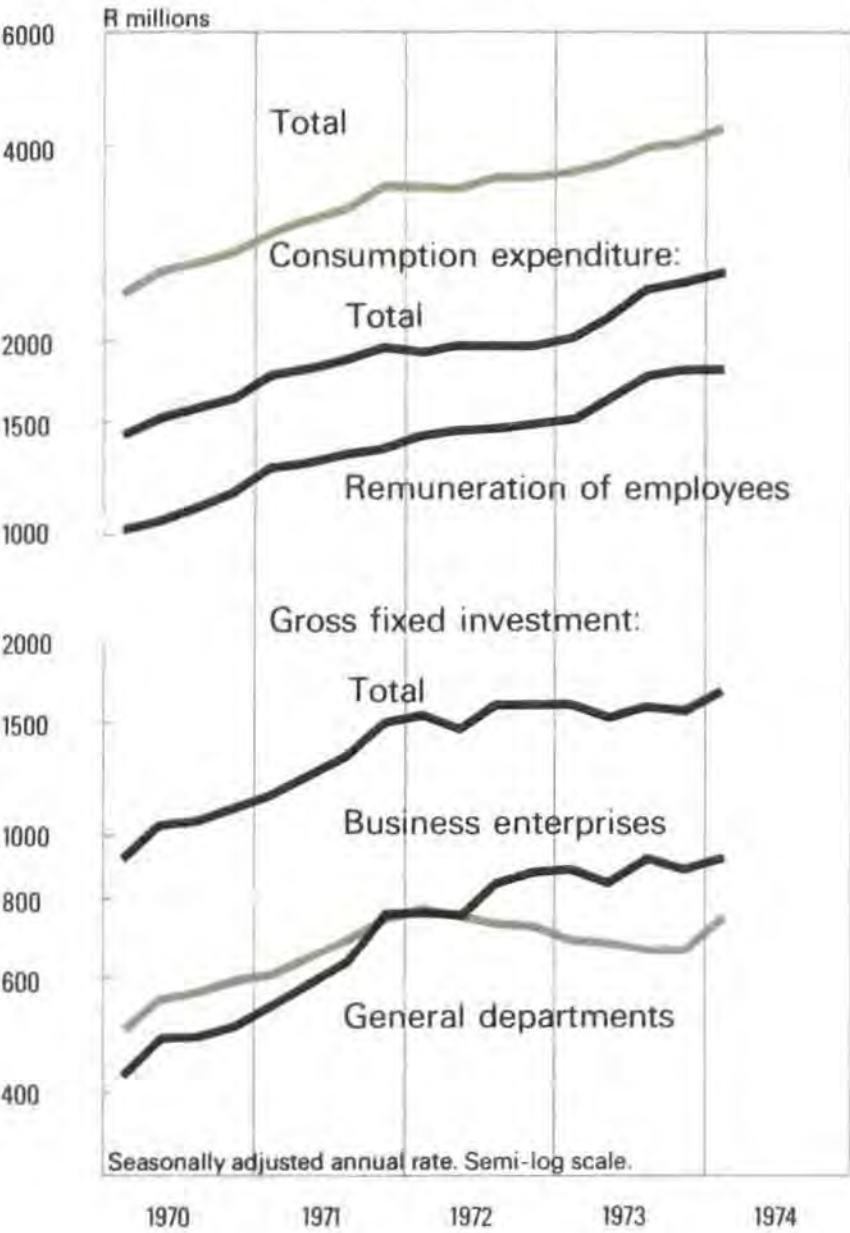
### Government finance

#### Income, expenditure and surplus of public authorities

During the first quarter of 1974, both the fixed investment and consumption expenditure of the public authorities increased, whereas during most of 1973 only consumption expenditure rose and fixed investment tended to level off. As far as consumption ex-



### Gross fixed investment and consumption expenditure by public authorities



penditure is concerned, a different component was responsible for the further increase during the first quarter. Whereas the remuneration of employees accounted for most of the increase during 1973, expenditure on goods and other services, largely on defence, was solely responsible for the increase during the first quarter of 1974.

The sharp increase in the fixed investment by public authorities during the first quarter of 1974 resulted mainly from expenditure by their general departments on buildings, roads and bridges. Fixed investment by the business enterprises of public authorities, mainly the South African Railways and the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, increased only moderately during the first quarter, largely because of increased expenditure by the Department of Posts and Telecommunications.

Notwithstanding increased consumption expenditure the general departments of public authorities registered a record current surplus during the first quarter. This was the result of a substantial increase in current revenue. The principal revenue components contributing to this increase were direct taxes and

income from property. Higher receipts from gold mining leases and current surpluses of the Railways and the Department of Posts and Telecommunications were responsible for a record income from property figure during the relevant period.

#### Exchequer deficit smaller than anticipated

The substantial current surplus of the public authorities in 1973 and also in the first quarter of 1974 was reflected in a large surplus on the Revenue Account of the central government. This caused the Exchequer deficit of R402 million for the fiscal year that ended 31 March 1974 to be substantially smaller than the R1 100 million anticipated by the Minister of Finance in his Budget speech. It was also R240 million less than the deficit for the preceding fiscal year. The major factor responsible for this exceptionally large deviation from the Budget estimates, was the increase of 32 per cent in Exchequer receipts which was much higher than the estimated increase of 9 per cent. Exchequer issues, on the other hand, were only marginally above the 20 per cent increase provided for in the Budget.

Because of the smaller deficit, there was no need for the transfer of R351 million from the Stabilization

#### Exchequer finance

R millions

	Year ending 31 March		Quarter ended 31 Mar.
	1973	1974	1974
Total net receipts	3 182	4 205	1 290
Total net issues	3 824	4 607	1 552
Total deficit (excluding borrowing)	-642	-402	-262
Financing:			
Change in net indebtedness to:			
Foreign sector	83	-90	22
Private non-bank sector:			
Loan levies	-15	-12	-57
Other	445	116	23
Public Debt Commissioners	125	255	215
Paymaster-General	-27	—	—
Sub-total	611	268	203
Monetary banking sector:			
Change in holdings of government securities held by:			
S.A. Reserve Bank and NFC	27	420	52
Other monetary banking institutions	324	-43	-12
Change in Exchequer balance*	-319	-243	18
Sub-total	32	134	59
Total financing	642	402	262

\*Increase—, decrease+. Including net transfers to the Stabilization Account and to the IMF Deposit Account in respect of super gold tranche drawings.



Account to the Exchequer Account as originally proposed by the Minister of Finance. In financing the deficit, the government increased its net indebtedness to the Public Debt Commissioners, the private non-banking sector and the monetary banking sector by R255 million, R104 million and R134 million, respectively. At the same time, its net indebtedness to the foreign sector was reduced by R90 million.

The contribution of R134 million by the monetary banking sector to the financing of the Exchequer deficit, is derived by setting off against the increase of R377 million in holdings of government securities the rise of R243 million in Exchequer deposits with the banking sector. The Reserve Bank and the National Finance Corporation increased their holdings of government securities by R420 million, whereas other monetary banking institutions reduced theirs by R43 million.

The private non-banking sector's contribution of R104 million to the financing of the Exchequer deficit was relatively small compared with the R355 million and R430 million in the 1971/72 and the 1972/73 fiscal years, respectively. A reason for the smaller contribution during the fiscal year under review was the repayment of loan levies amounting to almost R80 million in March 1974 and of Treasury bonds amounting to R59 million in September 1973.

The Exchequer's position was even more favourable if it is taken into account that almost one-fifth of the total issues was made during March 1974 and that a large part of these disbursements was deposited with the Public Debt Commissioners who, in turn invested a further amount with the discount houses. This investment amounted to R130 million at the end of March 1974, but flowed back to the Exchequer during April and May.

#### *Increase in most revenue sources*

Almost all revenue items on the Revenue and Loan Accounts showed increases that were higher than the Budget estimates. Customs, excise and sales duty receipts, including those on the South West Africa Account, exceeded the budget estimates by R128 million or 16 per cent and were almost 19 per cent higher than in 1972/73. Inland revenue receipts, excluding those on the South West Africa Account, exceeded the Budget estimates by R513 million or 21 per cent. Included in the relevant receipts, however, were non-recurring transfers totalling R117 million from the Tax Reserve Account and the Foreign Currency Adjustment Account. Income tax collections were largely responsible for the substantial rise in inland revenue receipts and they were R553 million or 32 per cent higher than in the preceding fiscal year. Of this amount, R190 million represented an increase in tax collections from the gold mining industry. Loan Account receipts followed a pattern similar to that of Revenue Account receipts and were R72 million or

38 per cent higher than the Budget estimates and exceeded the corresponding figure for the previous fiscal year by R87 million. Of the latter increase, R51 million was attributable to higher gold mining leases and R13 million to receipts from diamond mines and export duties on diamonds.

#### **Capital market**

During the first quarter of 1974, capital market conditions tightened further because fixed investment expenditure of the public and private sectors increased while at the same time personal savings dropped sharply. Interest rates consequently moved to higher levels, but notwithstanding this development, stock exchange prices and activity increased markedly.

#### *Yields on fixed-interest securities at higher levels*

The demand-supply position in the market for fixed interest securities gave rise to higher yields during the first quarter of 1974, but the yields tended to stabilise at the higher levels. Thus, during the period February to April five new issues of semi-gilt-edged securities were successfully placed at a yield of 9,1 per cent or 0,8 per cent above the level in December 1973. The yields on both long-term government and company loan securities were raised by 0,25 per cent above the December 1973 levels, namely to 8,25 and 9,75 per cent, respectively.

The margin between the yields on long-term semi-gilt-edged and government stock widened from 0,3 per cent at the end of December 1973 to 0,8 per cent at the end of April 1974, and that between the yields on semi-gilt-edged and company loan securities narrowed from 1,2 per cent to less than one per cent, whereas the yield gap between company loan securities and government stock remained unchanged at 1,50 per cent.

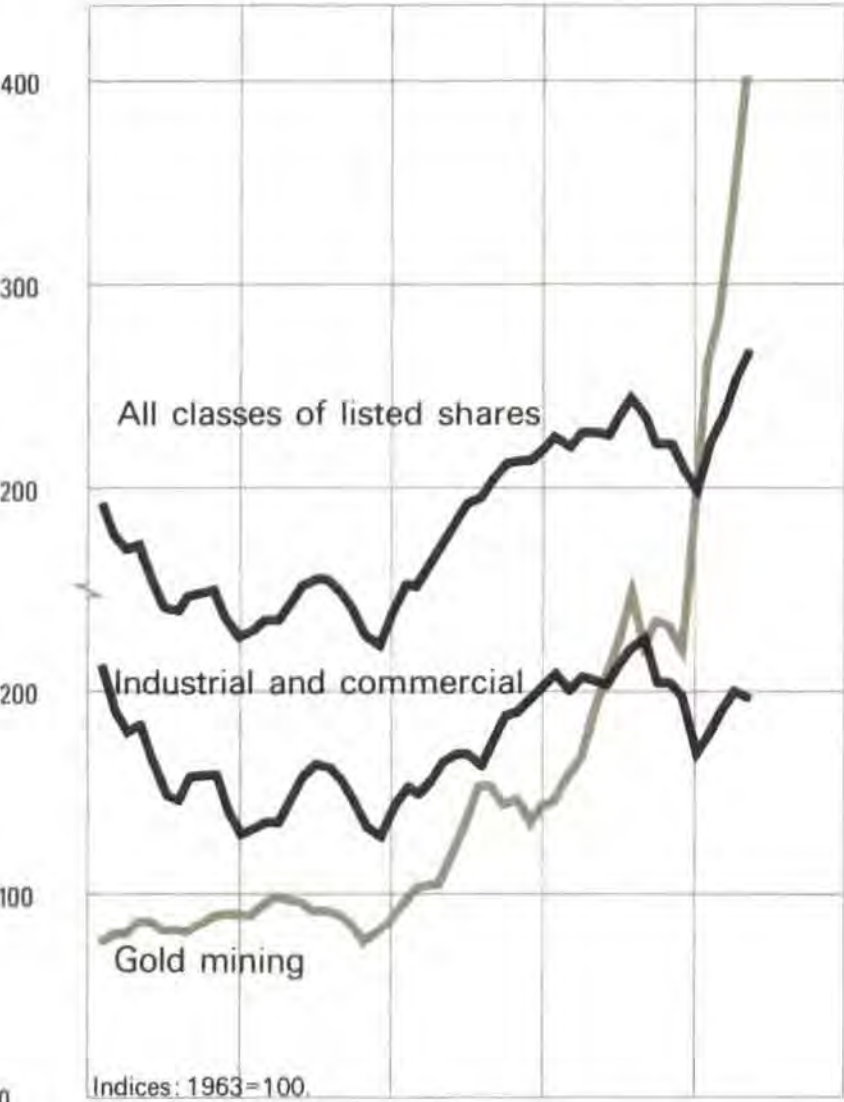
An increase in the saving of the private corporate sector and in the current surplus of the central government reduced the need for these borrowers to raise funds in the market. The amount of R174 million borrowed during the first quarter was, therefore, smaller than the average quarterly amount of R232 million borrowed during 1973. Public corporations borrowed R85 million in the domestic market and a further R139 million in foreign markets.

#### *Share market active*

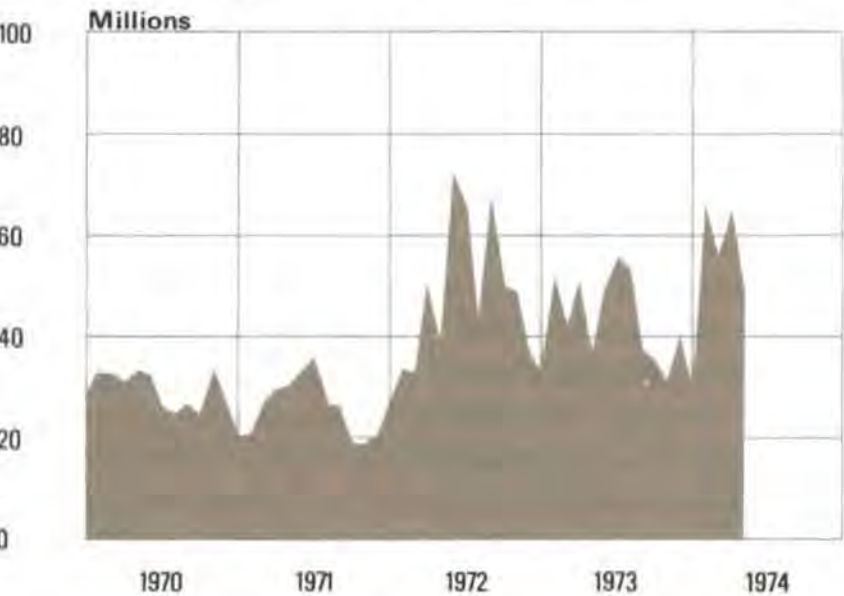
Stock exchange activity and prices of all classes of shares improved during the first quarter of 1974. In fact, the value of shares traded was more than double the amount for the fourth quarter of 1973 and about twice the average quarterly amount for 1973. The number of shares traded was also almost double that of the preceding quarter and substantially higher than the quarterly average for 1973. Increased foreign participation in the market contributed to the upsurge



Share prices



Number of shares traded on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange



in turnover. New listings on the stock exchange were well received and the pre-listing offers preceding these listings were oversubscribed.

The overall price index for all classes of shares rose by 29 per cent from December 1973 to March 1974 and individual classes of share prices registered increases ranging from 13 to 59 per cent. The major contributing factor to the higher level of prices was the strongly rising gold price in the private market,

Turnover on Johannesburg Stock Exchange

	1973		1974
	Fourth quarter	Quarterly average	First quarter
Number of shares traded (1963=100)	175	223	325
Value of shares traded (Rm):			
Total	264	322	635
Gross purchases by foreigners	60	61	107
Net purchases by foreigners	-9	-8	-5

which led to increases of 59 per cent and 47 per cent, respectively, in the prices of gold mining and mining financial shares. During April the overall and gold mining price indices recorded further increases of 4 and 15 per cent, respectively.

The average dividend yield on all classes of shares declined from 5,6 per cent in December 1973 to 5,0 per cent in March 1974 and this decline of 11 per cent was noticeably smaller than the average increase of 29 per cent in the prices of all classes of shares. This indicates that the effect of the rising prices on the dividend yield had been partly offset by higher dividend payments. The decline in the overall dividend yield and the increase in the yield on long-term government stock caused the inverse yield gap between the latter and the former yields to widen from 2,36 per cent in December 1973 to 3,21 per cent in March 1974. During April the dividend yield for all classes of shares, in fact, showed a marginal increase notwithstanding a further rise in the overall share price index.

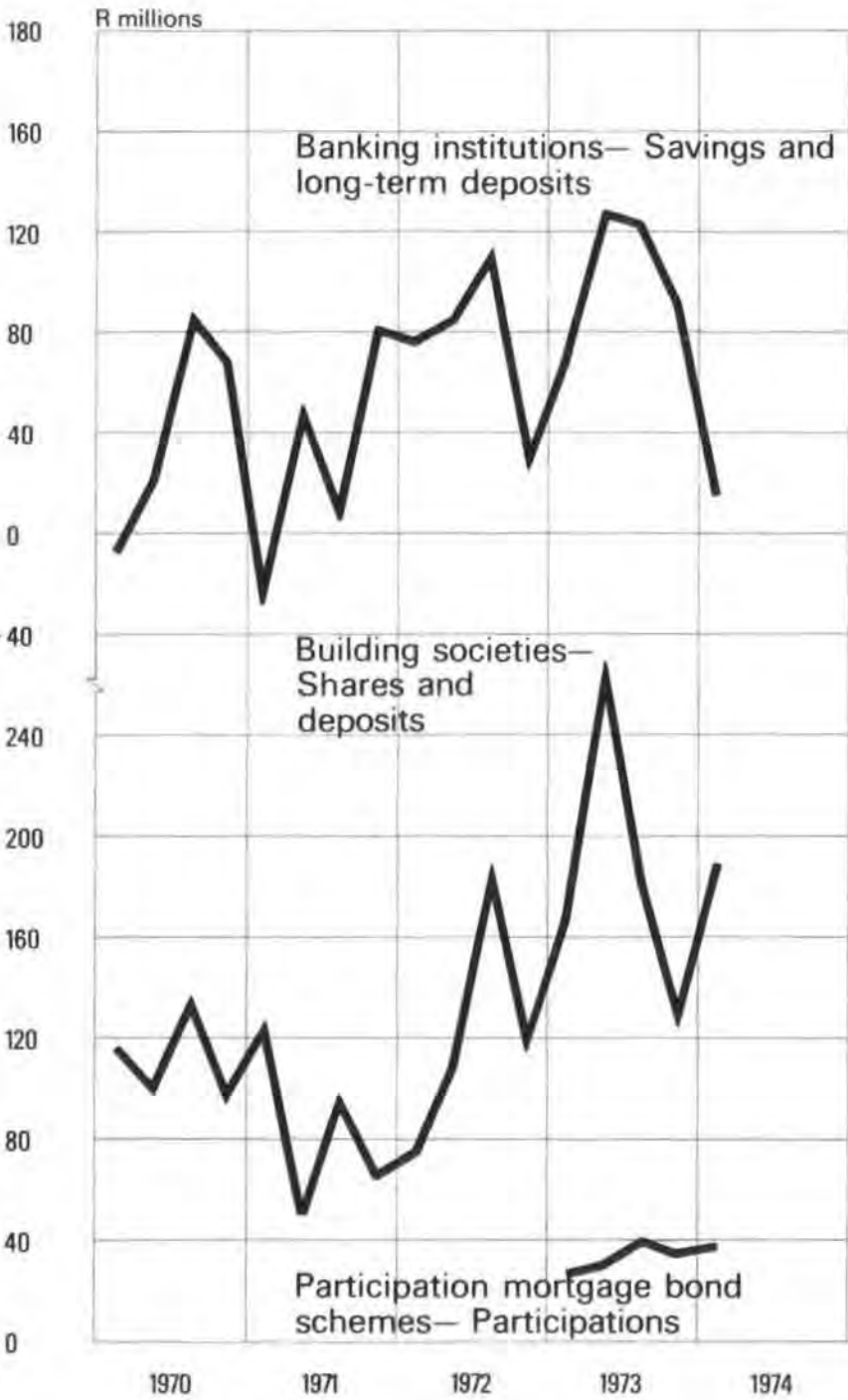
Decline in the flow of funds to deposit-receiving and related institutions

The flow of funds to banking institutions, building societies and participation mortgage bond schemes, in the form of an increase in savings and long-term deposits, building society shares and deposits and investments in mortgage participations, was slightly smaller during the first quarter of 1974 than during the last quarter of 1973. This lower inflow of funds represented a continuation of the declining trend that had been evident from the third quarter of 1973.

Although the inflow of about R240 million to the relevant institutions during the first quarter was only marginally lower than the amount of R254 million recorded during the fourth quarter of 1973, the relative share of the institutions in the amount of new funds changed markedly. Whereas the relative share of banking institutions amounted on average to about 32 per cent during 1973, it declined to 6 per cent during the first quarter of 1974. The building societies' share increased from an average of 58 per cent in 1973 to 78 per cent in the first quarter and the corresponding increase of the participation mortgage bond



**Net inflow of new funds**



schemes was from 10 to 16 per cent.

As indicated by the change in the relative share in new funds, banking institutions experienced a sharp decline in additions to their savings and long-term deposits, namely from R91 million during the fourth quarter of 1973 to R15 million during the first quarter of 1974. However, part of this decline was brought about by a shift from long-term to shorter term deposits. Building societies, on the other hand, had an inflow of R189 million during the first quarter which was well in excess of the R125 million for the preceding quarter. The increase in the societies' deposits and shares, therefore, remained at a high level, notwithstanding the overall decline in longer term funds. The societies' intake of new funds, however, decreased noticeably to only R20 million during April.

Because of the smaller overall supply of deposit-type funds, an upward pressure developed on deposit interest rates. This was recognised by the authorities

when the controlled maximum deposit interest rates for various classes of deposits and building society shares (excluding subscription and tax-free shares) were raised by 1 per cent on 14 January 1974 and further by 1½ per cent as from 1 June 1974. Rates on subscription and tax free shares were increased by 1 per cent effective 1 June 1974.

*Decline in mortgage advances granted by building societies*

Although the flow of funds to the building societies during the first quarter of 1974 was substantially higher than during the preceding quarter, new mortgage advances granted were nevertheless reduced to below the level of the fourth quarter of 1973. The decline in the general availability of longer term deposit funds induced the societies to adopt a more cautious lending policy. Thus, the rate on mortgage loans for dwellings was raised from 8,5 to 9,25 per cent in January and part of the societies' available resources was used to reduce their liability in respect of advances granted but not yet paid out, by R33 million. The societies also added to their holdings of liquid assets, and their excess liquid assets above the statutory minimum increased to 3,4 per cent of their liabilities to the public at the end of March 1974, compared with a ratio of 2,5 per cent at the end of 1973. At the same time, the societies effected a reduction of R59 million in their holdings of assets that formerly ranked as "other prescribed investments."

On 5 June the building societies announced an increase in the mortgage rate on dwellings to 10,5 per cent and at the same time the government announced an increase in the state subsidy on mortgage rates of up to 2 per cent above 8,5 per cent.



# Kwartaallikse ekonomiese oorsig

## Algemene opmerkings

Verskeie ekonomiese aanwysers toon dat alhoewel die koers van toename in die ekonomiese bedrywigheid, wat vanaf ongeveer die begin van die vierde kwartaal van 1972 versnel het, teen die einde van 1973 en die begin van 1974 geneig het om te verlangsaam, dit nog op 'n hoë peil gebly het. Sowel fabriekswese- as mynbouproduksie het gedurende die laaste maande van 1973 en die eerste paar maande van 1974 'n neiging tot afplatting in hulle groei-koerse getoon. In die geval van die fabrieksproduksie is die verlangsaaming in die koers van toename nie verrassend nie, in die lig daarvan dat dit nie verwag kon word dat die hoë koers van toename van 9,0 persent wat in 1973 behaal is, onbepaald voortgesit sou word nie, omdat produksiefaktore almeer ten volle beset is in verskeie afdelings van die nywerheid. In die geval van die nie-goudmynbou is die afplatting in die produksie hoofsaaklik veroorsaak deur vervoerprobleme en produksievertraginge wat uit vloedskades voortgespruit het en was dus van 'n tydelike aard, terwyl die goudmynbouproduksie gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 teen 'n vinniger koers gedaal het hoofsaaklik omdat die ontginning van laergraadse erts moontlik gemaak is deur die verdere skerp toename in die prys van goud op die private mark. Sekere eksterne ontwikkelings soos die nadelige invloede van die oliekrisis, die algemene finansiële en politieke onstabiliteit in die wêreld, die verlangsaaming in die ekonomiese groei-koers van Suid-Afrika se vernaamste handelsvennote, en 'n skaarste aan sekere grondstowwe, het ook tot die neiging tot verlangsaaming in Suid-Afrika se groei-koers bygedra. Aansienlike verdere toenames in produksie is egter aangeteken deur die sektore landbou, elektrisiteit, gas en water, konstruksie, en die klein- en groothandel, wat almal tot die verdere styging in die reële bruto binnelandse produk gedurende die eerste kwartaal van die jaar bygedra het.

Alhoewel die koers van toename in die reële bruto binnelandse produk gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1973 en die eerste kwartaal van 1974 verminder het vanaf die piek wat gedurende die derde kwartaal van 1973 bereik is, is die groei-koers nog steeds op 'n betreklik hoë peil. 'n Uitstekende groeijaar word in werklikheid vir 1974 verwag in die lig van omstandighede soos die verwagte buitengewoon goeie ooste, die hoë prys van goud en ander uitvoerkommoditeite, groot investeringsprogramme van die openbare owerhede en korporasies, die uitbreiding van vaste investering deur die private fabriekswese en die toename in die vraag wat behoort voort te spruit uit salaris- en loonsverhogings. In die lig van die lae ekonomiese groei-koerse wat gedurende 1974 in die meeste nywerheidslande verwag word, behoort Suid-Afrika se groei-koers in 1974 baie gunstig met die res van die wêreld te vergelyk. 'n Groei-koers van meer as 1 persent bo die

taakstellingsgroei-koers van  $5\frac{3}{4}$  persent van die Ekonomiese Ontwikkelingsprogram word in werklikheid vir 1974 verwag.

Suid-Afrika se betalingsbalans vergelyk ook gunstig met dié van die meeste ander lande in die wêreld. Terwyl groot tekorte, hoofsaaklik as gevolg van die aansienlike stygings in die prys van olie, in baie lande verwag word, het Suid-Afrika se betalingsbalans groot voordeel getrek uit die gelyktydige styging in die prys van goud, met die gevolg dat dit, ten spyte van die hoër olierekening en die toename in die waarde van ander invoere wat verband hou met die hoë peil van die binnelandse ekonomiese bedrywigheid en wêreldinflasie, nog steeds op 'n gesonde voet verkeer, met totale goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes wat aan die einde van Maart 1974 R1 068 miljoen bedra het. Trouens, die tekort op die lopende rekening het afgeneem vanaf R226 miljoen in die vierde kwartaal van 1973 tot ongeveer R60 miljoen in die eerste kwartaal van 1974, en terselfdertyd het die klein netto uitvloeiing van kapitaal wat gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1973 aangeteken is, verander na 'n netto invloeiing van ongeveer R140 miljoen in die eerste kwartaal van 1974. Hierdie verandering in die kapitaalrekening is hoofsaaklik teweeggebring deur 'n vermindering van die uitvloeiing van korttermyn private kapitaal wat op sy beurt weer hoofsaaklik aan die volgende faktore toegeskryf kan word: (1) die ongegronde spekulاسie betreffende 'n moontlike devaluasie van die rand teen die einde van 1973 en vroeg in 1974 het verdwyn en die vervroegings en vertraginge in buitelandse betalings en ontvangstes het in Suid-Afrika se guns gedraai; (2) addisionele binnelandse bankkrediet het moeiliker bekombaar geword en dit het die omskakeling vanaf buitelandse na binnelandse finansiering moeiliker gemaak; en (3) Suid-Afrikaanse rentekoerse is verhoog en die marge tussen hierdie koerse en die heersende koerse in die buiteland het in sommige gevalle vernou.

Die monetêre en banktoestand is gekenmerk deur 'n voortgesette skerp styging in geld, kwasi-geld en bankkrediet tot Februarie 1974, maar daarna het bankkrediet aan die private sektor gedurende Maart en April afgeplat. Die likwiditeitsposisie van die banke het gedurende Januarie en Februarie 1974 aansienlik verswak, en wat die handelsbanke betref ook gedurende Maart, en tekorte in die werklike, teenoor die vereiste, likwiede bates is vir die eerste keer sedert die inwerkingtreding van die Bankwet van 1965 aangeteken. Nadat die geldmarktoestand gedurende Januarie en Februarie en weer vir 'n paar dae teen die einde van April aansienlik vernou het, het dit ná die eerste paar dae van Mei aansienlik verruim, hoofsaaklik as gevolg van 'n verdere skerp afname in regeringsdeposito's. Teen die einde van Mei het die banke se likwiditeitsposisie in so 'n mate verbeter dat meeste aan die likwiede bate-voorskrifte voldoen het.



Die toestand op die kapitaalmark het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 ook vernou en rentekoerse het tot hoër vlakke beweeg. Op 30 Mei het die Reserwebank verhogings aangekondig in 'n aantal beheerde rentekoerse, insluitende 'n verhoging van 1 persent in die Bankkoers, 'n verhoging van  $1\frac{1}{2}$  persent in meeste voorgeskrewe maksimum depositokoerse en opwaartse aanpassings van tussen  $\frac{1}{4}$  en 1 persent in die stel koerse wat vir staatseffekte gekwoteer word. Hierdie aanpassings word geag om nie alleen in belang van ekonomiese stabiliteit en 'n sterk betalingsbalans te wees nie maar ook in belang van voortgesette snelle ekonomiese groei. Die verantwoording vir hierdie verandering is gegee in 'n verklaring wat deur die President uitgereik is en wat elders in hierdie *Kwartaalblad* gepubliseer word.

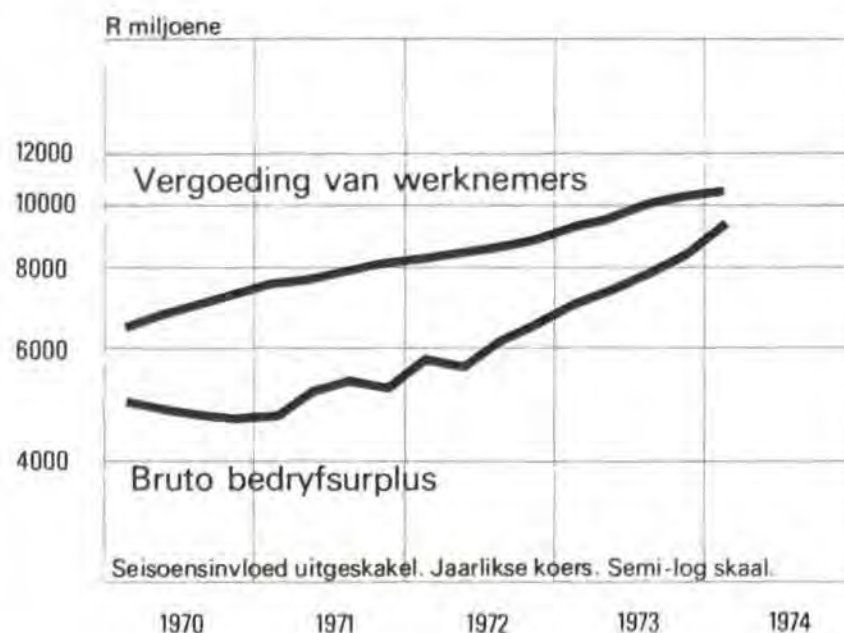
Die hoë koers van inflasie bly in Suid-Afrika, soos ook elders in die wêreld, een van die mees dringende probleme waarmee die owerhede te doen het. Gedurende 1973 het die verbruikersprysindeks met 10,0 persent gestyg maar vanaf April 1973 tot April 1974 'n effens laer styging van 9,6 persent getoon. Die versnelling in die koers van toename wat in die vierde kwartaal van 1973 voorgekom het, is nie gedurende die eerste vier maande van 1974 voortgesit nie maar ongeveer dieselfde hoë koers van toename is aange-teken. 'n Opvallende kenmerk van prysneigings vroeg in 1974 was die skerp versnelling in die koers van toename in die groothandelspryse van ingevoerde goedere.

## Nasionale rekeninge

### *Laer koers van toename in die reële bruto binnelandse produk*

Nadat dit in die derde kwartaal van 1973 'n baie hoë vlak bereik het, het die koers van toename in die reële bruto binnelandse produk gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1973 en die eerste kwartaal van 1974 tot 'n laer vlak gedaal. Die groeiakoers is nietermin nog steeds hoog en 'n uitstekende ekonomiese groeiakoers word vir 1974 verwag. Die verlangsamings in die koers van toename in die reële bruto binnelandse produk ná die derde kwartaal van 1973 was nie onverwags nie in die lig van oorwegings soos die meer volledige besetting van die produksie- en arbeidskapasiteit en internasionale ekonomiese onsekerhede, met insluiting van probleme wat met die aanbod van olie en ander grondstowwe in verband staan. Die huidige algemene verlangsamings in die koers van toename in die ekonomiese bedrywigheid wat deur Suid-Afrika se vernaamste handelsvennote ondervind word, sal moontlik ook 'n invloed op die groei in die binnelandse ekonomiese bedrywigheid uitoefen maar aangesien hierdie eksterne kragte gewoonlik tyd nodig het om die Suid-Afrikaanse ekonomie te beïnvloed, sal die groeiakoers vir 1974 baie gunstig vergelyk met dié van die meeste ander nywerheidslande. 'n Groeiakoers

## Bruto binnelandse produk



word verwag wat betekenisvol hoër sal wees as die taakstellingskoers van  $5\frac{3}{4}$  persent wat deur die Ekonomiese Ontwikkelingsprogram gestel is, ten spyte van 'n verdere afname in die volume van die goudproduksie.

Teen heersende markpryse het die koers van toename in die bruto binnelandse produk gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 verder versnel. Hierdie versnelling kon weer eens feitlik geheel en al aan 'n groot styging in die bruto bedryfsurplus, veral van die sektore landbou, mynbou, fabriekswese, en die groot- en kleinhandel, toegeskryf word. Die vergoeding van werknemers het slegs matig gestyg.

### *Verdere toename in bruto binnelandse vraag*

Nadat dit teen 'n buitengewoon hoë koers gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1973 gestyg het, het die totale binnelandse vraag, soos gemeet deur bruto binnelandse besteding, gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 aansienlik verder gestyg alhoewel die koers van toename laer was. Belangrike veranderinge het egter voorgekom in die koers van toename van die komponente van die bruto binnelandse besteding oor die afgelope twee kwartale. Waar die koers van toename in totale verbruik en vaste investeringsuitgawes gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 effens versnel het, het skommelings in voorraad-investering die koers van toename van die totale monetêre vraag laat daal. Nadat netto toevoegings tot voorrade vanaf 'n afname in die derde tot 'n aansienlike toevoeging in die vierde kwartaal verander het, en sodoende aansienlik tot die koers van toename in totale vraag bygedra het, het dit gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 min verandering getoon, d.w.s. dit het gebly op die hoë peil wat in die vierde kwartaal van 1973 bereik is. In die geval van die ander vernaamste bestedingskomponente het die koers van toename in die private verbruiksbesteding



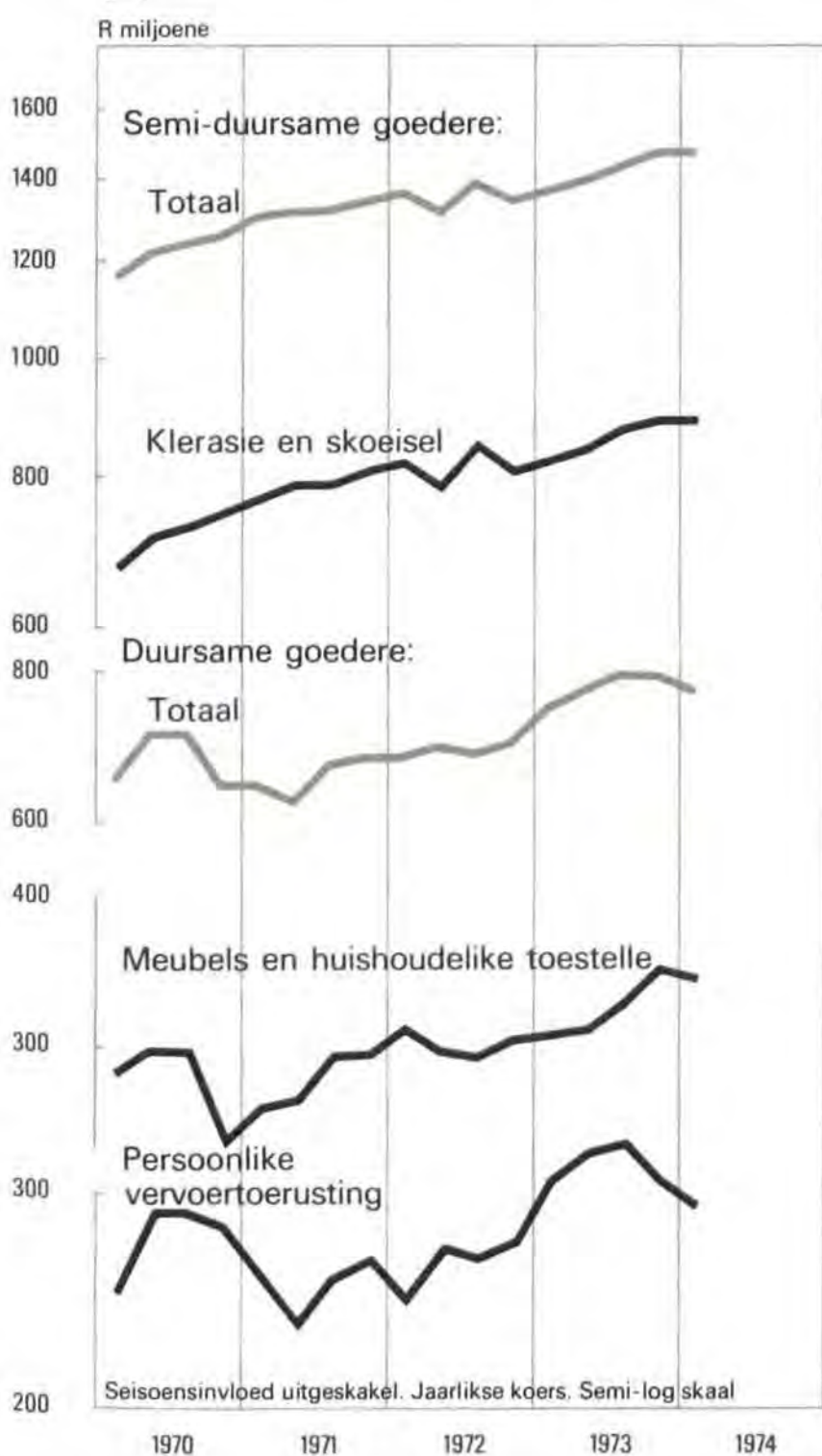
en die bruto binnelandse vaste investering min of meer dieselfde gebly, terwyl die van die owerheidsverbruksbesteding versnel het. Die koers van toename in die totale monetêre vraag het nietemin gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 op 'n hoë vlak gebly.

Die feit dat die koers van toename in die bruto binnelandse besteding laer was as dié in die bruto binnelandse en die nasionale produk is ook weerspieël in 'n duidelike afname in die tekort op die lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans vanaf die vierde kwartaal van 1973 tot die eerste kwartaal van 1974.

#### *Private verbruiksbesteding*

Die koers van toename in die private verbruiksbesteding teen sowel heersende as konstante pryse het tussen die vierde kwartaal van 1973 en die eerste kwartaal van 1974 nie wesenlik verander nie. Teen

#### **Private verbruiksbesteding teen konstante 1963-pryse**



heersende pryse is opmerklike toenames aangeteken in die besteding aan nie-duursame en semi-duursame goedere, veral motorbrandstof en -olie en klerasie en skoeisel. Aansienlike toenames in die pryse van hierdie artikels was egter hoofsaaklik vir die verhoogde besteding verantwoordelik. Die reële besteding aan semi-duursame goedere het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 in werklikheid slegs marginaal toegeneem teenoor 'n betreklik hoë koers van toename gedurende die voorafgaande vier kwartale, terwyl die reële besteding aan nie-duursame goedere en aan dienste die gewone matige styging getoon het.

Die besteding aan duursame goedere teen sowel heersende as konstante pryse het vir die tweede agtereenvolgende kwartaal gedaal. Hierdie dalings is hoofsaaklik toe te skryf aan 'n afname in die waarde van en aantal nuwe motors verkoop as gevolg van die uitwerking van owerheidsmaatreëls om brandstofverbruik deur motoriste te beperk. Die aantal nuwe motors verkoop het egter, na die skerp daling in Desember, gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 weer toegeneem. Die reële besteding aan meubels, wat gedurende die laaste helfte van 1973 'n opmerklike toename getoon het, het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 ook gedaal. Die betreklik stadige koers van toename in die reële private verbruiksbesteding, en die afname in die besteding aan duursame goedere in die besonder, kan in die algemeen toegeskryf word aan die laer koers van toename in die reële inkome van 'n groot gedeelte van die bevolking.

#### *Versnelling in owerheidsverbruiksbesteding*

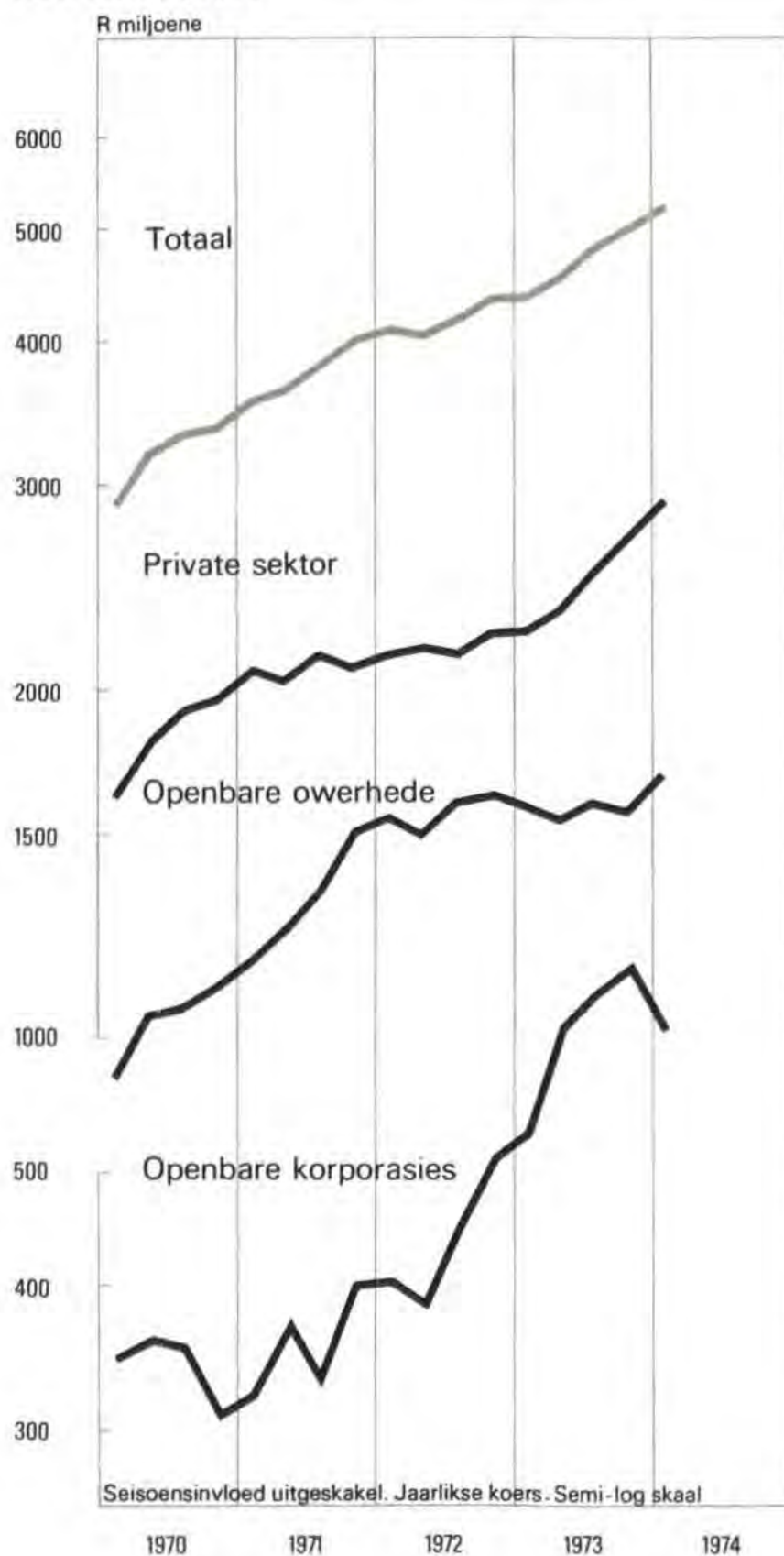
Nadat dit gedurende die tweede en derde kwartale van 1973 baie skerp toegeneem het, het die owerheidsverbruiksbesteding gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1973 'n laer koers van toename getoon, maar gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 sy sterk opwaartse neiging hervat. In teenstelling met ontwikkelings gedurende 1973, toe toenames in salarisse en lone tesame met hoër pryse vir goedere en ander dienste vir die grootste deel van die skerp toename in die totale lopende owerheidsuitgawes verantwoordelik was, is die verdere styging gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 hoofsaaklik weerspieël in verhoogde besteding aan goedere en ander dienste. Alle vlakke van die owerheid, vanaf die sentrale regering tot plaaslike besture, het tot die verdere toename in die owerheidsverbruiksbesteding bygedra.

#### *Verdere opwaartse neiging in bruto binnelandse vaste investering*

Die bruto binnelandse vaste investering teen heersende pryse het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 voortgegaan om teen dieselfde betreklik hoë koers as gedurende die tweede helfte van 1974 toe te neem. Die verdere toename wat gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 aangeteken is, was ongeveer eweredig tussen geboue en konstruksiewerke



## Bruto binnelandse vaste investering teen heersende pryse



aan die een kant, en vervoertoerusting, masjinerie en ander toerusting aan die ander kant, verdeel.

Gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 is dieselfde hoë koers van toename as gedurende die vorige kwartaal in die vaste kapitaalbesteding deur die private sektor aangeteken, met belangrike bydraes deur die landbou, die goud- en ander mynbou, en woningbou. Die verwagte groot landbou-oeste het boere aangespoor om meer kapitaaltoerusting aan te koop en die goud- en nie-goudmyne het hulle kapitaalbesteding verhoog om die voordele van die hoër pryse van goud en ander minerale te benut. Vaste investe-

ring deur die private fabriekswesesektor het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 nie veel verder toegeneem nie maar op die hoë vlak gebly wat gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1973 bereik is. Die jongste kwartaalsyfers gee nou bevestiging van 'n besliste opswaai in die vaste investering van die private fabriekswesesektor vanaf die derde kwartaal van 1973, dit wil sê vir drie opeenvolgende kwartale.

Vaste investering deur openbare korporasies, wat dikwels groot kwartaallike skommelings toon, het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 aansienlik gedaal maar hierdie daling is geheel en al geneutraliseer deur 'n opmerklike toename in die kapitaalbesteding van openbare owerhede. Nadat dit gedurende die verloop van 1973 'n dalende neiging getoon het, het die vaste investering aan gemeenskaps- en sosiale dienste deur openbare owerhede gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 toegeneem, hoofsaaklik as gevolg van verhoogde besteding aan geboue deur die sentrale regering en aan paaie deur die provinsiale administrasies. Kapitaalluitgawes deur regeringsakeondernemings soos die Suid-Afrikaanse Spoorweë en Hawens en die Departement van Poswese en Telekommunikasie het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 nie wesenlik verander nie.

### Voorraadinvestering

Die boekwaarde van totale voorrade het weer gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974, soos in die vierde kwartaal van 1973, 'n groot styging getoon. Aansienlike toevoegings tot nywerheids- en handelsvoorrade was feitlik geheel en al vir die groot styging gedurende die afgelope kwartaal verantwoordelik. Die groot toevoegings tot voorrade gedurende die afgelope twee kwartale het gelei tot 'n ommekeer in die dalende neiging van die verhouding van nie-landbouvoorrade tot die vergelykbare bruto binnelandse produk sedert die begin van 1971 en klein stygings is in sowel die vierde kwartaal van 1973 as die eerste kwartaal van 1974 aangeteken.

### Toename in bruto binnelandse besparing

Bruto binnelandse besparing, wat gedurende die derde en vierde kwartale van 1973 skerp gestyg het vanaf die lae peil gedurende die tweede kwartaal van 1973, het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 aansienlik verder gestyg maar was nogtans steeds onvoldoende om totale binnelandse investering te finansier. Die toename in totale binnelandse besparing gedurende die eerste kwartaal is in hoofsaak toe te skryf aan groter maatskappybesparing as gevolg van hoër winste en 'n verdere styging in die lopende surplus van die algemene owerheid, wat onder meer deur hoër belastingontvangstes meegebring is. Met die voorsiening vir waardevermindering wat sy normale toename getoon het, wil dit voorkom asof persoonlike besparing gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 tot 'n baie lae vlak gedaal het.



Algemene ekonomiese aanwysers

Nasionale rekeninge-gegewens en verskeie ander ekonomiese aanwysers gee die indruk dat die koers van toename in die ekonomiese bedrywigheid, wat teen die einde van 1972 begin styg het, nie voortgegaan het om verder te *versnel* gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1973 en die eerste kwartaal van 1974 nie maar nogtans op 'n hoë vlak gebly het. 'n Aantal

Algemene ekonomiese aanwysers



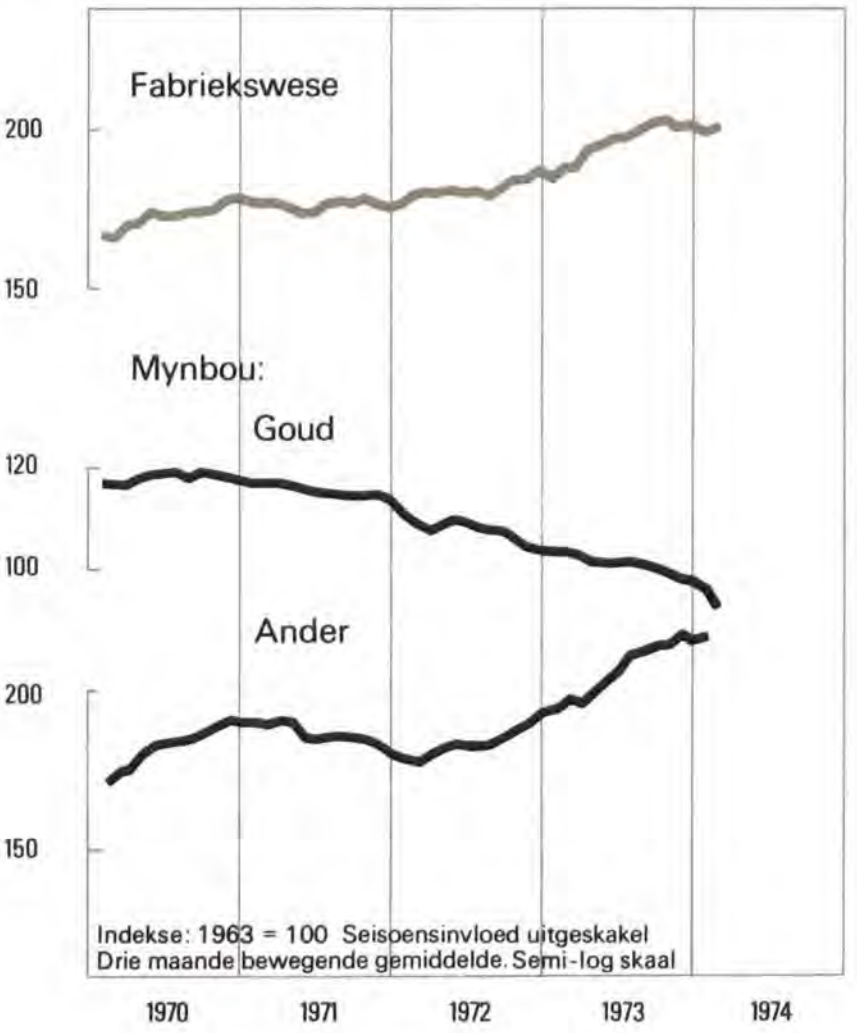
aanwysers dui daarop dat nadat die groeikoers vir meer as 'n jaar aanhoudend versnel het, die Suid-Afrikaanse volkshuishouding 'n stadium bereik het, veral gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974, waar baie afdelings van die nywerheid teen 'n hoë peil van benutting van produksie-kapasiteit gewerk het en die arbeidstoestand strammer geword het.

Ander algemene ekonomiese aanwysers soos die aantal verbande geregistreer, die waarde van transaksies in vaste eiendom, en bankdebette, toon ook dat die hoë koers van toename in die ekonomiese bedrywigheid wat gedurende die grootste deel van 1973 ondervind is, nie gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 gehandhaaf is nie. Dieselfde algemene neiging is waargeneem by die seisoensaangesuiwerde aantal geregistreerde werklose Blankes, Kleurlinge en Asiërs. Ná 'n skerp afname vanaf 13 267 in Oktober 1972 tot 9 118 in November 1973, het die aantal werkloses slegs matig verder afgeneem tot 8 755 in Maart 1974.

Fabriekswese en konstruksie

Nadat die volume van fabrieksproduksie gedurende 1971 en 1972 teen 'n lae koers gestyg het, het dit gedurende 1973 teen 'n baie bevredigende koers van 9,0 persent toegeneem. Hierdie hoë groeikoers was veral opmerklik gedurende die eerste elf maande van 1973 maar het geneig om gedurende die daaropvol-

Fisiese volume van produksie





gende vier maande af te plat. Gedurende die vier maande geëindig Maart 1974 was die vlak van produksie nietemin nog 8,3 persent hoër as gedurende die ooreenstemmende tydperk van die vorige jaar.

In teenstelling met die verandering in die neiging van produksie, het die waarde van onvoltooide bestellings tot Februarie 1974 aangehou om te styg. Die meer gelyke verloop is moontlik veroorsaak deur die tekort aan sekere grondstowwe en die invloed van die olie-krisis, asook deur die feit dat sekere afdelings van die fabriekswesesektor tans werk teen 'n peil wat ná aan volle kapasiteit is. Laasgenoemde word bevestig deur die verdere toename en die hoë peil wat aangeteken is in die persentasie kapasiteitsbenutting in die fabriekswese, soos bereken deur die Departement van Statistiek.

Wat die arbeidstoestand betref is dit betekenisvol om daarop te let dat oortydure as persentasie van gewone ure gewerk in die fabriekswese aangehou het om te styg tot Desember 1973 (die jongste syfer beskikbaar), en dat die totale aantal geregistreerde werklose Blankes, Kleurlinge en Asiërs in Maart 1974 die lae vlak van 8 755 bereik het, wat albei daarop dui dat die arbeidstoestand die afgelope tyd strammer geword het.

Soos voorheen reeds genoem, het die vaste investering van die private fabriekswese vir die drie opeenvolgende kwartale vanaf die derde kwartaal van 1973 'n duidelike opswaai getoon, en alhoewel daar 'n tydsloering tussen 'n toename in die vaste investering en hoër produksie bestaan, lyk die vooruitsigte vir 'n verdere uitbreiding van die produksie goed te wees.

Ná 'n stadige herstel vanaf die begin van 1973, het die bou- en konstruksiebedrywigheid gedurende die laaste drie kwartale van die jaar opmerklik toegeneem en volgens voorlopige inligting is hierdie opwaartse neiging gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 voortgesit. Die opswaai in die bou- en konstruksiebedrywigheid blyk uit die verloop van reekse soos die totale aantal ure gewerk, groothandelsverkope van boumateriaal, sementproduksie, die waarde van bouplanne goedgekeur en, in 'n mindere mate, die waarde van geboue voltooi.

### *Mynbou*

Die volume van die mynbouproduksie, wat gedurende die eerste drie kwartale van 1973, taamlik skerp gestyg het, het gedurende die vierde kwartaal en die eerste twee maande van 1974 afgeplat. Hierdie afplatting gedurende die vyf maande tot Februarie 1974 was die netto resultaat van 'n vinniger koers van afname in die volume van die goudproduksie en 'n stadiger groeikoers van die nie-goudmynbouproduksie.

Nieteenstaande 'n toename in die volume gouderts gemaak sedert die tweede kwartaal van 1972, het die volume van die goudproduksie 'n aanhoudende afname getoon as gevolg van 'n verlaging van die graad van erts gemaak. Dit is op sy beurt weer moontlik gemaak deur

die skerp styging in die prys van goud op die private mark. In die eerste kwartaal van 1974 was die aantal kilogramme goud geproduseer byvoorbeeld 9,6 persent laer as dié wat gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1973 geproduseer is terwyl die volume van goud geproduseer gedurende die 1973-kalenderjaar 5,8 persent minder was as gedurende die vorige jaar.

Die volume van die nie-goudmynbouproduksie het in Januarie 1974 skerp afgeneem en in Februarie slegs gedeeltelik herstel. Die vernaamste oorsaak van die afname was blykbaar vervoerprobleme en produksievertragings as gevolg van vloedskade aan die begin van 1974. Gedurende die eerste twee maande van 1974 was die gemiddelde nie-goudmynbouproduksie ietwat onder die vlak van die vierde kwartaal van 1973 maar nogtans 10,7 persent hoër as gedurende die eerste twee maande van 1973.

### *Handel*

Die toestand in die groot- en kleinhandel het gedurende die eerste kwartaal lewendig gebly. Skerp stygings het in sowel die groot- as die kleinhandelsverkope voorgekom, veral teen heersende pryse. Dit is egter betekenisvol dat die besteding op meubels en huishoudelike toebehore in Februarie en Maart 1974 skerp afgeneem het. Dit is moontlik veroorsaak deur die meer beperkte krediettoestand gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 en deur die koopkragverminderende uitwerking van die hoë inflasiekoers op die verbruikers.

As gevolg van 'n aanvanklike oor-reaksie met betrekking tot die olie-krisis, het die aantal motorvoertuie verkoop in Desember 1973 skerp gedaal maar het gedurende die volgende vier maande merkwaardig herstel. Die aantal nuwe motorvoertuie verkoop gedurende die eerste vier maande van 1974 was nietemin nog ietwat minder as die aantal wat gedurende dieselfde tydperk 'n jaar gelede verkoop is.

### *Pryse*

Een van die dringendste ekonomiese probleme in Suid-Afrika, net soos elders in die wêreld, is nog steeds die baie hoë koerse van prysstygings.

Gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 het die koers van toename van die gemiddelde verbruikersprysindeks op dieselfde hoë vlak wat in die vierde kwartaal van 1973 bereik is, gebly. Vanaf April 1973 tot April 1974 het die verbruikersprysindeks met 9,6 persent gestyg. Uiteenlopende neigings kon egter in die koers van toename van verskeie komponente van die indeks waargeneem word. Die pryse van voedsel het gedurende Januarie en Februarie gedaal, hoofsaaklik as gevolg van dalings in die pryse van groente en vrugte, maar gedurende Maart en April weer gestyg. Die maandelikse gemiddelde pryse van alle goedere uitgesonderd voedsel, het egter tussen die



Verbruikerspryse

Persentasiekoers van verandering in seisoensaangesuiwerde indekse

	1ste kw. 1973 tot 2de kw. 1973	2de kw. 1973 tot 3de kw. 1973	3de kw. 1973 tot 4de kw. 1973	4de kw. 1973 tot 1ste kw. 1974	April 1973 tot April 1974
Dienste . . . . .	2,3	2,0	1,6	1,8	8,1
Behuising . . . . .	2,5	1,5	1,3	1,9	7,7
Ander . . . . .	1,9	3,0	2,3	1,5	8,9
Goedere . . . . .	2,1	1,5	3,3	3,0	10,4
Voedsel . . . . .	3,7	1,2	4,5	1,3	9,1
Meublement en toerusting . . . . .	1,5	1,7	1,7	3,2	10,2
Klerasie en skoeisel . . . . .	2,3	2,6	2,4	4,3	14,1
Voertuie . . . . .	-0,2	1,1	1,5	2,1	5,4
Ander . . . . .	0,8	1,5	2,9	5,4	12,8
Totaal . . . . .	2,1	1,7	2,6	2,6	9,6

vierde kwartaal van 1973 en die eerste kwartaal van 1974 met nie minder nie as 4,1 persent of teen 'n jaarkoers van 17,6 persent, gestyg. Hierdie versneling was die gevolg van aansienlike toenames in die pryse van petroleumprodukte, klerasie, skoeisel, meubels en nie-elektriese toerusting. Die koers van toename in die pryse van dienste het in die eerste kwartaal van 1974 ook effens vinniger gestyg, hoofsaaklik as gevolg van 'n styging in behuisingskoste.

Groothandelspryse het tussen Maart 1973 en Maart 1974 met 13,8 persent gestyg. Vanaf die vierde kwartaal van 1973 tot die eerste kwartaal van 1974 het pryse verder versnel tot 'n jaarkoers van ongeveer 16 persent. As gevolg van 'n afname in die

pryse van Suid-Afrikaans-geproduseerde landbouprodukte en 'n laer koers van styging in die pryse van verwerkte voedselprodukte gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974, het die koers van toename in die pryse van goedere geproduseer in Suid-Afrika vanaf die vierde kwartaal van 1973 tot die eerste kwartaal van 1974 verminder tot 'n jaarkoers van 14,5 persent vergeleke met 'n styging van 15,3 persent gedurende die voorafgaande kwartaal. Nadat die koers van toename in die pryse van ingevoerde goedere gedurende die eerste helfte van 1973 ietwat verminder het, het dit in die volgende drie kwartale versnel en tussen die vierde kwartaal van 1973 en die eerste kwartaal van 1974 'n jaarkoers van 20,1 persent bereik.

Groothandelspryse

Persentasiekoers van verandering in seisoensaangesuiwerde indekse

	1ste kw. 1973 tot 2de kw. 1973	2de kw. 1973 tot 3de kw. 1973	3de kw. 1973 tot 4de kw. 1973	4de kw. 1973 tot 1ste kw. 1974	Maart 1973 tot Maart 1974
Goedere geproduseer in Suid-Afrika . . . . .	3,3	3,3	3,6	3,4	13,2
Landbou, bosbou en vissery . . . . .	3,2	1,7	5,1	-0,5	6,7
Fabriekswese . . . . .	3,5	3,4	3,3	4,4	14,4
Drank en tabak . . . . .	1,7	0,6	1,2	1,7	5,3
Tekstiele, klerasie en skoeisel . . . . .	4,3	4,6	5,9	6,0	23,4
Basiese metale en metaalprodukte . . . . .	3,7	4,8	2,8	4,2	17,4
Masjinerie en vervoertoerusting . . . . .	1,9	3,1	1,7	2,9	11,0
Voedsel . . . . .	5,8	2,4	4,4	2,3	9,6
Ander . . . . .	2,6	3,8	3,1	7,6	18,6
Ander . . . . .	0,4	7,5	3,2	3,4	16,5
Ingevoerde goedere . . . . .	2,1	4,0	3,7	4,7	16,2
Totaal . . . . .	3,0	3,4	3,6	3,8	13,8



## Betalingsbalans

Gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 het die betalingsbalans in sy geheel, soos weerspieël in die verandering in die goud- en ander buitelandse reserves, aansienlik verbeter vanaf 'n tekort van R238 miljoen in die vierde kwartaal van 1973 tot 'n oorskot van R80 miljoen in die eerste kwartaal van hierdie jaar. Hierdie opmerklike verbetering in die totale saldo het op sowel die lopende as die kapitaalrekening voorgekom. Die tekort op die lopende rekening het gedurende die eerste kwartaal opvallend verminder, hoofsaaklik as gevolg van 'n skerp styging in die netto goudproduksie en hoër ontvangste uit die uitvoer van diamante wat meer as vergoed het vir die toename in die waarde van goedere-invoere, met insluiting van die hoër koste van olie. Terselfdertyd het die kapitaaluitvloeiing gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1973 verander na 'n invloeiing van kapitaal gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974. Hierdie verandering is meegebring deur 'n invloeiing van kapitaal na die sentrale regering en banksektor, aansienlike buitelandse lenings deur openbare korporasies, en 'n afname in die uitvloeiing van korttermynkapitaal van die private sektor.

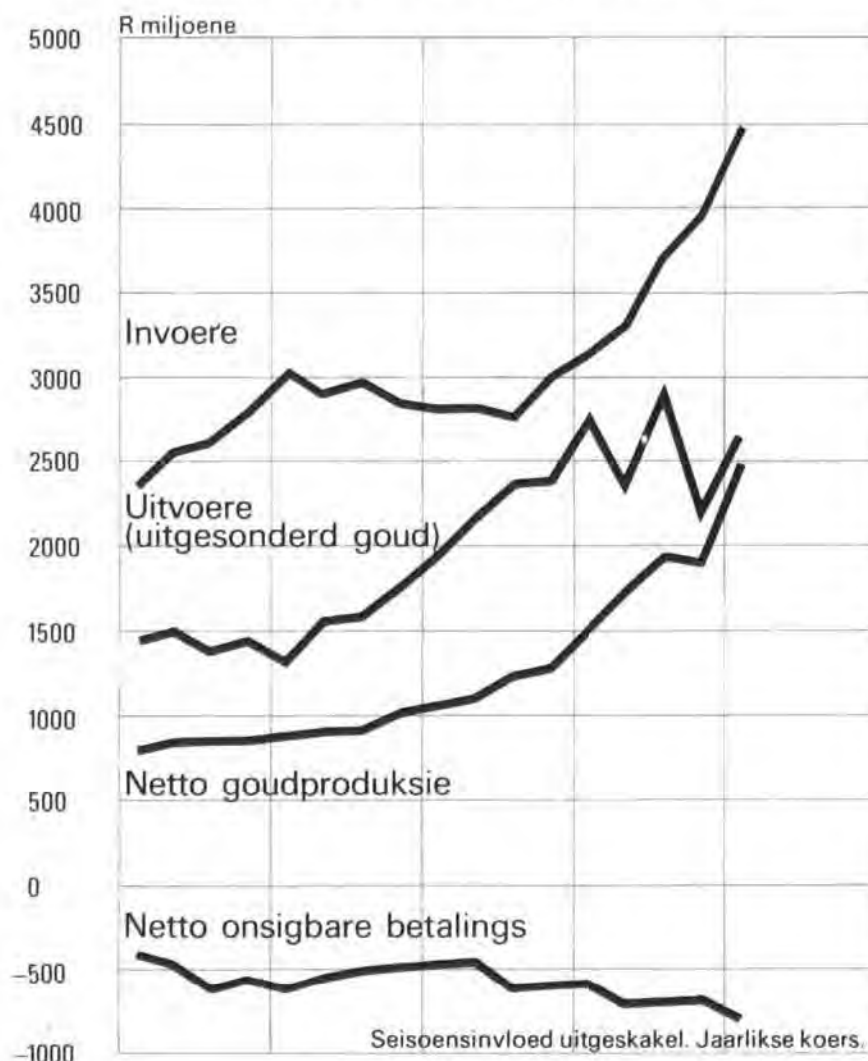
### Aansienlike verbetering op lopende rekening

Die tekort op lopende rekening het vanaf R226 miljoen in die vierde kwartaal van verlede jaar tot slegs ongeveer R63 miljoen in die eerste kwartaal van hierdie jaar verminder. As hierdie syfers aangepas word vir seisoenskommeling en teen 'n jaarkoers geneem word, is hierdie verbetering op die lopende rekening selfs nog meer opvallend, aangesien dit vanaf 'n tekort van R582 miljoen in die vierde kwartaal na 'n tekort van slegs R138 miljoen in die eerste kwartaal van 1974 verander het. Hierdie verbetering op die lopende rekening was hoofsaaklik die gevolg van skerp toenames in die netto goudproduksie en die uitvoer van diamante, wat aansienlik meer was as die toename in die goedere-invoer en die styging in die netto onsigbare betalings aan die res van die wêreld.

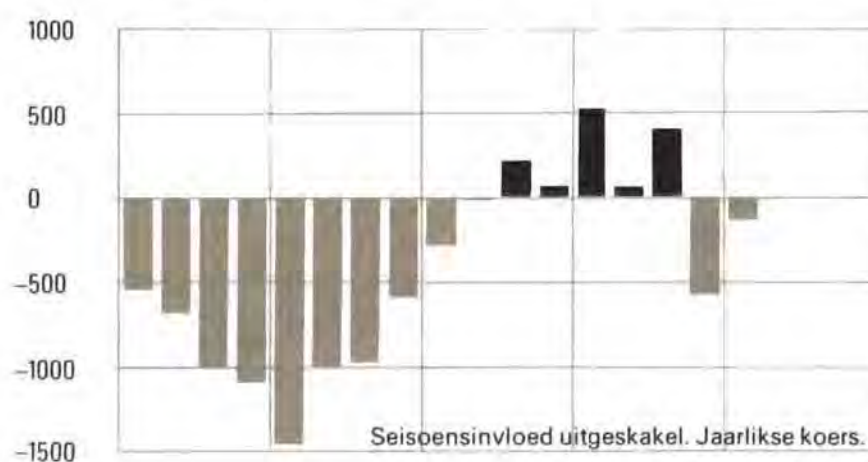
Soos gedurende die grootste deel van 1973, het 'n styging in die goudprys op die private mark gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 'n aansienlike toename in die netto goudproduksie meegebring. Die gemiddelde prys van goud op die private mark in Londen het byvoorbeeld vanaf effens meer as \$100 per fyn ons in die vierde kwartaal van verlede jaar tot net minder as \$150 per fyn ons gedurende die eerste kwartaal van hierdie jaar gestyg. Alhoewel die fisiese volume van die goudproduksie gedurende die eerste kwartaal weer eens afgeneem het, het die netto goudproduksie nogtans 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarsyfer van R2 482 miljoen bedra in vergelyking met R1 894 miljoen in die voorafgaande kwartaal, d.w.s. 'n toename van 31 persent.

Nadat die goedere-uitvoer teen 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers, vanaf R2 904 miljoen in die derde

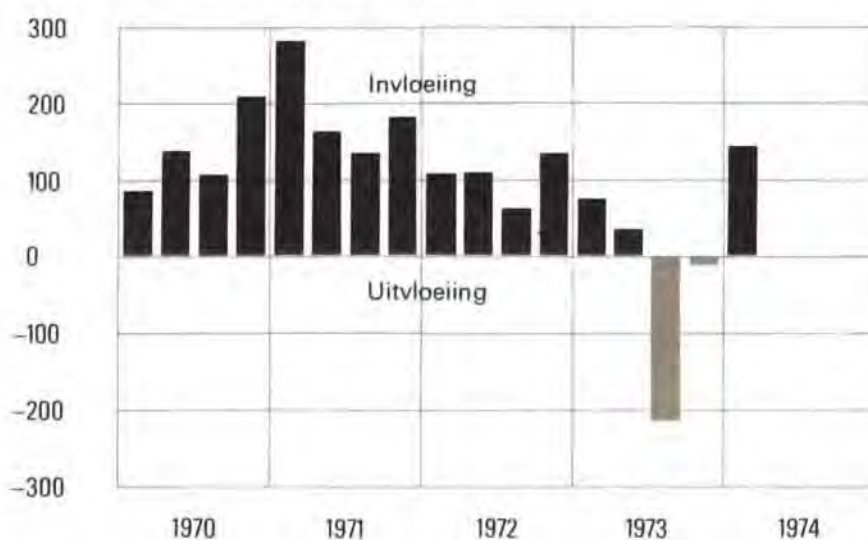
## Lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans



## Saldo op lopende rekening



## Totale kapitaalbewegings





Netto goudproduksie



kwartaal tot R2 194 miljoen in die vierde kwartaal van 1973 gedaal het, het dit weer skerp tot R2 655 miljoen in die eerste kwartaal van 1974 toegeneem. Hierdie opvallende toename in die uitvoer was hoofsaaklik die gevolg van 'n aansienlike styging in die ontvangste vir die uitvoer van diamante en in 'n mindere mate ook van 'n toename in die uitvoer van sagtevrugte. Hierteenoor het die uitvoer van tekstielgoedere en voedsel gedurende die eerste kwartaal van hierdie jaar 'n daling getoon.

Die goedere-invoer het eweneens 'n groot toename getoon vanaf 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers van R3 972 miljoen in die vierde kwartaal van 1973 tot nie minder nie as R4 474 miljoen in die eerste kwartaal van 1974. 'n Belangrike faktor wat tot hierdie toe-

name bygedra het, was die aansienlike styging in die prys van olie en verwante produkte teen die einde van 1973 en in die begin van hierdie jaar. Binnelandse tekorte aan sekere produkte, bv. basiese metale, het egter ook tot hoër invoere aanleiding gegee. Die netto onsigbare betalings aan die res van die wêreld het ook opmerklik toegeneem, onder andere deurdat die hoër goudprys 'n aansienlike toename in die betaling van dividende aan buitelanders tot gevolg gehad het. Hoër rentebetalings deur openbare korporasies en die Departement van Pos- en Telekommunikasiewese, wat gedurende 1973 groot bedrae in die buiteland geleen het, het ook tot die styging in die netto onsigbare betalings gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 bygedra.

Matige netto invloeiing van kapitaal

In teenstelling met die klein netto kapitaaluitvloeiing van R12 miljoen gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1973, is gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 'n netto kapitaalinvloeiing van R143 miljoen aangeteken. Soos die bygaande tabel toon, is hierdie verandering hoofsaaklik meegebring deur 'n toename in die bedrag wat deur openbare korporasies in die buiteland geleen is, 'n afname in die uitvloeiing van korttermynkapitaal van die private sektor, en 'n invloeiing van kapitaal na die sentrale regering en banksektor. Die aansienlike vermindering van die uitvloeiing van korttermynkapitaal van die private sektor gedurende die eerste kwartaal het hoofsaaklik voorgekom as gevolg van: (1) die verdwyning van die ongegronde spekulasie betreffende 'n moontlike devaluasie van die rand; (2) die vervroegings en vertragings van betalings aan en ontvangste vanaf die buiteland het nie langer teen Suid-Afrika gewerk nie; (3) verdere binnelandse bankkrediet het moeilik bekombaar geword, wat die omskakeling vanaf buitelandse na binnelandse finansiering moeiliker gemaak het; en (4) die verskille tussen die rentekoerse wat in die buiteland heers en Suid-Afrikaanse koerse het effens vernou as gevolg van die verhoging in die Suid-Afrikaanse koerse, alhoewel hierdie verskille nog steeds groot gebly het.

Netto kapitaalbewegings

R miljoene

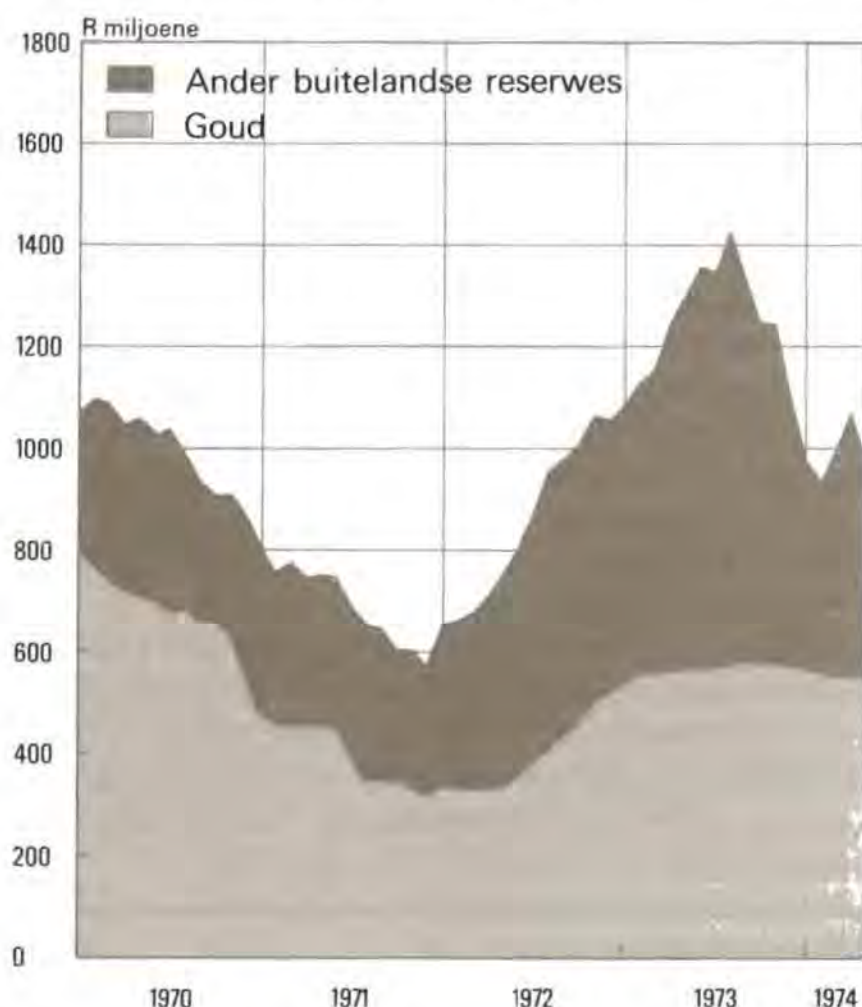
	4de kw. van 1973	1ste kw. van 1974
Private sektor	15	104
Langtermynlenings van openbare korporasies	113	139
Ander langtermynkapitaal	20	-10
Korttermynkapitaal, insluitende foute en onaangetekende transaksies	-118	-25
Sentrale regering en banksektor	-27	39
Langtermynlenings van die sentrale regering	3	15
Ander	-24	24
Totaal	-12	143



### *Toename in die goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes*

As gevolg van die gunstige betalingsbalans in sy geheel en waardasie-aansuiwerings, het die goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 met R92 miljoen toegeneem, vergeleke met 'n afname van R269 miljoen gedurende die voorafgaande kwartaal. In werklikheid het die goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes gedurende Februarie en Maart 1974 met R131 miljoen gestyg, nadat dit in Januarie met R39 miljoen gedaal het. Die toename gedurende die eerste kwartaal, tot 'n vlak van R1 068 miljoen aan die einde van Maart, het hoofsaaklik in die Reserwebank se besit aan buitelandse valuta voorgekom terwyl die Bank se goudbesit gedurende die kwartaal onder beskouing effens gedaal het. Die monetêre bankinstellings se besit aan buitelandse valuta het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van die jaar met R36 miljoen afgeneem.

### **Goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes**



### *Ontwikkelings gedurende April en Mei*

Gedurende April en Mei het die goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes van die Reserwebank weer met nie minder nie as R124 miljoen tot 'n vlak van R799 miljoen aan die einde van Mei gedaal. Die afname gedurende April en Mei het plaasgevind ten spyte van die feit dat al die nuutontginde goud op die private mark verkoop is en die goudprys op die Londense mark gemiddeld ongeveer \$172 per fyn ons beloop het.

Die maandelikse handelstatistiek wat deur die Departement van Doeane en Aksyns vrygestel word, toon 'n toename in die tekort op Suid-Afrika se goedere-handelsrekening gedurende April. Die goedere-invoer het vanaf 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers van R4 265 miljoen in Maart tot R4 733 miljoen in April toegeneem en die goedere-uitvoer het vanaf R3 139 miljoen tot R2 984 miljoen gedaal.

### **Monetêre en banktoestand**

#### *Hernieuwe versnelling van die toename in geld en kwasi-geld*

Gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 was die koers van toename in die seisoensaangesuiwerde hoeveelheid geld en kwasi-geld weer aansienlik vinniger as gedurende die voorafgaande kwartaal, en ook vinniger as gedurende die tweede en derde kwartale van 1973 en gedurende die jaar in sy geheel. Die geldvoorraad alleen, dit wil sê met uitsluiting van kwasi-geld, het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 in werklikheid teen 'n baie hoë jaarkoers van nie minder nie as 45 persent toegeneem. Dit kan vergelyk word met 'n toename van ongeveer 21 persent gedurende 1973.

### **Toenames in geld en kwasi-geld**

Seisoensinvloed uitgeskakel

	R miljoen	Jaarkoers %
1973: 1ste kwartaal	372	35
2de kwartaal	258	22
3de kwartaal	278	22
4de kwartaal	198	15
1974: 1ste kwartaal	384	29

### *Oorsake van veranderings in geld en kwasi-geld*

Soos gedurende die grootste deel van 1973, was die belangrikste enkele faktor wat gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 tot die styging in geld en kwasi-geld bygedra het, nog steeds die skerp styging in bankkrediet aan die private sektor. Nadat dit gedurende Januarie en Februarie 1974 onderskeidelik met R170 miljoen en R164 miljoen toegeneem het, het die eise van die banksektor teen die private sektor gedurende Maart egter met slegs R21 miljoen gestyg. Aangesien daar geen aanduidings was dat die vraag na bankkrediet besig was om te verslap nie, was hierdie skielike daling in die koers van uitbreiding van bankkrediet moontlik 'n weerspieëling van die banke se vertraagde reaksies op die skerp vernouing van hul likwiditeitsposisies sedert November verlede jaar, en op die meer konserwatiewe beleidshouding wat deur die monetêre owerhede ingeneem is. Hierbenewens



Oorsake van veranderings in geld en kwasi-geld – eerste kwartaal van 1974

R miljoene

	Seisoensinvloed nie uitgeskakel nie				Seisoensinvloed uitgeskakel			
	Jan.	Feb.	Maart	1ste kw. 1974	Jan.	Feb.	Maart	1ste kw. 1974
Netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes . . . . .	-45	53	38	46	-63	13	66	17
Eise teen die regeringsektor:								
Bruto eise . . . . .	18	64	-40	42	113	113	113	113
Regeringsdeposito's* . . . . .	-173	-234	146	-261	113	113	113	113
Netto eise . . . . .	-155	-171	106	-219	-18	-156	124	-50
Eise teen die private sektor . . . . .	170	164	21	355	186	138	9	333
Langtermyn private deposito's* . . . . .	-24	38	23	37	59	-51	64	72
Netto ander bates . . . . .	-47	72	-65	-41	113	113	113	113
<b>Totale oorsake van veranderings . . . . .</b>	<b>-102</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>384</b>

\*Toename-, afname+

het die netto remises in transito gedurende Maart egter aanmerklik gedaal vanaf die ongewoon hoë peil wat aan die einde van Februarie aangeteken is.

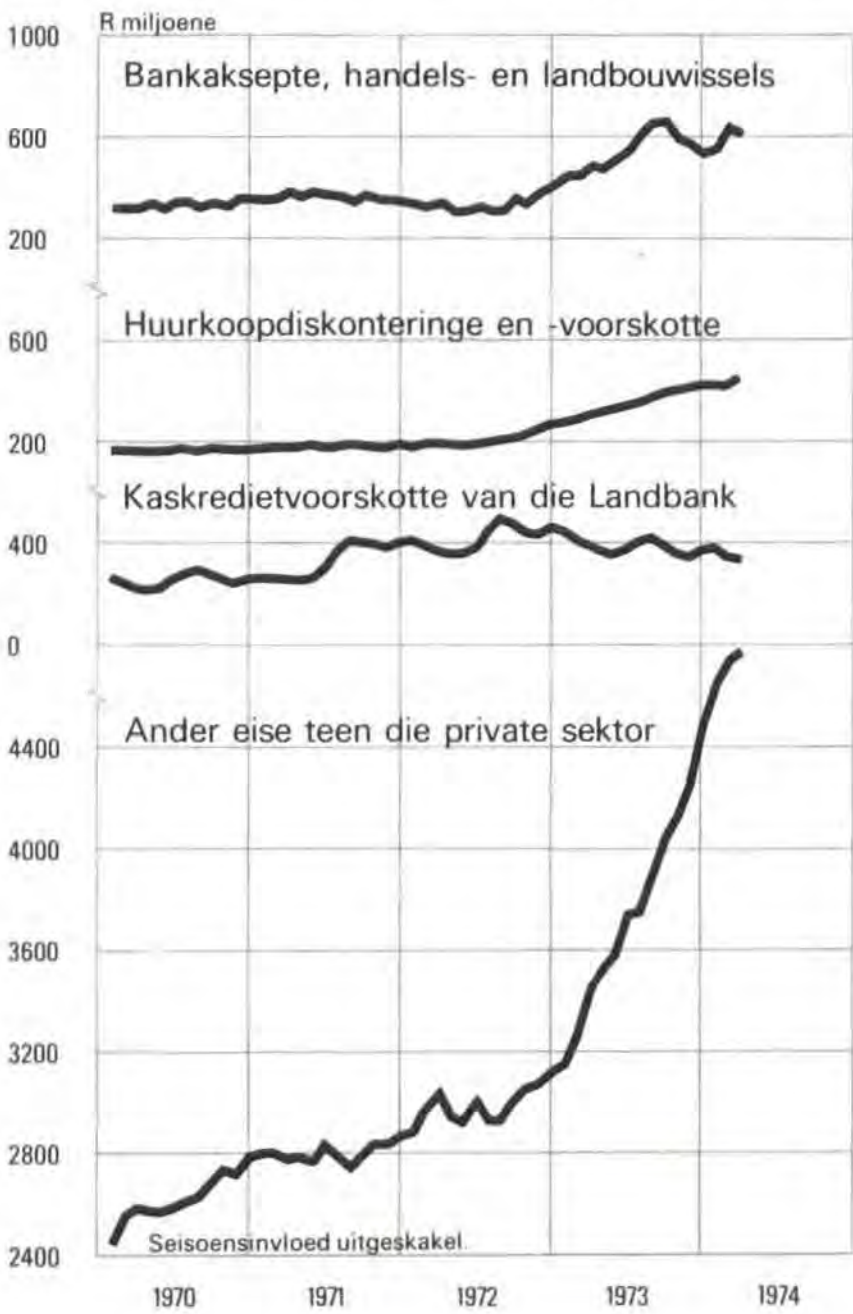
Betekenisvolle veranderings het in die loop van die eerste kwartaal van 1974 ook in ander oorsake van veranderings in geld en kwasi-geld voorgekom. Die netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes, wat gedurende Januarie 1974 nog 'n afname getoon het, het gedurende Februarie en Maart taamlik aansienlik gestyg voordat dit gedurende April weer gedaal het. Die netto eise teen die regeringsektor, wat gedurende die eerste twee maande van die jaar ooreenkomstig die sterk stygende peil van die regeringsdeposito's aansienlik gedaal het, het gedurende Maart weer toegeneem. Die langtermyndeposito's van die private sektor by die banksektor het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 'n daling getoon.

Bankkrediet

As gevolg van die skerp verminderde toename in die eise van die monetêre banksektor teen die private sektor gedurende Maart, het die seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers van toename in bankkrediet aan die private sektor gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 in sy geheel 25 persent beloop. Hierdie koers kan vergelyk word met seisoensaangesuiwerde jaar-koerse van toename van 36, 41, 38 en 27 persent gedurende die vier kwartale van 1973, en met 'n toename in bankkrediet aan die private sektor van 36 persent (R1 536 miljoen) gedurende 1973 in sy geheel.

Ongewoon hoë toenamekoerse is nog steeds aangeteken in die monetêre banke se besit aan verhuuringskontrakte en aan handelswissels en bankaksepte. Huurkontrakte het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 met R28 miljoen tot R303 miljoen toegeneem, en bankaksepte met R81 miljoen tot R493 miljoen.

Eise van monetêre banksektor teen private sektor

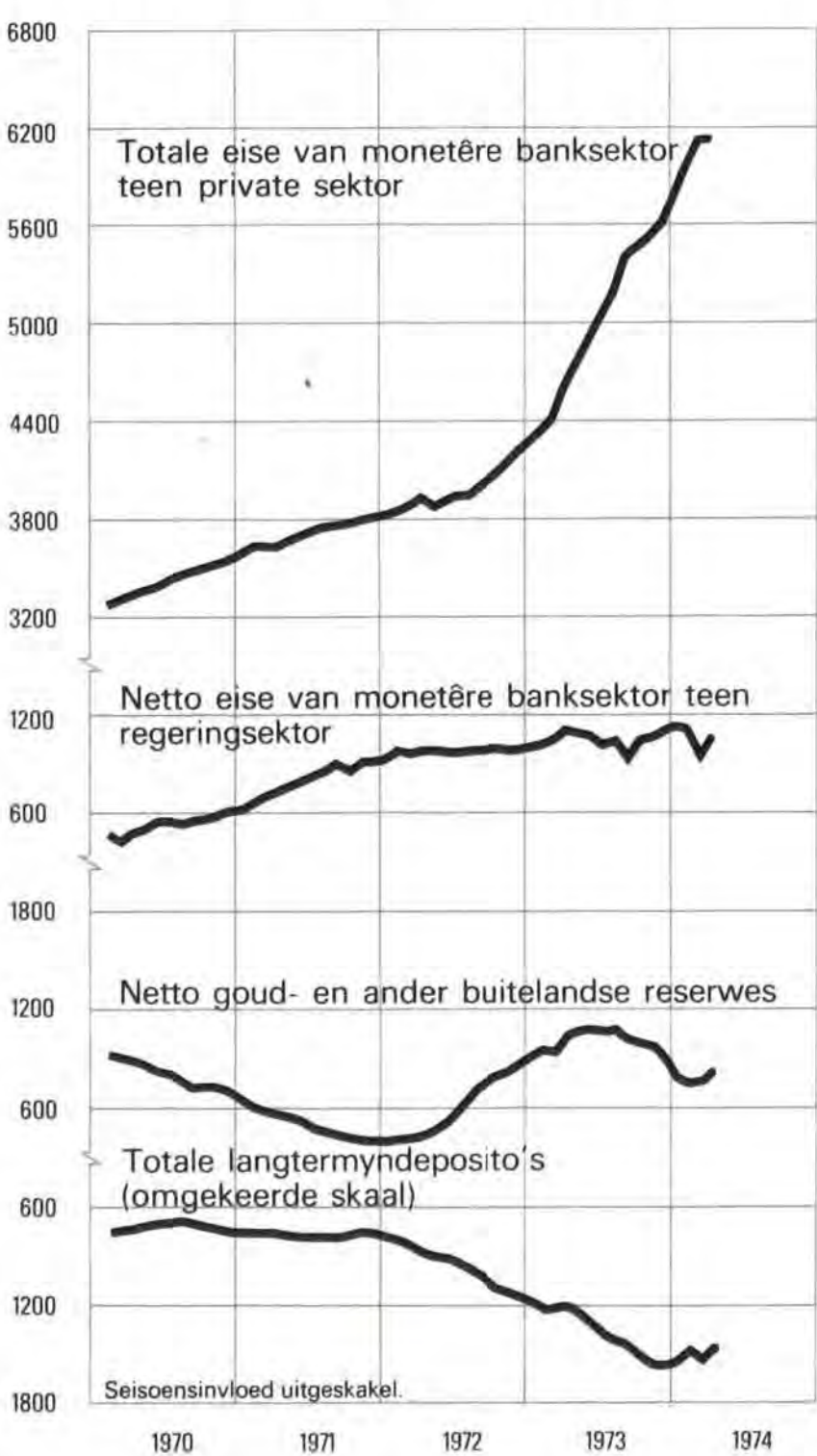




Monetêre ontleding



Oorsake van veranderings in geld en kwasi-geld



Volgens voorlopige syfers vir die vyf grootste banke en hul filiale was die toename in hul diskonteringe en voorskotte gedurende April 1974 aansienlik kleiner as dié gedurende elkeen van die eerste drie maande van die jaar.

Banklikwiditeit

Ná 'n marginale verbetering gedurende Desember 1973, het die likwiditeitsposisie van die handelsbanke, die aksepbanke en die monetêre huurkoop- en algemene banke gedurende Januarie en Februarie 1974, en in die geval van die handelsbanke ook gedurende Maart 1974, aanmerklik verswak. Aan die einde van Maart het die gesamentlike tekort van die monetêre banke se werklike besit aan likwiede bates in vergelyking met hul vereiste besit nie minder nie as R282 miljoen, of 3,5 persent van hul totale verpligtings teenoor die publiek, bedra.

Tussen die einde van Desember 1973 en die einde van Maart 1974 het die monetêre banke se likwiditeitsposisie verander vanaf 'n oorskot van R149 miljoen na 'n tekort van R282 miljoen, d.w.s. 'n verskuiwing van R431 miljoen. Hierdie verandering word verklaar deur 'n toename van R270 miljoen in die vereiste bedrag aan likwiede bates en 'n afname van R161 miljoen in die werklike besit aan likwiede bates. Eersgenoemde syfer was gedeeltelik die gevolg van 'n toename in die banke se verpligtings teenoor die publiek en gedeeltelik van 'n verskuiwing vanaf langertermyn- na kortertermyndeposito's. Die daling in die likwiede batebesit het tot op sekere hoogte die uitwerking weerspieël van die verpanding van likwiede bates as onderpand vir akkommodasie wat deur die Reserwebank verleen is. Teen die einde van Mei het meeste banke weer aan die likwiede bate-vereistes voldoen.

Verhoudings van likwiditeitsoorskotte of -tekorte %

	1973 Des.	1974 Jan.	1974 Feb.	1974 Maart
Handelsbanke . . . . .	2,0	-2,3	-4,4	-5,6
Aksepbanke . . . . .	0,4	-0,2	-0,8	1,0
Monetêre huurkoop- en algemene banke . . . . .	2,7	0,4	0,5	0,4
Totaal van alle bogenoemde monetêre bankinstellings:				
Verhouding . . . . .	1,9	-1,4	-3,0	-3,5
Bedrag van oorskot of tekort (—) (R miljoene) .	149	-113	-239	-282

Toestand op die geldmark en rentekoerse

Die toestand op die geldmark het aan die einde van Februarie baie stram geword, grotendeels as gevolg van 'n styging in regeringsdeposito's by die Reserwebank van meer as R270 miljoen tussen 22 en 28 Februarie. Gedurende Maart het die mark egter weer



betreklik bestendig verruim, hoofsaaklik as gevolg van 'n styging in die goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes en 'n aanmerkbare daling in die regeringsdeposito's. Gedurende die grootste deel van April het dit voortgegaan om te verruim aangesien die voortgesette daling in die regeringsdeposito's die hernieuwde dalings in die buitelandse reserwes oortref het. Alhoewel die normale vernouing van die mark oor maandeindes aan die einde van April betreklik beperk was, het die aggressiewe mededinging om fondse deur sekere bankinstellings om hul likwiditeitsposisie aan die einde van die maand te verbeter en hul skuldposisie teenoor die Reserwebank te verminder, 'n skerp daling in die daggeldlenings by die diskontohuise en 'n dienooreenkomstige styging in die huise se beroep op die Reserwebank veroorsaak. Ná die eerste paar dae van Mei het die mark egter dramaties verruim, grotendeels as gevolg van 'n skerp verdere daling in die regeringsdeposito's, wat hoofsaaklik teweeggebring is deur die aflossing van staatseffekte wat in die middel van die maand verval het.

Akkommodasie deur die Reserwebank in die vorm van oortrekkings en lenings aan banke, tesame met oornaglenings en die verdiskontering van skatkiswissels deur die diskontohuise, het vanaf R391 miljoen op 5 Maart tot R202 miljoen aan die einde van April en slegs R14 miljoen op 17 Mei gedaal.

Daggeldlenings by die diskontohuise, met uitsluiting van dié van die Staatskuldkommissaris, het regdeur die grootste deel van Maart en April betreklik bestendig toegeneem maar daarna tot slegs R114 miljoen op 3 Mei gedaal. Hulle het daarna egter skerp gestyg tot 'n hoogtepunt van R395 miljoen op 20 Mei. Onder hierdie omstandighede is die deposito's van die Staatskuldkommissaris by die diskontohuise tot 14 Mei op R111 miljoen gehou voordat dit gedurende die daaropvolgende sewe dae geheel en al onttrek is.

Die skatkiswissel-tenderkoers, wat in die middel van Februarie 'n peil van 4,70 persent bereik het, het tot 4,82 persent in die middel van Maart gestyg en, nadat dit gedurende April ietwat gedaal het, weer tot 4,79 persent op 24 Mei toegeneem. Die koers op VDS-e van 90 dae het vanaf die middel van Maart tot die middel van April vanaf 9,25 tot 8,25 persent gedaal. Gedurende die stram posisie van die diskontohuise oor die maandeinde van April en gedurende die eerste paar dae van Mei was hierdie koers slegs „by aansoek” beskikbaar; dit is vervolgens gekwoteer as 10 persent op 10 Mei en 9,0 persent op 17 Mei. Die koers op bankaksepte van drie maande is sedert vroeg in Januarie op 7,5 persent gehou.

Die gepubliseerde daggeldkoers en depositorente-koerse van die handelsbanke en ander bankinstellings is sedert 14 Januarie 1974 op die maksima van die depositokoersbeheer gehou maar is met ingang 1 Junie 1974 met  $1\frac{1}{2}$  persent verhoog toe die Bankkoers ook met 1 persent tot  $7\frac{1}{2}$  persent verhoog is en die stel

koerse wat deur die Reserwebank gekwoteer word, opwaarts aangepas is met tussen  $\frac{1}{4}$  en 1 persent.

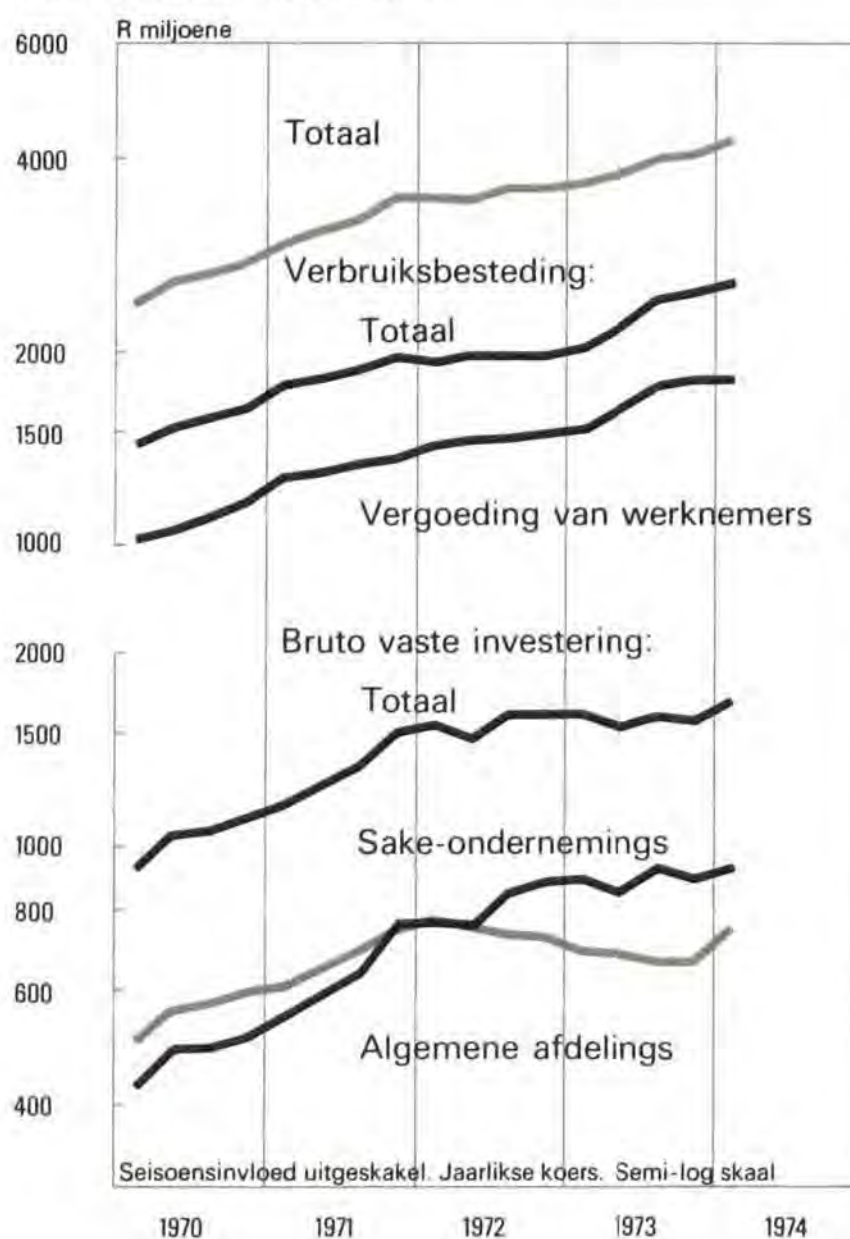
## Staatsfinansies

### *Inkome, uitgawe en surplus van openbare owerhede*

Gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 het sowel die vaste investering as die verbruiksbesteding van die openbare owerhede toegeneem terwyl gedurende die grootste gedeelte van 1973 slegs die verbruiksbesteding toegeneem het en die vaste investering geneig het om af te plat. Wat die verbruiksbesteding betref was 'n ander komponent vir die verdere styging gedurende die eerste kwartaal verantwoordelik. Terwyl gedurende 1973 die vergoeding van werknemers hoofsaaklik vir die styging verantwoordelik was, was die besteding op goedere en ander dienste, hoofsaaklik op verdediging, uitsluitend verantwoordelik vir die styging gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974.

Die skerp toename in die vaste investering van openbare owerhede gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 was hoofsaaklik die gevolg van besteding deur hul algemene afdelings op geboue, paaie en

### Bruto vaste investering en verbruiksbesteding deur openbare owerhede





brûe. Vaste investering deur die handelsafdelings van openbare owerhede, hoofsaaklik die Suid-Afrikaanse Spoorweë en die Departement van Pos- en Telekommunikasiewese, het gedurende die eerste kwartaal slegs matig toegeneem, hoofsaaklik as gevolg van toenemende besteding deur die Departement van Pos- en Telekommunikasiewese.

In weerwil van die hoër verbruiksbesteding gedurende die eerste kwartaal, het die algemene afdelings van openbare owerhede 'n rekord lopende surplus aangeteken. Dit was die gevolg van 'n aansienlike toename in lopende inkomste. Die belangrikste inkomstekomponente wat tot hierdie styging bygedra het, was direkte belastings en inkome uit eiendom. Hoër ontvangste van goudmynhuurkontrakte en lopende surplusse van die Spoorweë en die Departement van Pos- en Telekommunikasiewese was verantwoordelik vir 'n rekord inkome uit eiendom wat gedurende die betrokke tydperk aangeteken is.

#### *Skatkistekort kleiner as wat verwag is*

Die aansienlike lopende surplus van die openbare owerhede in 1973 sowel as gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 is weerspieël in 'n groot surplus op die Inkomsterekening van die sentrale regering. Dit het meegebring dat die skatkistekort van R402 miljoen vir die fiskale jaar geëindig 31 Maart 1974 aansienlik kleiner was as die R1 100 miljoen wat deur die Minister van Finansies in sy Begrotingsrede voorsien is. Dit was ook R240 miljoen minder as die tekort vir die voorafgaande fiskale jaar. Die belangrikste faktor wat vir hierdie besonder groot afwyking van die Begrotingsramings verantwoordelik was, was die toename van 32 persent in Skatkisontvangste, wat heelwat hoër is as die geraamde toename van 9 persent. Skatkisuitreikings daarenteen was slegs in 'n geringe mate hoër as die styging van 20 persent waarvoor in die Begroting voorsien is.

As gevolg van die kleiner tekort, was dit nie nodig om die R351 miljoen van die Stabilisasierekening na die Skatkisrekening oor te plaas soos oorspronklik deur die Minister voorgestel is nie. Met die finansiering van die tekort, het die regering sy netto skuldposisie teenoor die Staatskuldkommissaris, die private nie-banksektor en die monetêre banksektor met onderskeidelik R255 miljoen, R104 miljoen en R134 miljoen verhoog. Terselfdertyd is sy netto skuldposisie teenoor die buitelandse sektor met R90 miljoen verminder.

Die bydrae van R134 miljoen deur die monetêre banksektor tot die finansiering van die skatkistekort het bestaan uit 'n toename in die besit aan staats-effekte van R377 miljoen, verminder met 'n toename van R243 miljoen in skatkisdeposito's by die banksektor. Die Reserwebank en die Nasionale Finansiële korporasie het hulle besit aan staatskuldbewyse met R420 miljoen vergroot, terwyl ander monetêre bankinstellings hulle besit met R43 miljoen verminder het.

#### **Skatkisfinansies**

R miljoene

	Jaar geëindig 31 Maart		Kwartaal geëindig 31 Maart
	1973	1974	1974
Totale netto ontvangste . . . . .	3 182	4 205	1 290
Totale netto uitreikings . . . . .	3 824	4 607	1 552
Totale tekort (uitgesonderd Lenings) . . . . .	-642	-402	-262
Finansiering:			
Verandering in netto skuld- posisie teenoor:			
Buitelandse sektor . . . . .	83	-90	22
Private nie-banksektor:			
Leningsheffings . . . . .	-15	-12	-57
Ander . . . . .	445	116	23
Staatskuldkommissaris . . . . .	125	255	215
Betaalmeester-generaal . . . . .	-27	—	—
Sub-totaal . . . . .	611	268	203
Monetêre banksektor:			
Verandering in besit aan staatskuldbewyse gehou deur:			
S.A. Reserwebank en			
NFK . . . . .	27	420	52
Ander monetêre			
bankinstellings . . . . .	324	-43	-12
Verandering in skatkis- saldo* . . . . .	-319	-243	18
Sub-totaal . . . . .	32	134	59
Totale finansiering . . . . .	642	402	262

\*Toename—, afname+. Insluitende netto oordragte na die Stabilisasierekening en na die IMF-Depositorekening t.o.v. supergoudtranche-trekkings.

Die private nie-banksektor se bydrae van R104 miljoen tot die finansiering van die skatkistekort was betreklik klein in vergelyking met die R355 miljoen en R430 miljoen in die fiskale jare 1971/72 en 1972/73 onderskeidelik. Een rede vir die kleiner bydrae gedurende die fiskale jaar onder bespreking was die terugbetaling van leningsheffings ten bedrae van bykans R80 miljoen gedurende Maart 1974 en van Tesourie-obligasies ten bedrae van R59 miljoen gedurende September 1973.

Die toestand van die Skatkis was selfs nog gunstiger indien in aanmerking geneem word dat bykans een-vyfde van die totale uitreikings gedurende Maart 1974 gemaak is en dat 'n groot gedeelte van hierdie uitbetalings gedeponeer is by die Staatskuldkommissaris, wat op hulle beurt 'n verdere bedrag by die diskontohuise belê het. Hierdie belegging het aan die einde van Maart 1974 R130 miljoen bedra maar het gedurende April en Mei na die Skatkis teruggevloei.

#### *Toename in die meeste inkomstebronne*

Bykans al die inkomsteposte op die Inkomste- en Leningsrekening het toenames getoon wat hoër was



as die Begrotingsramings. Doeane-, aksyns- en verkoopregontvangste, insluitende dié op die Suidwes-Afrikarekening, het die Begrotingsramings met R128 miljoen, of 16 persent, oorskry en was bykans 19 persent hoër as gedurende 1972/73. Die ontvangste van binnelandse inkomste, uitgesonderd dié op die Suidwes-Afrikarekening, het die Begrotingsramings met R513 miljoen of 21 persent oorskry. Ingesluit by die betrokke ontvangste was egter nie-herhalende oordragte ten bedrae van R117 miljoen vanaf die Belastingreserwerekening en die Buitelandse Valuta-aansuiweringsrekening. Invorderings van inkomste-belasting was hoofsaaklik vir die aansienlike toename in die ontvangste van binnelandse inkomste verantwoordelik en dit was R553 miljoen of 32 persent hoër as gedurende die voorafgaande fiskale jaar. Van hierdie bedrag verteenwoordig R190 miljoen 'n toename in belastinginvorderings van die goudmyn-bedryf. Ontvangste op die Leningsrekening het 'n soortgelyke verloop as dié op die Inkomsterekening getoon en was R72 miljoen of 38 persent hoër as die Begrotingsramings en het die ooreenstemmende syfer vir die vorige fiskale jaar met R87 miljoen oorskry. Van laasgenoemde toename kon R51 miljoen toegeskryf word aan hoër goudmynhuurkontrakte en R13 miljoen aan ontvangste vanaf diamantmyne en die uitvoerregte op diamante.

Kapitaalmark

Die toestand in die kapitaalmark het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 verder vernou omdat die vaste investering deur die openbare en die private sektore toegeneem het terwyl persoonlike besparing terselfdertyd skerp afgeneem het. Rentekoerse het gevolglik na hoër vlakke beweeg, maar ten spyte van hierdie ontwikkeling het effektebeurspryse en -bedrywigheid opmerklik toegeneem.

Opbrengskoerse op vaste-rentedraende effekte op hoër vlakke

Die vraag- en aanbodtoestand in die mark vir vaste-rentedraende effekte het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 tot hoër opbrengskoerse aanleiding gegee maar die opbrengskoerse het geneig om op die hoër vlakke te stabiliseer. Gedurende die tydperk Februarie tot April is daar byvoorbeeld vyf nuwe uitgiftes van semiprima-effekte teen 'n opbrengskoers van 9,1 persent, of 0,8 persent hoër as die vlak van Desember 1973, met welslae geplaas. Die opbrengskoerse op beide langtermynstaatseffekte en lenings-effekte van maatskappye is met 0,25 persent bo die vlakke van Desember 1973 verhoog, naamlik tot 8,25 en 9,75 persent, onderskeidelik.

Die marge tussen die opbrengskoers op langtermyn semiprima-effekte en -staatseffekte het vanaf 0,3 persent aan die einde van Desember 1973 tot 0,8 persent aan die einde van April 1974 vergroot, en dié tussen

die opbrengskoers op semiprima-effekte en lenings-effekte van maatskappye het vanaf 1,2 persent tot minder as een persent vernou, terwyl die rendements-gaping tussen leningseffekte van maatskappye en staatseffekte onveranderd op 1,50 persent gebly het.

'n Toename in die besparing van die private korporatiewe sektor en die lopende surplus van die sentrale regering het die behoefte van hierdie leners om fondse in die mark op te neem, verminder. Die bedrag van R174 miljoen wat gedurende die eerste kwartaal geleen is, was gevolglik kleiner as die gemiddelde kwartaallikse bedrag van R232 miljoen wat gedurende 1973 geleen is. Openbare korporasies het R85 miljoen in die binnelandse mark en 'n verdere R139 miljoen in die buiteland geleen.

Aandelemark bedrywig

Die bedrywigheid op die effektebeurs en die pryse van alle klasse aandele het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 verbeter. Die waarde van aandele verhandel was in werklikheid meer as dubbeld so groot as die bedrag vir die vierde kwartaal van 1973 en ongeveer tweemaal die kwartaallikse gemiddelde vir 1973. Die aantal aandele verhandel was ook bykans dubbeld dié van die vorige kwartaal en aansienlik hoër as die kwartaallikse gemiddelde vir 1973. Groter buitelandse deelname in die mark het tot die styging in die omset bygedra. Nuwe noterings op die effektebeurs is goed ontvang en die voornoteringsaanbiedinge wat hierdie noterings voorafgegaan het, was oorvolkskryf.

Omset op die Johannesburgse Effektebeurs

	1973		1974
	Vierde kwartaal	Kwartaal-likse gemiddelde	Eerste kwartaal
Aantal aandele verhandel (1963 = 100)	175	223	325
Waarde van aandele verhandel (R miljoene):			
Totaal	264	322	635
Bruto aankope deur buitelanders	60	61	107
Netto aankope deur buitelanders	-9	-8	-5

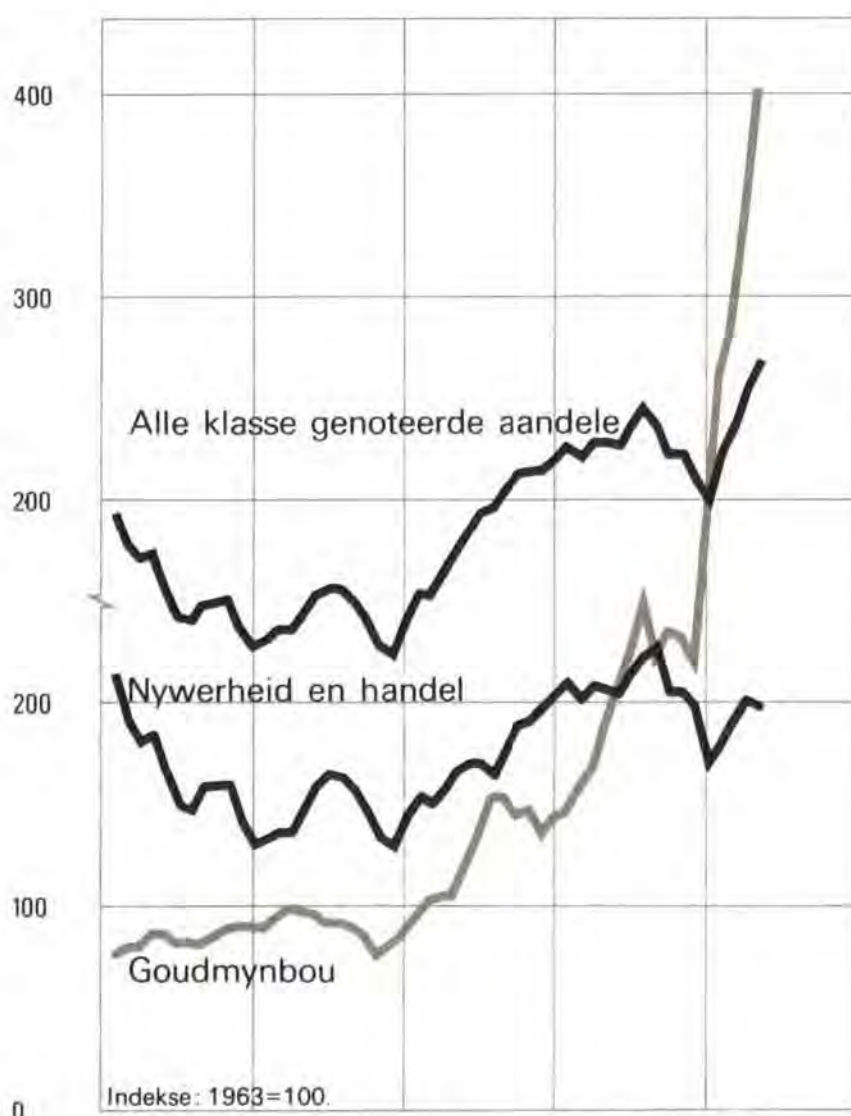
Die omvattende aandeleprysindeks vir alle klasse aandele het vanaf Desember 1973 tot Maart 1974 met 29 persent gestyg terwyl die pryse van individuele klasse aandele stygings wat van 13 tot 59 persent gewissel het, aangeteken het. Die faktor wat die meeste tot die hoër pryspeile bygedra het, was die sterk stygende goudprys op die private mark wat tot toenames van onderskeidelik 59 en 47 persent in die pryse van goudmyn- en finansiële mynbou-aandele gelei het. Gedurende April het die omvattende en goudmynaandeleprysindeks verdere stygings van onderskeidelik 4 en 15 persent getoon.



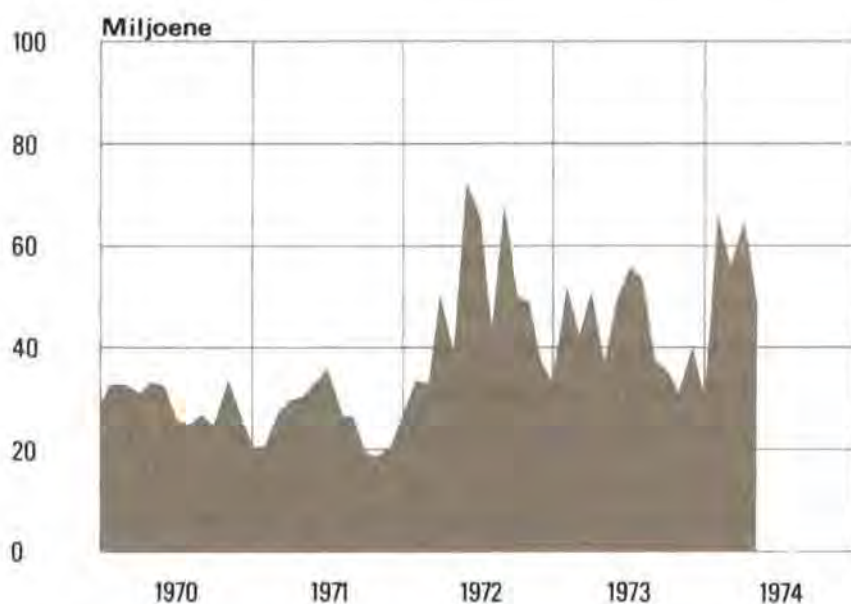
Die gemiddelde dividendopbrengskoers op alle klasse aandele het vanaf 5,6 persent in Desember 1973 tot 5,0 persent in Maart 1974 afgeneem. Hierdie afname van 11 persent was aansienlik kleiner as die gemiddelde styging van 29 persent in die pryse van alle klasse aandele. Dit dui daarop dat die invloed van die stygende pryse op die dividendopbrengskoers gedeeltelik deur hoër dividendbetalings geneutraliseer is. Die afname in die omvattende dividendopbrengs-

koers en die toename in die opbrengskoers op langtermynstaatseffekte het tot gevolg gehad dat die omgekeerde rendementsgapings tussen laasgenoemde en eersgenoemde opbrengskoerse vanaf 2,36 persent in Desember 1973 tot 3,21 persent in Maart 1974 vergroot het. Gedurende April het die dividendopbrengskoers vir alle klasse aandele in werklikheid 'n klein styging getoon ten spyte van 'n verdere styging in die omvattende aandeleprysindeks.

## Aandelepryse



## Aantal aandele verhandel op die Johannesburgse Effektebeurs



## Afname in die vloei van fondse na depositonemende en verwante instellings

Die vloei van fondse na bankinstellings, bouverenigings en deelnemingsverbandskemas in die vorm van 'n toename in spaar- en langtermyndeposito's, bouverenigingaandele en -deposito's en beleggings in deelnemingsverbande, was gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 effens kleiner as gedurende die laaste kwartaal van 1973. Hierdie kleiner invloeiing van fondse verteenwoordig 'n voortsetting van die dalende neiging wat sedert die derde kwartaal van 1973 merkbaar geword het.

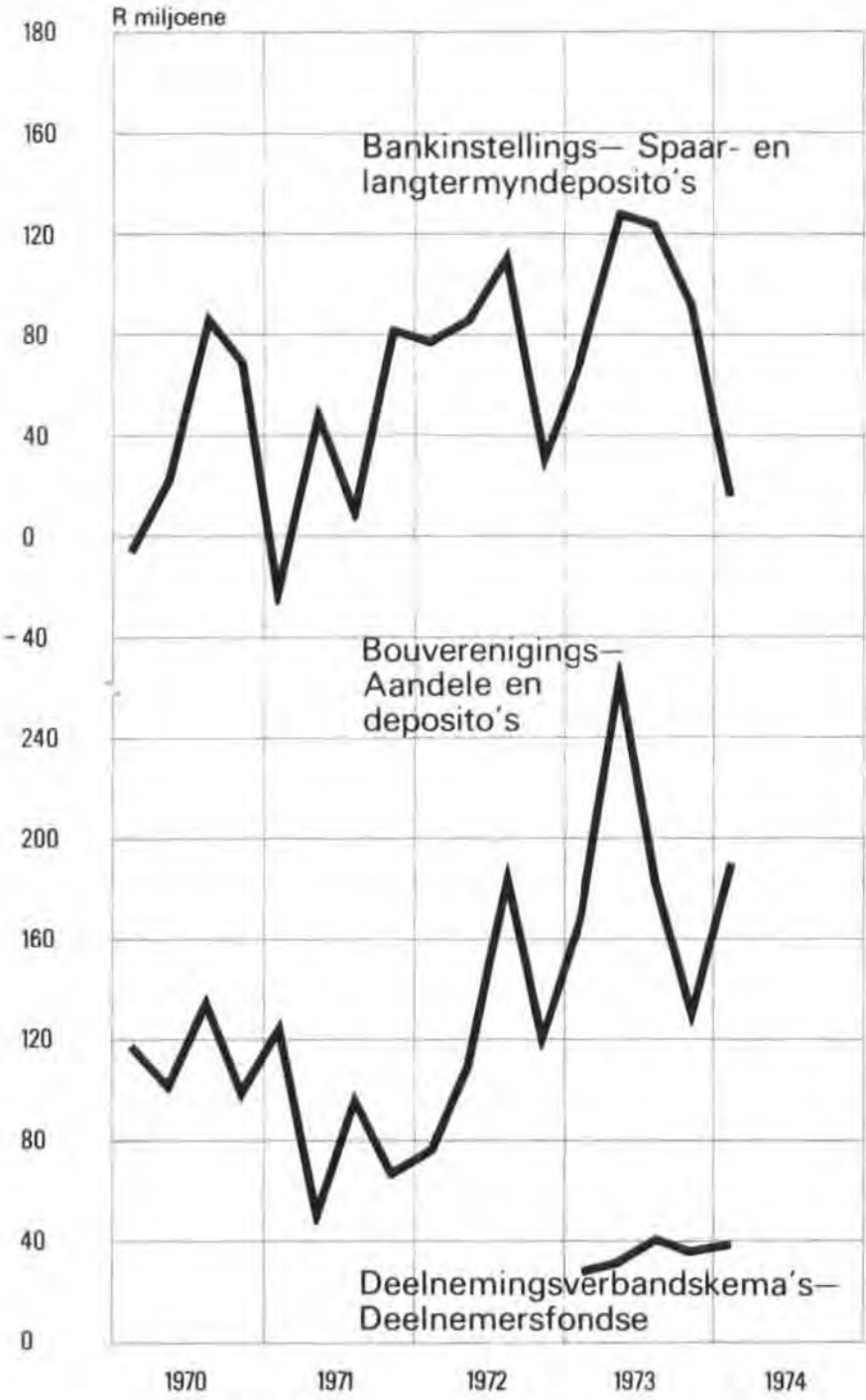
Alhoewel die invloeiing van ongeveer R240 miljoen na die betrokke instellings gedurende die eerste kwartaal slegs effens kleiner was as die bedrag van R254 miljoen wat gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1973 aangeteken is, was daar 'n opmerklike verandering in die relatiewe aandeel van die instellings in die bedrag aan nuwe fondse. Terwyl die relatiewe aandeel van bankinstellings gedurende 1973 gemiddeld 32 persent bedra het, het dit gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 tot 6 persent afgeneem. Die bouverenigings se aandeel het toegeneem vanaf gemiddeld 58 persent in 1973 tot 78 persent in die eerste kwartaal, terwyl die ooreenstemmende toename by die deelnemingsverbandskemas vanaf 10 tot 16 persent was.

Soos deur die verandering in die relatiewe aandeel in nuwe fondse aangedui word, het bankinstellings 'n skerp afname in die toevoegings tot spaar- en langtermyndeposito's ondervind, naamlik vanaf R91 miljoen gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1973 tot R15 miljoen gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974. 'n Gedeelte van die afname is egter teweeggebring deur 'n verskuiwing vanaf langtermyn- na kortertermyndeposito's. Hierteenoor het die bouverenigings gedurende die eerste kwartaal 'n invloeiing van R189 miljoen gehad, wat heelwat meer was as die R125 miljoen van die vorige kwartaal. Die toename in die verenigings se deposito's en aandele het dus op 'n hoër peil gebly ten spyte van 'n afname in die langertermynfondse. Die verenigings se invloeiing van nuwe fondse het egter gedurende April merkbaar afgeneem tot slegs R20 miljoen.

As gevolg van die kleiner totale aanbod van deposito-soortige fondse het daar opwaartse druk op deposito-rentekoerse ontstaan. Die owerhede het hieraan erken-



Netto invloeiing van nuwe fondse



op verbandlenings vir woonhuise gedurende Januarie vanaf 8,5 tot 9,25 persent verhoog en 'n gedeelte van die verenigings se beskikbare fondse is gebruik om hulle verpligtings ten opsigte van verbande toegestaan maar nog nie uitbetaal nie, met R33 miljoen te verminder. Die verenigings het ook hulle besit aan likwiede bates uitgebrei en hulle oorskotbesit aan likwiede bates bo die wetlik vereiste minimum het toegeneem tot 3,4 persent van hulle verpligtings teenoor die publiek aan die einde van Maart 1974, vergeleke met 'n verhouding van 2,5 persent aan die einde van 1973. Terselfdertyd het die verenigings hul besit aan bates wat voorheen as „ander voorgeskrewe beleggings” gegeld het, met R59 miljoen verminder.

Op 5 Junie het die bouverenigings aangekondig dat die verbandkoers op woonhuise tot 10,5 persent verhoog word en die regering het terselfdertyd 'n verhoging in die staatsubsidie op verbandrente aangekondig wat tot 2 persent bokant 8,5 persent kan wees.

ning gegee deur die beheerde maksimum deposito-koerse vir die verskillende klasse deposito's en bouverenigingaandeel (met uitsondering van subskripsie- en belastingvrye aandele) vanaf 14 Januarie 1974 met 1 persent en vanaf 1 Junie 1974 met 'n verdere 1½ persent te verhoog. Die koers op subskripsie- en belastingvrye aandele is met ingang 1 Junie 1974 met 1 persent verhoog.

Afname in verbandvoorskotte toegestaan deur bouverenigings

Alhoewel die vloei van fondse na die bouverenigings gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1974 aansienlik groter was as gedurende die voorafgaande kwartaal, is minder nuwe verbandlenings toegestaan as gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1973. Die afname in die algemene beskikbaarheid van langertermyn-depositofondse het die verenigings daartoe gelei om 'n versigtiger uitleenbeleid te volg. So is die rentekoers