

Quarterly economic review

General observations

The favourable effects of the restrictive fiscal and monetary policy, which had been observed in the third quarter of 1976, continued during the fourth quarter of 1976. The deficit on the current account of the balance of payments declined further, the gold and other foreign reserves ceased to decline, the Government's finances improved, the rate of increase in money and credit creation was substantially reduced and prices rose more slowly.

After having reached a peak in the first quarter of 1976, the deficit on the current account of the balance of payments declined progressively during the course of 1976, particularly during the second half of the year. Most of the main categories on the current account contributed to the improvement in the second half of 1976. Merchandise exports increased substantially, not only as a result of increases in the prices of export commodities but also owing to a higher volume of exports. At the same time, merchandise imports declined in both money and real terms and net invisible payments to the rest of the world decreased mainly as a result of lower freight and insurance payments and a reduction in dividends paid to foreigners. Net gold output declined up to the third quarter and then increased slightly in the fourth quarter as a result of an increase in the price of gold.

During the course of 1976, the basic balance, i.e. the balance on current account plus long-term capital flows, also improved and only a small deficit was recorded during the second half of the year.

The capital account of the balance of payments, however, deteriorated during the course of 1976 due to political uncertainties, the lower level of investment and the decline in merchandise imports. A considerable net inflow of capital during the first quarter of 1976 was followed by a small net inflow in the second quarter and a small net outflow in the third quarter. During the fourth quarter, official borrowing, including drawings on the International Monetary Fund, led to a considerable net inflow of capital. The net result of these developments on the current and capital accounts was that the decline in the gold and other foreign reserves during the first three quarters of 1976 changed to a small increase in the fourth quarter.

However, because of a large net outflow of short-term capital not related to foreign reserves, the net gold and other foreign reserves declined substantially during

1976, but the decline was markedly lower during the second half than during the first half of the year. Net gold and other foreign reserves, one of the new balances distinguished in the balance of payments*, is equal to the gross gold and other foreign reserves less all foreign short-term liabilities of the Reserve Bank, International Monetary Fund loans and short-term loans of the central government and other monetary banking institutions from foreign banks and official institutions.

The restrictive effects of the 1976 Budget were reflected in the Government's accounts in the third and fourth quarters of 1976. If seasonal movements are eliminated, the overall deficit on the Exchequer account declined and the net indebtedness of the Exchequer to the banking sector was reduced during the second half of 1976. This reduction in bank credit to the government sector contributed much to a decline in the rate of increase in the quantity of money and near-money during the second half of 1976.

After having increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 16 per cent during the first half of 1976, the quantity of money and near-money rose by only slightly more than 2 per cent during the second half of 1976. An acceleration in the increase in bank credit to the private sector during the second half of 1976 was more than offset by a reduction in the net credit to the government sector. An increase in long-term deposits of the private sector with the banking sector also contributed to a lower rate of increase in the money and near-money supply. Although the banks have some scope for credit extension under the existing credit ceilings, their liquidity situation remained tight until the end of 1976 and in January 1977.

Conditions in the capital market remained tight throughout 1976 and long-term interest rates and yields moved upwards. The demand for long-term funds remained strong and large amounts were borrowed on the capital market, particularly by the public sector. The share market remained depressed throughout 1976 and share yields increased to record levels. During the second half of 1976 the flow of longer term funds to financial intermediaries rose to a higher level and mortgage lending activity increased. The real estate market remained sluggish.

Although the rate of inflation is still high, it continued to show a declining tendency in 1976. During the

*See Supplement to this *Quarterly Bulletin: South Africa's balance of payments, 1956-1975*.

fourth quarter of 1976 the seasonally adjusted consumer and wholesale price indices rose at annual rates of 9 per cent and 14 per cent, respectively. Apart from a further strengthening of the balance of payments, the authorities' policy objectives will give high priority to further reducing the rate of inflation to a more acceptable level. A continuation of the restrictive monetary and fiscal policy will be necessary to achieve this aim. Although the short-term measures of the Anti-Inflation Manifesto will be terminated at the end of March 1977, the long-term measures will remain in force.

Unfortunately the restrictive fiscal and monetary policy is, in the short run, not conducive to a higher growth rate or lower unemployment. The real value added by the non-agricultural sectors of the economy has already declined for the last three quarters of 1976 and an increase of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent was recorded in the real gross domestic product in calendar 1976. Because the terms of trade deteriorated further in 1976, a negative growth rate in the real gross national product of about 1 per cent was recorded.

National accounts

Low economic growth rate

The rate of increase in the real gross domestic product declined slightly from about 2 per cent in 1975 to nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in 1976. If the value added by agriculture is excluded, the growth rate in the non-agricultural sectors of the economy declined from about 3 per cent in 1975 to only $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in 1976. As is evident from the accompanying table, the low rate of growth in 1976 resulted mainly from declines in the real value added by agriculture, manufacturing, construction, wholesale and motor trade, and lower rates of increase in the real value added by other important sectors such as retail trade, transport, storage and communication and general government. The real income generated by gold mining, however, showed little change in 1976 compared with a substantial decline in 1975. Only the sector non-gold mining made a significantly larger contribution to growth than in 1975.

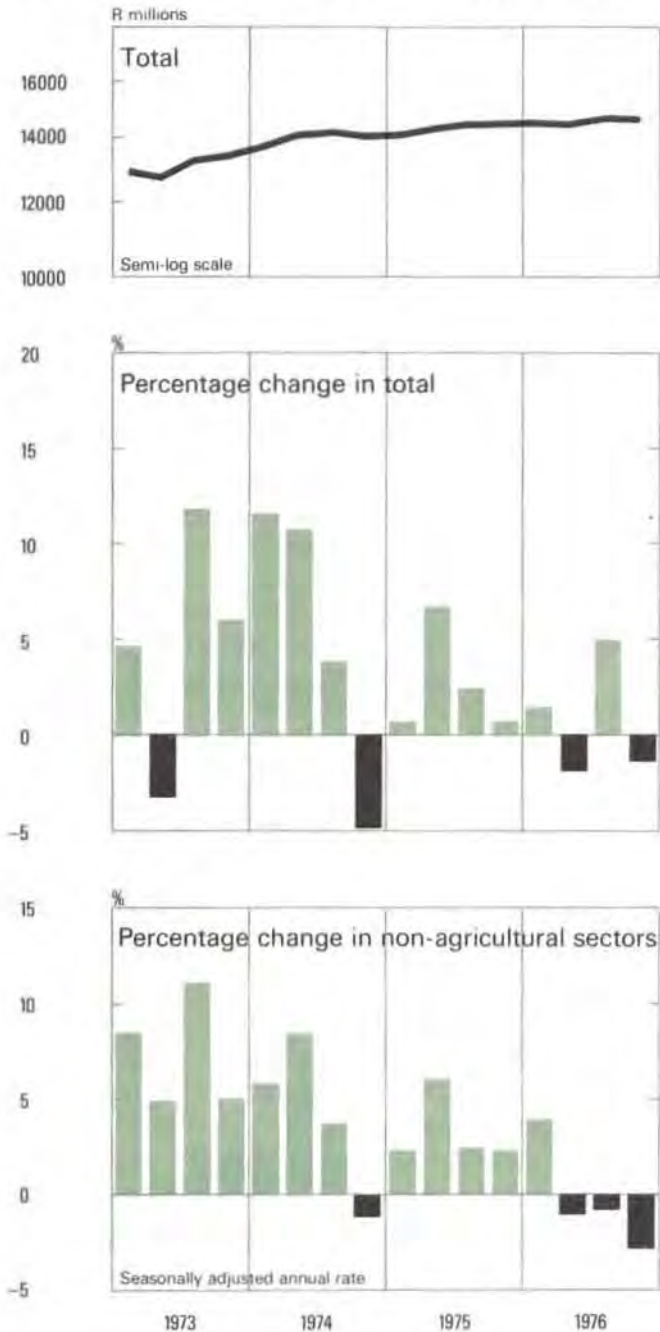
Because the terms of trade deteriorated further in 1976, owing *inter alia* to the decline in the average price of gold, a negative growth rate in the real gross national product of approximately 1 per cent was recorded in 1976, compared with a negative rate of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in 1975.

At current prices, the rate of increase in the gross domestic product declined from $13\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in 1975 to about 12 per cent in 1976. This decrease was entirely accounted for by a decline in the rate of increase in the remuneration of employees from 19 per cent in 1975 to 14 per cent in 1976, because the rate of increase in the gross operating surplus increased slightly from about $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in 1975 to 8 per cent in 1976. Although the slowing-down in the rate of increase in the remuneration of employees was noticeable in all the main sectors, the largest changes occurred in the case

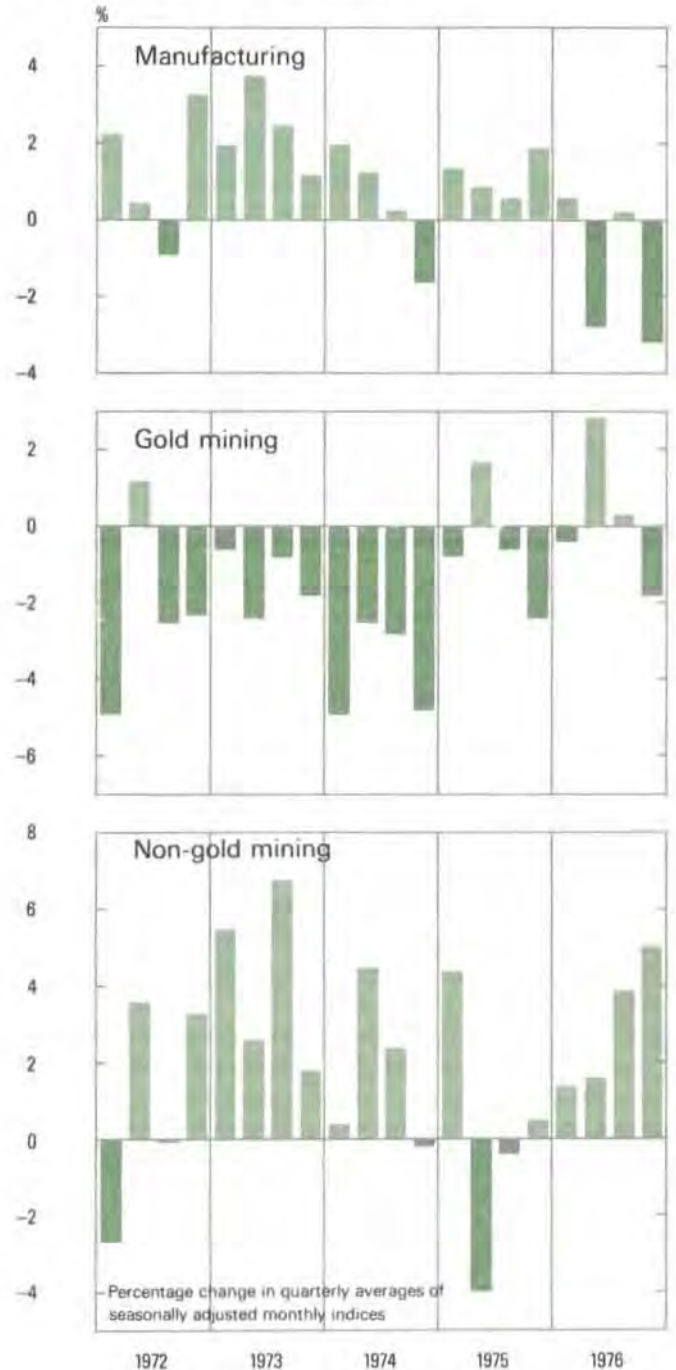
Percentage change in gross domestic product at constant 1970 prices

	1975	1976
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	-8	-1
Mining and quarrying	-2	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Gold mining	-6	-
Non-gold mining	1	4
Manufacturing	2	$-\frac{1}{2}$
Construction (contractors)	$-2\frac{1}{2}$	$-3\frac{1}{2}$
Wholesale and retail trade, etc.	2	-2
Wholesale trade	-	-3
Retail trade	3	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Motor trade	7	-11
Transport, storage and communication	9	6
General government services	$6\frac{1}{2}$	5
Other sectors	3	3
Total gross domestic product	2	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Non-agricultural sectors	3	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Secondary and tertiary sectors	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Gross national product	$-1\frac{1}{2}$	-1

Gross domestic product at constant 1970 prices



Physical volume of production



of mining and the sector transport, storage and communication.

The difference between the growth rates at current and constant prices implied a decline in the rate of increase in the gross domestic product deflator from about 11 per cent in 1975 to about 10 per cent in 1976. The lower rate of increase in this measure of overall inflation in 1976 occurred notwithstanding the price-raising effect of the devaluation of the rand in September 1975 and resulted from a general slowing-down of the rate of increase in domestic wholesale and

retail prices and a decline in the average gold price.

Quarterly estimates of total real gross domestic product show that negative growth rates were recorded in the second and fourth quarters of 1976. In the case of the non-agricultural sectors, negative growth rates were recorded in the last three quarters of 1976. The real value added by important sectors such as gold mining, manufacturing, construction and wholesale and retail trade, including motor trade, all showed declines

during the fourth quarter, which together more than neutralised the noticeable rise in real income generated by non-gold mining and agriculture. The real value added by the other sectors in the fourth quarter showed little change relative to that in the third quarter. The further deterioration of real economic activity in the non-agricultural sectors was due to the decline in almost all components of aggregate real domestic demand during the last quarter of 1976.

Decline in real domestic expenditure

As the accompanying table shows, all the main components of real aggregate domestic demand either showed smaller percentage increases during 1976 or declined. At current prices, gross domestic expenditure in 1976 exceeded gross national product by a substantially smaller margin than in 1975, a development also reflected in a marked decline in the deficit on the current account of the balance of payments.

Percentage change in aggregate domestic demand at constant 1970 prices

	1975	1976
Private consumption expenditure	3	2
Government consumption expenditure	14	7
Gross domestic fixed investment	8	-4½
Change in inventories (R millions)	169	-404
Gross domestic expenditure	1	-3

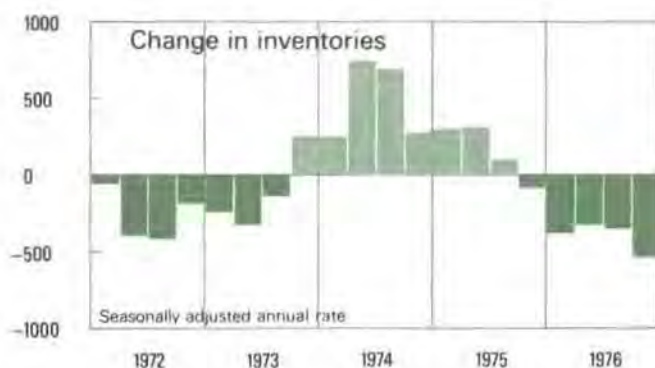
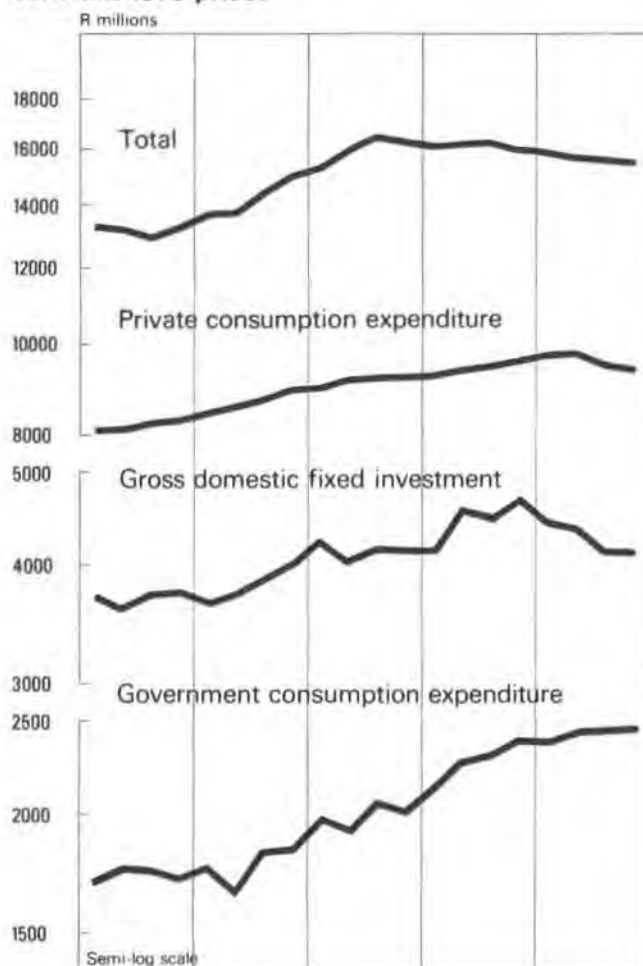
Quarterly estimates of real gross domestic expenditure show that after having reached a high level in the third quarter of 1975, aggregate real domestic demand declined during all four quarters of 1976. During the fourth quarter of 1976, gross domestic expenditure at current prices exceeded gross national product by a smaller margin than in the preceding quarter. This development was also reflected in a further decline in the seasonally adjusted deficit on the current account of the balance of payments.

Lower rate of increase in real private consumption expenditure

Although the rate of increase in real private consumption expenditure slowed down from 3 per cent in 1975 to only about 2 per cent in 1976, the latter growth rate was still higher than that of the real gross domestic product. As is shown by the accompanying table, real outlays on all categories of goods, except on television sets, either declined or recorded lower growth rates in 1976 than in the preceding year, whereas real outlays on services increased faster than during the preceding year.

It would appear that the lower rate of increase in real disposable personal income was the most important single factor responsible for the contraction of real outlays on most categories of goods, although the marked decline in residential construction at constant

Gross domestic expenditure at constant 1970 prices



prices also contributed to the further decline in real outlays on furniture and other major household appliances. The sharp decline of about 19 per cent in the number of new motor cars sold during 1976 could, in turn, also have been influenced by the higher prices of motor vehicles, the increased running costs and the lower rate of replacement of motor cars owing to the reduced speed limits introduced as part of the fuel conservation measures.

Percentage change in the main categories of private consumption expenditure at constant 1970 prices

	1975	1976
Durable goods	3	-3
Furniture and household appliances	-15	-8
Personal transport equipment	2	-17
Other goods, including television sets	73	32
Semi-durable goods	4	-1
Clothing and footwear	5	1
Other goods	3	-3
Non-durable goods	3	2½
Services	2½	4
Total private consumption expenditure	3	2

Although the commencement of the official television programmes early in 1976 led to a substantial increase in the outlay on television sets, real expenditure on *total* durable goods still showed a small decline in 1976. Real outlays on durable goods other than television sets in fact declined by 11 per cent in 1976. Furthermore, after having increased sharply during the first half of 1976, the number of television sets licensed declined by no less than 29 per cent and 50 per cent during the third and fourth quarters of 1976, respectively. This development is partly an indication of the extent to which the existing consumer market for television sets has been saturated, and that the expansionary force of the introduction of television has lost considerable momentum.

Quarterly estimates of real private consumption expenditure indicate a deceleration in the rate of increase during the first half and actual declines in real outlays during the third and fourth quarters of 1976.

Decline in the rate of increase in real government consumption expenditure

The rate of increase in real government consumption expenditure declined from 14 per cent in 1975 to about 7 per cent in 1976. The latter increase consisted of a rise of 5 per cent in the remuneration of employees and an increase of 10 per cent in real outlays on goods and other services (including defence expenditure). In total, real non-defence spending rose by 2 per cent in 1976, compared with 7 per cent during the preceding year.

Quarterly estimates indicate that the more stringent measures introduced in the 1976/77 Budget to curtail the rate of increase in government consumption expenditure, began to take effect in the last half of 1976. Consequently, the rate of increase in real government consumption expenditure slowed down appreciably during the second half of 1976.

Decline in real gross domestic fixed investment

The decline in real fixed capital outlays was a major contributing factor to the overall decline in total real gross domestic expenditure during 1976. As the

Percentage change in gross domestic fixed investment at constant 1970 prices

	1975	1976
Private sector	1	-9
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	18	-21
Mining and quarrying	9	4
Manufacturing	6	-3
Wholesale and retail trade	-15	-14
Private residential buildings	-17	-7
Other	7	-20
Public corporations	24	-9
Manufacturing	-15	-43
Electricity, gas and water	51	18
Other	61	-5
Public authorities	14	5
S.A. Railways	21	31
Other transport and communication	12	-9
Community and social services	9	-7
Other (housing, etc.)	19	6
Total	8	-4½

accompanying table shows, real fixed investment in all the different sectors either declined or increased at a lower rate except capital outlays by the South African Railways which increased at a higher rate. The latter increase resulted mainly from the acquisition of new aircraft and additions to rolling stock.

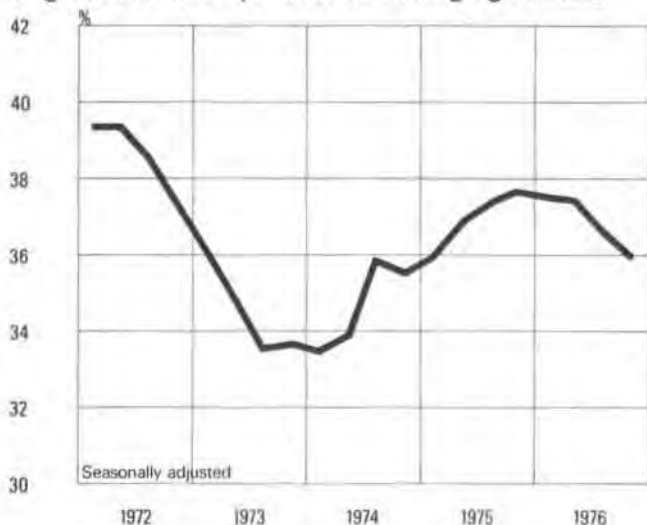
Quarterly estimates of real fixed investment indicate that a declining tendency was noticeable during all four quarters of 1976. Real fixed capital outlays of public corporations declined from the second quarter and that of public authorities during the second half of 1976. Real fixed investment of the private sector, however, has now declined uninterruptedly from about the middle of 1975.

Sharp decline in inventory investment at constant prices

One of the main reasons for the decline in real aggregate domestic demand during 1976, was the marked decline in net inventory investment. Thus, after having increased by more than R1 600 million in 1975, the book value of total inventories increased by less than half of that amount in 1976, namely by about R650 million. The main reason for this substantial change was a marked decline in the build-up of industrial and commercial inventories from R1 070 million in 1975 to R500 million in 1976. At constant 1970 prices the fluctuation was even more pronounced, namely a change from an inventory build-up of R169 million in 1975 to a depletion of R404 million in 1976. The level of industrial and commercial inventories at constant 1970 prices declined by about R250 million, whereas real agricultural stocks in trade and real diamond stocks accounted for the remainder of the decline.

Quarterly estimates of *real* inventory investment indicate that the level of total inventories declined during all four quarters of 1976 and contributed materially

Non-agricultural stocks as a percentage of gross domestic product excluding agriculture



gross domestic product declined to 23½ per cent in 1976; the lowest level recorded since 1971, and also lower than the average level for the period 1970 to 1976.

Although *gross* domestic saving increased moderately in 1976, *net* domestic saving, i.e. after provision for depreciation declined by R139 million. An increase in *corporate* saving was more than neutralised by a substantial decline in the current surplus of general government, whereas *personal* saving showed little change.

to the continued decline in real aggregate demand and the decline in the volume of merchandise imports. Industrial and commercial inventories at constant prices, which started to decline in the second half of 1975, made the largest contribution to the overall decline in 1976. At current prices the book value of industrial and commercial inventories showed a small decline during the fourth quarter of 1976. The book value of industrial inventories showed little change with the result that the ratio of inventories to sales of the manufacturing sector declined from 92 per cent in the first quarter to 87 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1976. Although the book value of wholesale and retail stocks showed a smaller increase than during the preceding five quarters, declining sales in the fourth quarter resulted in an increase in the ratio of inventories to sales from 71 per cent in the first quarter to 72 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1976.

Insufficient domestic saving

Notwithstanding an increase of R216 million in gross domestic saving and a decline in total fixed and inventory investment at current prices of R101 million in 1976, the level of domestic saving in 1976 continued to be insufficient to finance total domestic investment. Although the amount of net foreign capital and gold and other foreign reserves utilised to finance the shortfall, still amounted to R1 515 million in 1976, it was nevertheless substantially less than the R1 832 million foreign funds employed in 1975. Consequently, the relative share of foreign funds employed to finance domestic investment decreased from 22 per cent in 1975 to 18 per cent in 1976, as against an annual average ratio of about 15½ per cent for the period 1970 to 1976. However, the ratio of gross domestic saving to

Business cycle trends, labour situation and prices

Business cycle indicators, national accounts statistics and other indicators of real activity in the economy, showed that the South African economy remained in the downward phase of the business cycle during the fourth quarter of 1976. In fact, real economic activity in the non-agricultural sectors of the economy showed a decline for the third consecutive quarter. With the exception of non-gold mining production, the real value added by all other non-agricultural sectors either declined further or increased at a lower rate in the fourth quarter than in the preceding quarter, indicating that the recessionary tendencies are widely diffused. Apart from the fact that the South African economy has now been in the downward phase of the business cycle for 30 months, by far the longest recessionary phase in the post-war period, indications are that its intensity has also increased substantially during the second half of 1976.

As could be expected, the recessionary tendencies had a beneficial effect on the current account of the balance of payments, the rate of increase in prices and the pressure on skilled labour. However, unemployment, especially of unskilled workers, has become a problem of major importance.

Labour situation

The prolonged downward phase of the current business cycle has had a profound effect on the labour situation in South Africa. In contrast to continuous labour shortages in the past, particularly of skilled labour, the current situation is one of increased unemployment especially amongst unskilled labour. The impact of the recession on labour is clearly illustrated by the sharp increase in the seasonally adjusted number of registered unemployed Whites, Coloureds and Asians from 10 568 in February 1976 to no less than 22 207 in February 1977. The latter figure represents about one per cent of the comparable labour force. Although official data are not available, indications are that the number of unemployed Blacks also increased significantly.

As the accompanying table shows, employment increased more rapidly in 1976 than in 1975 as a conse-

Employment in non-agricultural sectors – percentage change

	1975	1976 ¹
Public sector	6,4	4,1
Mining sector	-6,2	5,7
Private sector excluding mining	1,9	0,3
Total	2,0	2,2

¹ First nine months of 1976 compared with corresponding period of 1975.

Business cycle indicators



quence of a rise in the numbers employed in the mining sector whereas in all other sectors the increase was smaller.

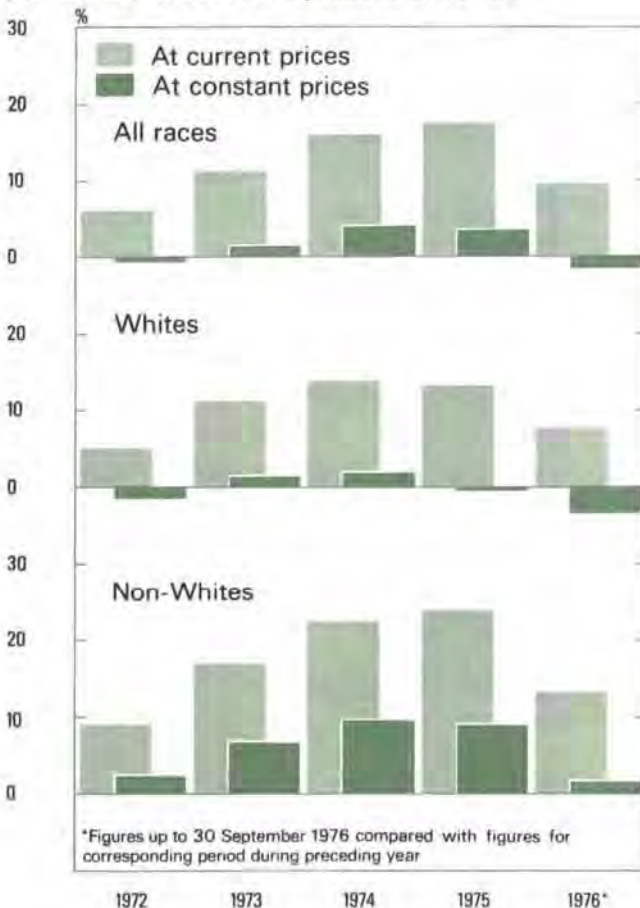
In addition to the slowdown in the rate of increase of employment in most sectors, it is clear from the accompanying table that the total number of overtime hours worked by the manufacturing and construction labour force as well as the total hours worked by construction workers were sharply reduced in 1976.

Number of hours worked by production workers – percentage change

	1975	1976 ¹
Manufacturing:		
Ordinary hours	-0,3	0,7
Overtime hours	-4,9	-5,1
Total hours	-0,8	0,1
Construction:		
Ordinary hours	0,1	-6,4
Overtime hours	-2,3	-16,1
Total hours	-0,1	-7,4

¹ First eleven months of 1976 compared with corresponding period of 1975.

Percentage change in salaries and wages per worker in the non-agricultural sectors



Taking account of the increases in the cost of living, as measured by the consumer price index, the real remuneration per employee in the non-agricultural sectors of the economy declined by 1,4 per cent for the first three quarters of 1976 compared with the same period of 1975, as against a rise of 3,6 per cent in 1975. Average real salaries and wages per capita declined by 3,2 per cent for Whites and increased by 1,7 per cent for Non-White workers during the relevant three quarters. It should be noted, however, that the average real remuneration per worker for both these groups declined during each of the first three quarters of 1976.

Prices

Notwithstanding the recessionary tendencies in the economy throughout 1976, the rate of increase in prices for the year as a whole remained at a high level. Marked increases in prices of imported goods, owing *inter alia* to the devaluation of the rand in September 1975, substantial increases in government-administered prices and upward adjustments in indirect taxes made important contributions to the continued high rate of increase in domestic prices. During the course of the year, however, the rate of increase in both consumer and wholesale prices showed a declining tendency.

The average monthly consumer price index rose by 11,1 per cent in 1976, compared with increases of 13,5 and 11,6 per cent in 1975 and 1974, respectively. The lower rate of increase in food prices, rent and costs of medical services and communication made a significant contribution towards the lower overall rate of increase. However, sharp rises in prices of motor cars, petrol, transportation and housing costs other than rent, were recorded.

After increasing at an annual rate of 13,3 per cent in the second quarter, the rate of increase in the seasonally adjusted consumer price index declined in the following two quarters to 10,8 per cent and 9,0 per cent respectively. These lower rates of increase in both the third and fourth quarters were brought about by the lower and decreasing rates of increase in food prices, prices of electrical equipment, rent and costs of services such as recreation and communication. Home-owners costs and servants' wages however continued to rise at high and still further increasing rates. The rate of increase in consumer prices from January 1976 to January 1977 amounted to 10,8 per cent.

The average monthly wholesale price index for goods used domestically increased by 15,1 per cent in 1976 as against 18,0 and 17,3 per cent in 1975 and 1974, respectively. Sharp increases in prices of basic metals, non-electrical machinery, transport equipment, coal and electricity were mainly responsible for the maintenance of a high rate of increase in prices of South African produced goods during 1976.

Annual percentage change in quarterly averages of seasonally adjusted monthly price indices

	1975 to 1976	4th qtr. 1975 to 1st qtr. 1976	1st qtr. 1976 to 2nd qtr. 1976	2nd qtr. 1976 to 3rd qtr. 1976	3rd qtr. 1976 to 4th qtr. 1976
Consumer prices	11,1	10,1	13,3	10,8	9,0
Goods	11,3	11,0	14,1	11,4	8,2
Services	10,8	8,4	11,6	9,6	10,4
Wholesale prices	15,1	12,7	15,3	15,5	14,0
Goods produced in South Africa	14,4	10,4	15,3	18,7	16,1
Imported goods	17,3	18,8	15,3	7,1	8,2

The annual rate of increase in the seasonally adjusted wholesale price index accelerated in the second and third quarters of the year, before slowing down moderately in the fourth quarter. Prices of goods produced domestically followed more or less this tendency, but increases in prices of imported goods continued to slow down during the first three quarters of 1976 and then accelerated slightly in the fourth quarter. The wholesale price index for all goods rose by 15,0 per cent from January 1976 to January 1977.

From the review of price developments and the accompanying graph it is clear that although the rates of price increases for 1976, as measured by the consumer

and wholesale price indices, were lower than those recorded during the preceding two years, the current rates were still relatively high compared with the average annual rates of increase since 1970. Furthermore, in March 1977 substantial further upward adjustments were made to indirect taxes and transportation tariffs which, together with the sharp increase in electricity rates effective from January, and a further upward adjustment in the price of petrol, will naturally have a detrimental effect on the rate of increase in domestic prices in general in the coming months.

Prices

Percentage change over twelve months



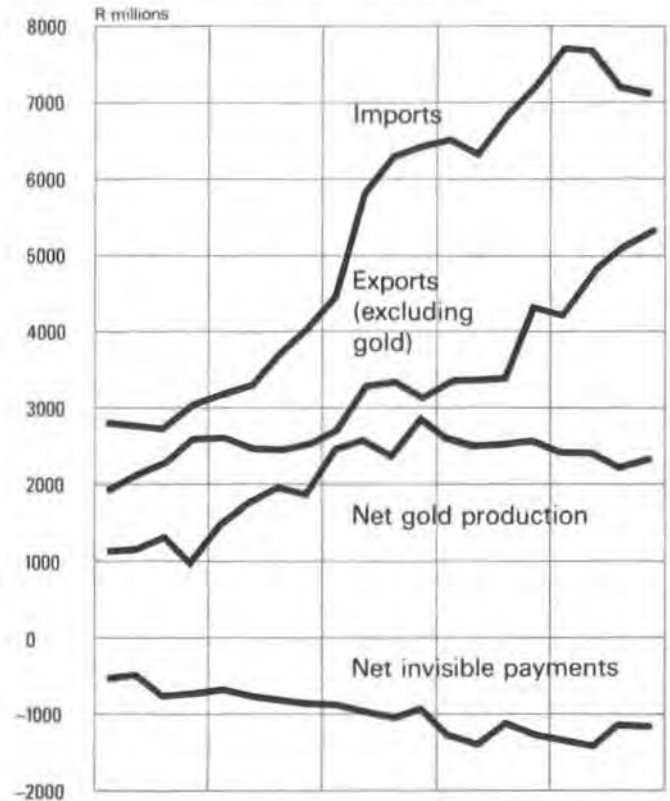
Balance of payments

The restrictive monetary and fiscal policy pursued by the authorities during the past two years, together with the general revival in the economies of most industrialised countries, were mainly responsible for the significant improvement of the deficit on current account of the balance of payments during the course of 1976. On capital account, however, political uncertainties, the lower level of investment and a decline in the value of merchandise imports during the course of 1976 caused a decline in the net inflow of foreign capital. A decline in the net inflow of long-term capital in 1976 caused a slight deterioration in the basic balance and the further net outflow of short-term capital not related to reserves, resulted in a substantial decrease in the net gold and other foreign reserves during the year. Owing to short-term borrowing by the central government and banking sector to support the reserves and valuation adjustments, the gross gold and other foreign reserves declined to a lesser extent during 1976 and even increased slightly in the fourth quarter.

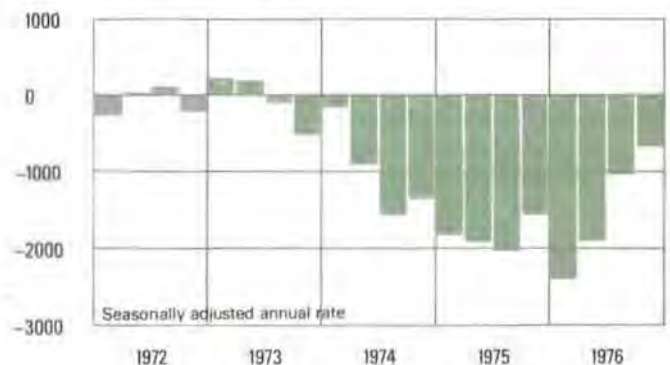
Substantial improvement on current account

Although the deficit on current account declined only moderately from R1 832 million in 1975 to R1 515 million in 1976, it improved substantially during the course of the year from a seasonally adjusted annual rate of R2 405 million in the first quarter to only R693 million in the last quarter. The reduction in the deficit occurred particularly in the second half of the year and was even more pronounced if it is expressed as a percentage of the gross domestic product. The moderate improvement for the year as a whole, was primarily attributable to the very high level of the deficit during the first half of the year. The reduction in 1976 in the deficit was the net result of a substantial increase in merchandise exports which was partly neutralised by a further moderate increase in merchandise imports and a decline in the net gold output. Net invisible payments to the rest of the world showed little change. However, during the course of the year all the main aggregates on the current account contributed to the substantial im-

Balance of payments current account



Balance on current account



Deficit on current account

Seasonally adjusted annual rate

	R millions	Percentage of GDP
1975 Third quarter	2 029	7,7
Fourth quarter	1 561	5,8
1976 First quarter	2 405	8,8
Second quarter	1 916	6,7
Third quarter	1 046	3,5
Fourth quarter	693	2,3

provement in the deficit, with the exception of the net gold output which declined up to the third quarter and then increased slightly in the fourth quarter.

After it had increased by about 24 per cent in 1974 and by nearly 16 per cent in 1975, the value of merchandise exports increased further by no less than 34 per cent to R4 841 million in 1976. On a quarterly basis the increase in the seasonally adjusted annual value of merchandise exports was equally marked during 1976, namely from R4 222 million in the first quarter to R5 277 million in the last quarter of 1976. Apart from the substantial increase in the rand proceeds of exported goods owing to the devaluation of

the rand and a revival in the prices on international commodity markets, the volume of goods exported also increased. The increase in the value of merchandise exports occurred in most groups of export commodities, but particularly large increases were recorded in respect of diamonds, wool, uranium and copper. In contrast, the value of sugar and maize exported declined substantially during 1976 as a result of a marked decline in the price of sugar and the smaller maize crop.

The value of merchandise imports increased from R6 717 million in 1975 to R7 433 million in 1976 or by nearly 11 per cent, compared with rises of 62 and 17 per cent in the two preceding years, respectively. The lower rate of increase in the value of merchandise imports was brought about by a moderate decline in the volume, which partly offset a further rise in the prices of imported goods. The lower rate of increase in the value of merchandise imports can be associated with the continued slowdown in the rate of increase in domestic economic activity and the introduction of the import deposit scheme effective from 2 August 1976. In particular, the increase in the intensity of the slowdown in activity was responsible for a decline in the value of merchandise imports from a seasonally adjusted annual figure of R7 711 million in the first quarter of 1976 to R7 132 million in the fourth quarter of that year. The further moderate increase in the value of merchandise imports during 1976 as a whole was reflected in most of the main commodity groups. Large increases were recorded in the imports of defence equipment, oil, textiles and plastic materials. An increase of 14 per cent in the value of imported transport equipment was entirely attributable to the importation of seven passenger aircraft by the South African Airways. An increase of only 7 per cent was recorded in the value of imports of machinery and electrical equipment during 1976, compared with an increase of 37 per cent in 1975. It is also significant to note that a considerable decline occurred in the imports of base metals, indicating that the shortages of certain of these metals disappeared with the intensification of the downturn in the economy.

After having increased on average by more than 26 per cent during the preceding three years, net invisible

payments to the rest of the world remained on about the level reached in 1975. Both service receipts and service payments showed little change if compared with the figures of the preceding year, but during the course of the year service payments to foreigners declined substantially from a seasonally adjusted annual rate of R3 001 million in the second quarter to R2 652 million in the fourth quarter of 1976. The sharp decline was brought about mainly by lower payments for international freight and merchandise insurance, as a result of the lower volume of merchandise imports, and the fact that higher interest payments on foreign loans were more than offset by a decline in dividends paid to non-residents.

The value of the net gold output declined from R2 540 million in 1975 to R2 346 million in 1976 or by 7,6 per cent, compared with a decline of only 1 per cent in 1975. This development was almost entirely due to the decline in the price of gold on the private market because the physical volume of gold production declined only slightly by 0,3 per cent in 1976. The decline in the value of the net gold output would, of course, have been considerably larger had it not been for the higher rand proceeds for gold brought about by the devaluation of the rand in September 1975. The average dollar price of gold on the free market fell by 22,5 per cent in 1976 compared with a decline of only 8,1 per cent in the average rand price. However, from August 1976 the gold price on the private market improved substantially from an average of about \$110 to more than \$136 in February 1977 and to just more than \$150 per fine ounce on 22 March 1977. This improvement in the gold price was also responsible for a moderate increase in the net gold output during the fourth quarter of 1976, after it had declined during the three preceding quarters.

Basic balance

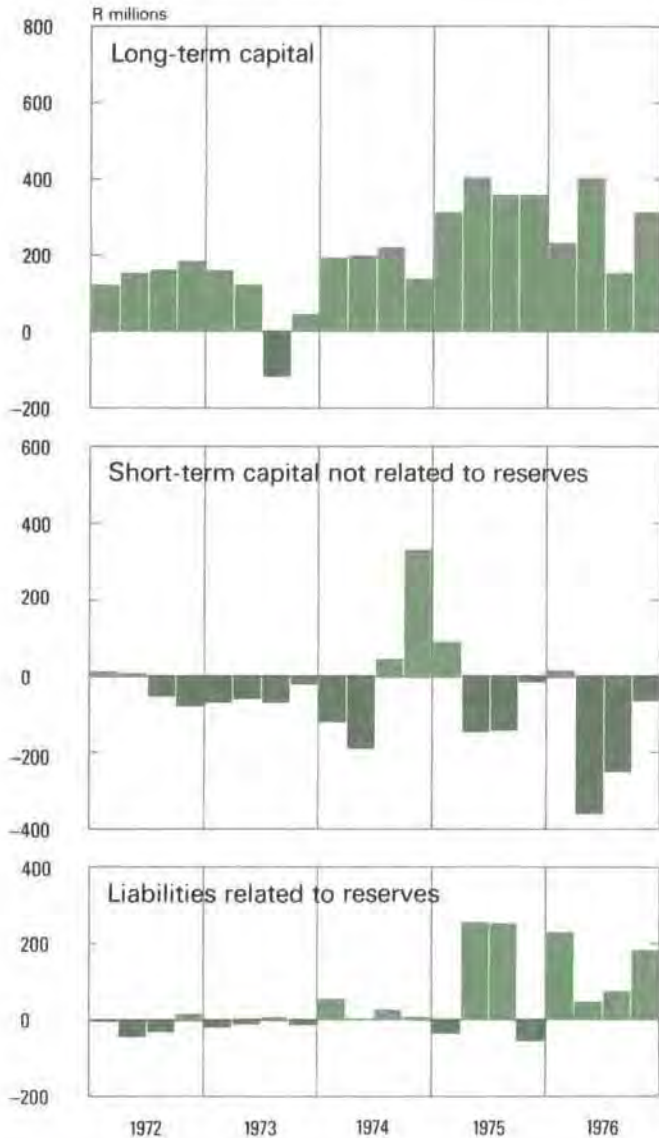
Notwithstanding the improvement on current account in 1976, the basic balance deteriorated from a deficit of R86 million in 1975 to a deficit of R402 million in 1976 owing to a decline in the net inflow of foreign long-term capital from the record figure of R1 746 million in 1975 to R1 113 million in 1976. This decline in

Basic balance and net inflow of long-term capital

Rand millions

	1975	1976				Total
		First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	
Balance on current account	-1 832	-531	-483	-105	-396	-1 515
Long-term capital (total)	1 746	237	402	157	317	1 113
Central government and banking sector	331	119	-33	-8	60	138
Public corporations and local authorities	718	129	227	250	115	721
Private sector	697	-11	208	-85	142	254
Basic balance	-86	-294	-81	52	-79	-402

Total capital movements



ably during 1976, but remained on a relatively high level throughout the year mainly owing to the continued high rate of foreign borrowing by public corporations. The net long-term capital movements to the central government and banking sector and the private sector fluctuated between moderate net outflows to substantial net inflows during the year.

Substantial decline in the net and gross gold and other foreign reserves

The net gold and other foreign reserves deteriorated more markedly than the basic balance, which implies that an outflow of short-term capital not related to reserves occurred during 1976. The latter net outflow of capital can be attributed entirely to a net outflow of short-term capital from the private sector, including

Basic balance and changes in foreign reserves



the net inflow of foreign long-term capital was largely due to political uncertainties in Southern Africa, the low level of domestic economic activity and occurred particularly in respect of the inflow to the private sector. Foreign long-term loans of the central government and banking sector also declined during 1976, but public corporations continued to borrow considerable amounts abroad in order to finance infrastructural developments.

During the course of 1976 the basic balance, not adjusted for seasonal influences, improved substantially from a deficit of R294 million in the first quarter to a surplus of R52 million in the third quarter, before deteriorating again to a deficit of R79 million in the fourth quarter. As shown in the accompanying table, the net inflow of foreign long-term capital fluctuated consider-

errors and unrecorded transactions, amounting to R822 million. This substantial outflow of short-term funds was, in particular, high during the second and third quarters of 1976, but then declined to only R48 million in the last quarter of the year. On the other hand, an increase in foreign trade credit and foreign deposits with monetary banking institutions contributed to an inflow of short-term capital of R166 million to the central government and banking sector during 1976. The net result of the substantial deficit on current account, a smaller net inflow of foreign long-term capital and the substantial net outflow of short-term capital not related to reserves, was that in 1976 the net gold and other foreign reserves declined by as much as R1 056 million, owing to balance of payments transactions as against a decline of only R305 million in 1975.

During 1976 the gross gold and other foreign reserves declined by only R219 million to a level of R886 million at the end of December. This moderate decline in the gross relative to the net gold and other foreign reserves may be attributed to the effect of the gold swap agreements in March 1976 and compensatory short-term borrowing by the central government and banking sector during 1976. During the year use was made of credit provided by the International Monetary Fund to the amount of R316 million. Notwithstanding a further drawing of R39 million on the International Monetary Fund under existing stand-by arrangements, the gross gold and other foreign reserves declined further by R51 million in January. During February the gross gold and other foreign reserves of the Reserve Bank declined further by R74 million to R645 million at the end of that month.

The sharp decline during 1976 in the gold and other foreign reserves occurred mainly in the gold and other foreign reserves of the Reserve Bank, whereas the foreign exchange holdings of the central government and monetary banking institutions remained at more or less the same level. In addition to the decline in the gold and other foreign reserves of the Reserve Bank, the gold swap agreements also had a significant influence on the composition of these reserves. Mainly owing to these agreements the gold reserves of the Reserve Bank declined by R150 million during 1976 to R375 million at the end of the year. These agreements were also partly responsible for the relatively small decline in the foreign exchange holdings of the Reserve Bank from R378 million at the end of 1975 to R324 million at the end of 1976.

Monetary and banking situation

Money and near-money

After having increased by 17 per cent during 1975 as a whole, the money and near-money supply continued to rise relatively fast, namely at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 16 per cent, during the first half of 1976. During the second half of 1976, however, its annual rate of increase declined to only slightly more than 2 per cent. For the calendar year 1976 the increase was only 9 per cent (R777 million) – the lowest annual percentage increase since 1971. As a result of this marked deceleration, the ratio of the average money and near-money supply to the gross domestic product, both seasonally adjusted, was reduced from 31,3 per cent during the first quarter of 1976 to 30,5 per cent during the fourth quarter.

The narrowly defined money supply increased by 3 per cent during 1976, down further from the increase of 7 per cent registered during 1975.

During January 1977 the seasonally adjusted money and near-money supply showed little change from its level at the end of December. The rate of increase for the twelve months from January 1976 to January 1977 amounted to less than 8 per cent.

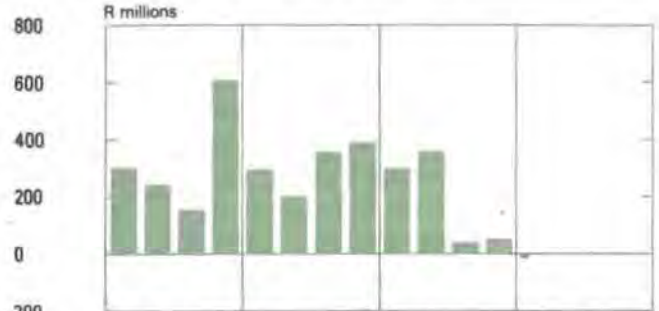
Causes of changes in money and near-money

The sharp slowdown in the rate of increase in the money and near-money supply during the second half of 1976 was mostly due to a smaller increase, followed by an actual decrease, in *net* claims of the banking sector on the government sector.

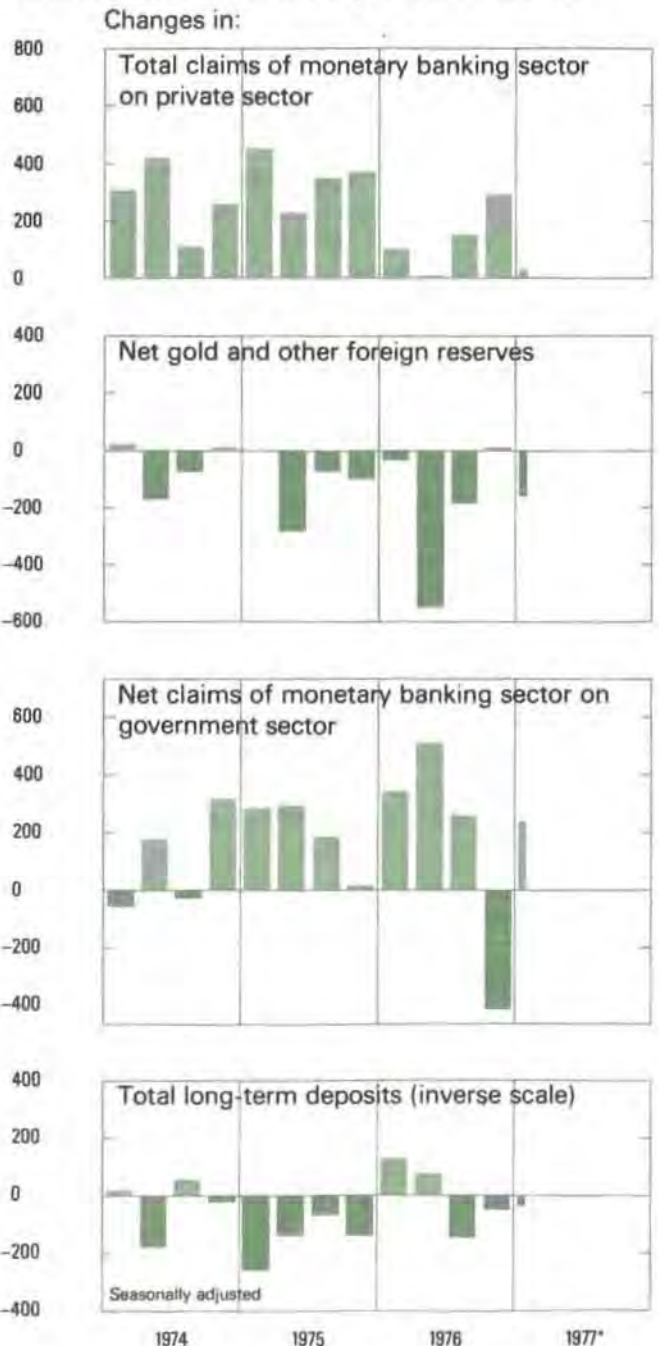
After having increased by R857 million, seasonally adjusted, during the first six months of the year (notably during the second quarter), net claims of the banking sector on the government sector rose by R264 million during the third quarter and actually declined by over R400 million during the fourth quarter. Claims on the private sector, on the other hand, after having decreased during the four months from the end of April 1976 to the end of August, picked up sharply during September, October and November but then showed little further change during December. Domestic credit extension, i.e. the total of net claims of the monetary banking sector on the government sector and claims on the private sector, also showed a reduced increase from a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 19 per cent during the first half of 1976 to a rate of 5 per cent during the second half.

The net gold and other foreign reserves of the monetary banking sector decreased by R753 million during 1976 as a whole. Although this amount substantially exceeded the decline of R462 million that had been recorded during 1975, a very considerable improvement occurred from the first to the second half of the year. After having decreased by R582 million

Changes in money and near-money



Causes of changes in money and near-money



*Changes from end of December 1976 to end of January 1977

Causes of changes in money and near-money

R millions

	Not season- ally adjusted	Seasonally adjusted				Jan. 1977
		1976				
		Year 1976	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	
Net gold and other foreign reserves	-753	-37	-545	-187	10	-129
Claims on government sector						
Gross claims	852					
Government deposits*	-113					
Net claims	739	344	513	264	-417	240
Claims on the private sector	556	106	5	152	293	32
Long-term private deposits*	6	128	74	-147	-50	-39
Net other assets	229					
Total causes of changes	777	305	361	43	56	-4

*Increase—, decrease+

(seasonally adjusted) during the first six months of 1976 (in spite of the gold swap arrangements of 12 March), the net foreign reserves decreased at a much reduced rate during the third quarter and then rose slightly from the end of September to the end of December. Monthly seasonally adjusted data indicate, however, that after a marked rise during November the net foreign reserves declined again somewhat during December.

Long-term deposits of the private sector with the banking sector, seasonally adjusted, decreased by approximately R230 million from the end of December 1975 to the end of July 1976 but then increased again by very nearly the same amount during the remaining five months of the year. The net increase in these deposits during the second half of 1976 contributed significantly to the reduced rate of growth in the money and near-money supply during this period.

Marked shifts in the causes of changes in the money and near-money supply occurred once more, however, during January 1977. After their slight increase during the fourth quarter of 1976, the seasonally adjusted net gold and other foreign reserves dropped sharply again during January, while the seasonally adjusted net claims on the government sector showed a renewed large increase. Claims on the private sector, on the other hand, increased only moderately, while long-term deposits of the private sector continued to rise.

Bank credit to the private sector

During 1976 bank credit to the private sector increased by the relatively small amount of R556 million, or less than 7 per cent, as compared with R1 409 million, or 20 per cent, during 1975. After rises during January, February and April, bank credit to the private sector, seasonally adjusted, declined fairly markedly by

approximately R150 million during the four months from the end of April to the end of August, before rising again by over R450 million or at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of approximately 17 per cent during the remainder of the year. The decrease from May to August 1976 would appear to have reflected the combined effect of the credit ceilings imposed in February, a slackening of private sector credit demand in line with the recessionary tendencies of the economy, and generally low excess bank liquidity during most of this period. The renewed increase in bank credit to the private sector during September, October and November in particular, partly reflected accommodation by the banks to business firms experiencing cash flow and other financing problems in the prevailing unfavourable business conditions, as well as some effect on credit demand of the import deposit scheme. However, total discounts and advances of the commercial banks, merchant banks and monetary hire-purchase and general banks to the private sector increased only slightly during December.

Hire-purchase and leasing finance of the commercial banks, merchant banks, and monetary hire-purchase and general banks, although much smaller in magnitude than discounts and advances, increased by as much as 20 and 31 per cent, respectively, during 1976 as a whole. Unlike the banks' discounts and advances, these forms of credit continued to rise fairly steadily throughout the year, showing no decline in the course of the second and third quarters. Total lending to the private sector by the monetary hire-purchase and general banks increased at a somewhat higher rate during the year than that of the commercial banks.

The fairly modest rise in claims on the private sector during January 1977 mainly reflected increased commercial bank discounts and advances.

Bank liquidity

The excess liquidity ratios of banking institutions, which had declined markedly during the last few months of 1975 mostly as a result of increases in the liquid asset requirements, showed further seasonal declines to relatively very low levels at the end of February 1976. With the exception of June 1976, these ratios then remained at relatively low levels during most of the remainder of the year before improving somewhat during December. The improvement during December, which may largely be regarded as seasonal, was mainly the result of an increase of R147 million in the actual liquid asset holdings of the commercial banks, reflecting, among other things, increased Reserve Bank credit to the Land Bank.

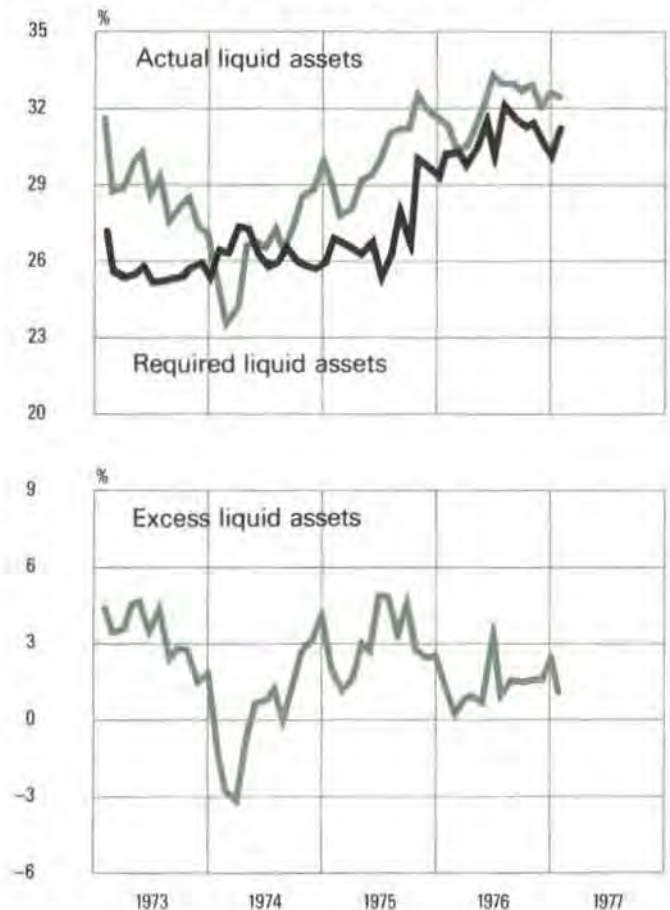
Owing to the high present levels of the liquid asset requirements against *increases* in the banks' short-term and medium-term liabilities to the public, the banks' required minimum holdings of liquid assets increased by R456 million or approximately 14 per cent during the year, against an increase in their total liabilities to the public of less than 11 per cent. The resulting further increase in the ratio of the banks' required liquid assets to their total liabilities to the public occurred in spite of a pronounced shift in the "term" structure of their deposit and other liabilities from the short-term to the medium-term category which was especially marked during the second half of 1976.

The large increase in the required liquid asset holdings of banks has resulted in a substantial increase in the banks' actual liquid asset holdings. As a percentage of total liabilities to the public, the banks' liquid asset holdings exceeded 32 per cent during the second half of 1976 and January 1977.

During January 1977, the seasonal flow of funds to the government and a decline in the net gold and other foreign reserve holdings of the Reserve Bank forced the excess liquidity ratio of all banking institutions back to a level that was only fractionally better than at the end of January 1976. Several banks actually experienced difficulties in meeting the liquid asset requirements.

Because of a tendency for deposits to be shifted from smaller to larger banks (following the difficulties experienced by certain property developers and two small banks), certain steps were announced by the Reserve Bank on 22 February 1977. These included an assurance by the Bank that the fullest possible financial

Liquidity ratios of all banking institutions



accommodation would, if necessary, be extended to the smaller banks in the normal way; an agreement with the five largest banks that an amount of R55 million, over and above their minimum required balances, would be maintained by these banks with the National Finance Corporation, to be available for recycling to the smaller banks; and a reduction in the amount from which individual deposits with banks and building societies (other than deposits held by banks and building societies with one another) are exempted from interest-rate control from R1 million to R250 000, effective from 23 February.

Excess liquidity ratios of banking institutions

	1976						1977
	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Commercial banks	1,8	5,1	1,7	1,9	2,3	3,8	1,8
Other monetary banks	-1,2	0,3	1,3	1,3	0,4	0,8	0,1
Other banks	0,4	-0,1	0,7	0,9	0,8	0,4	-1,4
All banks	0,8	3,4	1,5	1,6	1,6	2,7	1,1

Money market conditions and short-term interest rates

Although the rates on private money market instruments, reflecting the tight policy stance of the monetary authorities, remained at high levels during 1976, the general trend, especially after March, was downward. This was indicative, to a large extent, of the diminished demand for bank credit. The 3-month NCD rate, for example, which stood at 14,75 per cent on 26 March, after fluctuating rather markedly, declined to 8,75 per cent on 5 November. Similarly, the discount rate on 3-month bankers' acceptances declined almost uninterruptedly from 11,75 per cent to 9,00 per cent during this period.

Reflecting the tighter money market conditions during November and December 1976 and January and February 1977, occasioned to a large extent by the sharp decline in net claims on the government sector up to January 1977 and the further decline in net gold and other foreign reserves from the middle of November 1976, money market interest rates tended upwards. While the 3-month NCD rate increased from its 1976-low of 8,75 per cent recorded on 5 November to 10,25 per cent on 25 February 1977, the discount rate on 3-month bankers' acceptances increased from 9,00 to 9,90 per cent over the same period. The Treasury bill tender rate, as opposed to the tendency of rates on non-liquid money market instruments, increased slightly from 6,93 per cent at the beginning of 1976 to 7,88 per cent on 25 February 1977.

The discount houses and the NFC experienced little difficulty in recruiting funds during 1976. After having declined over the February 1976 month-end to R508 million on 1 March, call loans with the discount houses increased rapidly during March and thereafter the houses were almost permanently constrained by the capital requirement of the Banks Act from accepting additional deposits. A peak amounting to R902 million was recorded on 3 November, after which call loans declined somewhat to R807 million at the end of January 1977 and then sharply, as might have been expected, over the February month-end to R749 million on 5 March. Under these conditions, the banks' balances with the National Finance Corporation, in excess of requirements, were at high levels after February 1976 and, in fact, at one stage (25 June) stood at R639 million. In line with the tighter conditions experienced during the latter part of 1976 and early 1977, these balances were sharply reduced.

Interest rates on deposits with banking institutions remained largely unchanged during 1976 and early 1977. Deposit rates in the short-term category tended upwards during the first week of February 1976 and a number of banking institutions decreased their call deposit rates at the end of October or the beginning of November. Bank rate was increased once during this period, i.e., from 8½ to 9 per cent on 22 July 1976. This allowed the banks to increase their prime overdraft rate from 12 to 12½ per cent.

Government finance

Government revenue collections

During the first ten months of the 1976/77 fiscal year, i.e. the period April 1976 to January 1977, the percentage increase in the central government's revenue collections, compared with the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year, conformed fairly closely to the Budget's anticipated increase of 11 per cent for the fiscal year as a whole.

In the case of gold mining leases and income tax payments by gold mining companies, a larger percentage decline than anticipated in the Budget for the fiscal year as a whole was recorded in the first ten months. Customs duties also showed a larger percentage decline than expected, but other income items such as excise and sales duties and income tax payments by individuals increased at a higher rate.

Exchequer Account

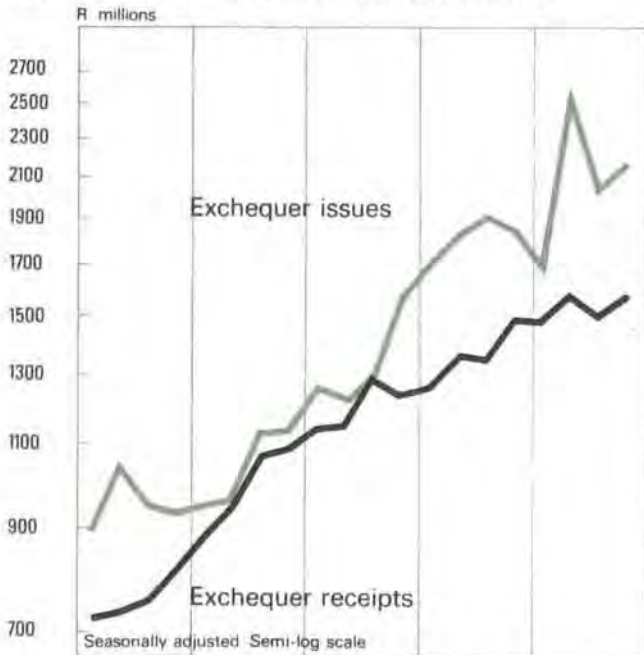
Percentage change compared with corresponding period in preceding year

	Apr. 1976 to Jan. 1977	1976/77 Budget
Receipts		
Customs, excise and sales duties	22,5	23,5
Income tax (excluding gold mines)	15,3	16,4
Income tax and lease payments by gold mines	-37,4	-22,1
Other inland revenue	8,6	0,0
Total	10,1	11,0
Issues	18,9	13,4

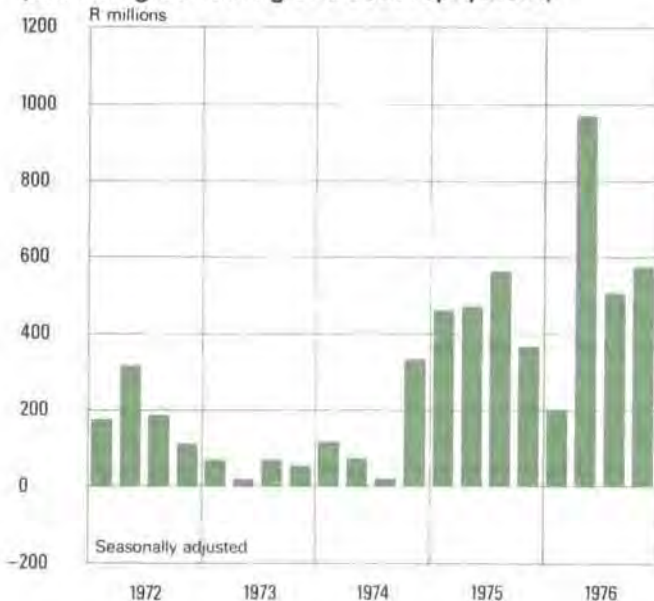
Exchequer issues

In contrast to the revenue collections conforming closely to Budget estimates, Exchequer issues during the first ten months of the fiscal year rose by as much as 19 per cent above those during the corresponding period of 1975 or well above the increase of 13½ per cent provided for in the Budget (as amended for supplementary estimates) for the fiscal year as a whole. After the initial strong upsurge in issues during the first quarter of the fiscal year, compared with the corresponding period of 1975, Exchequer issues rose only moderately during the subsequent quarter but accelerated again during the fourth quarter of 1976 and January 1977. During the fourth quarter of 1976 issues rose by 16 per cent above the comparable 1975 figure and during January 1977 by 14 per cent. To equal Budget estimates, Exchequer issues during the last two months of the fiscal year would have to be substantially lower than the comparable figure for the preceding year.

**Receipts on and issues from Exchequer Account
(excluding borrowing and debt repayment)**



**Deficit on the Exchequer Account
(excluding borrowing and debt repayment)**



However, allowance should be made for the usual additional appropriations by Parliament before the close of the fiscal year. The additional expenditure, proposed to Parliament by the Minister of Finance on 28 February, amounted to R260,3 million in respect of the State Revenue Account and R7,7 million in respect of the South West Africa Account. It is expected that part of the additional amounts requested would be financed from savings and internal sources.

The main 1977/78 Central Government Budget will be presented to Parliament on 30 March 1977. To avoid a loss of revenue to the Treasury because of a customary pre-Budget upsurge in sales of dutiable goods in anticipation of increases in duties, various indirect taxes were increased by the Minister of Finance on 7 March 1977. These included higher customs and excise duties on beer, wines, spirits, and tobacco and a 25 per cent increase in sales duty. The last-mentioned duties, levied on the importer/manufacturer level, now range between 8 and 33 per cent. The increases, effective from 7 March, are expected to yield R144 million during the 1977/78 fiscal year which starts on 1 April 1977.

Financing of Exchequer deficit

After the initially large deficit of R936 million on the Exchequer Account (excluding borrowing and debt repayment) during the first quarter of the fiscal year, the deficit decreased to R290 million during the second quarter before increasing again to R652 million during the third quarter. Notwithstanding the seasonal increase during the third quarter of the fiscal year, the deficit during the period July to December 1976 was approximately equal to that for the first quarter of the fiscal year alone. During January 1977 a deficit of R74 million was recorded. In financing the Exchequer Account deficit, the Treasury had to increase its net indebtedness to the monetary banking sector by R550 million during the first quarter of the fiscal year. During the second quarter its net indebtedness to the monetary banking sector actually decreased by R149 million and during the subsequent four months it decreased by another R5 million, largely because of increased borrowing from the private non-banking sector and the foreign sector.

For the first ten months of the fiscal year the deficit on the Exchequer Account amounted to R1 952 million. This figure was more than R280 million higher than the estimated shortfall for the 1976/77 fiscal year as a whole. In financing this deficit, a substantial amount of R931 million was borrowed from the private non-banking sector during the ten-month period under review. Of this amount, almost R300 million represented payments of compulsory loan levies and R89 million investments in National Defence Bonds. In addition, the Public Debt Commissioners invested a net amount of R295 million in government securities. Notwithstanding the important contribution to Exchequer financing by domestic non-banking sources of finance, the Treasury was obliged not only to have larger recourse to the monetary banking sector as a source of finance, but also to rely to a greater extent on foreign borrowing during the first ten months of the 1976/77 fiscal year. Net foreign borrowing totalled R329 million and of this figure R291 million represented funds obtained from the International Monetary Fund. The Treasury's net indebtedness to the monetary banking

sector increased by R396 million during the period under review consisting of an increase of R391 million in that sector's holdings of government securities and a decline of R5 million in Exchequer Account deposits.

The Railway Budget

The 1977/78 Budget for the South African Railways and Harbours was presented to Parliament by the Minister of Transport on 9 March 1977. According to expected operating results for the current financial year, which will end on 31 March 1977, operating revenue will be higher than originally expected, partly as a result of tariff increases in the course of the year. However, higher operating expenditure, caused by salary and other cost increases, is expected to result in an operating deficit of R33 million for 1976/77.

In terms of existing tariffs, the 1977/78 financial year is expected to close with a shortfall of more than R344 million. To cover this deficit, the Minister increased a wide range of tariffs, including rail passenger fares and goods tariffs, harbour dues, road transportation tariffs, air fares and rates for oil pipelines. It is anticipated that the higher fares and tariffs will increase revenue by 14,6 per cent. To curtail capital expenditure, the completion of the majority of approved projects will be delayed and new projects reduced to a minimum. Consequently, expenditure on capital and betterment works during the 1977/78 financial year is expected to decline by R265 million, or by 21 per cent, to R971 million. Taking into account an increase of 21 per cent in operating expenditure, aggregate expenditure by the South African Railways and Harbours is expected to rise by only 6 per cent above the comparable 1976/77 figure.

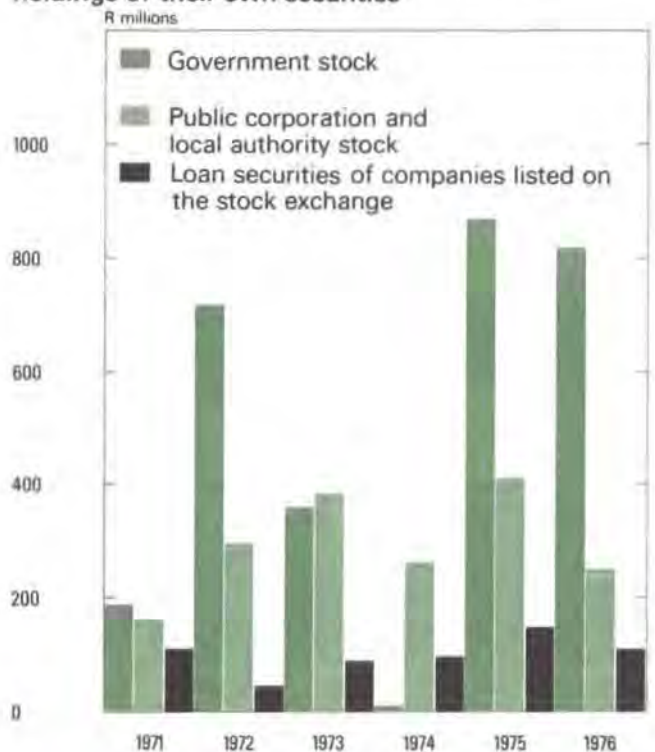
Capital market

Market for fixed-interest securities

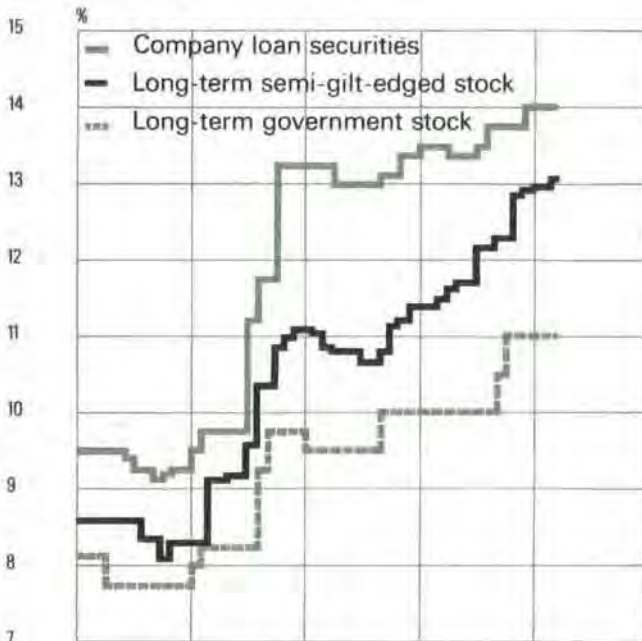
Conditions in the market for fixed-interest securities remained tight throughout 1976. Notwithstanding the postponement and cancellation of a number of scheduled new issues, a substantial amount of new capital was raised. Net new issues of marketable stock by the public sector, excluding the increase in the relevant borrowers' holdings of their own stock, amounted to R1 071 million in 1976, compared with the 1975 record of R1 280 million. In addition, private sector companies listed on the stock exchange made new issues of fixed-interest securities amounting to R118 million which was also somewhat less than the record amount of R182 million in 1975.

All classes of fixed-interest security yields increased noticeably during 1976. The yield on long-term government stock rose from 10,0 to 10,5 per cent in August and to 11,0 per cent towards the end of September. The yield on new long-term issues of the highest grade semi-gilt-edged stock rose from 11,35 per cent at the beginning of 1976 to 12,90 per cent at the end of the year. In the course of the year the yield on new issues of company loan securities increased from 13,375 to 14,00 per cent. Because of these yield movements, the

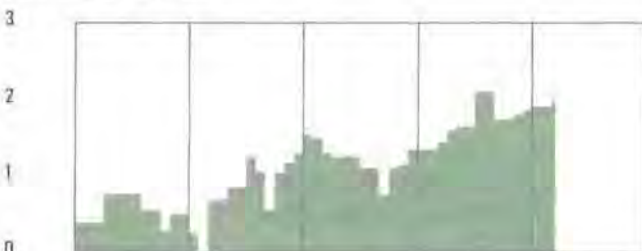
Net issues of marketable domestic fixed interest securities, excluding changes in borrowers' holdings of their own securities



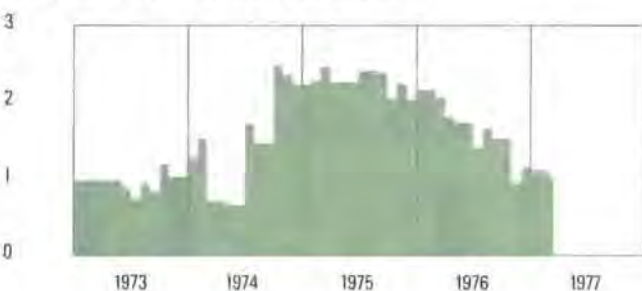
Fixed-interest security yields



Yield margin between long-term semi-gilt and gilt-edged stock



Yield margin between company loan securities and long-term semi-gilt-edged stock



yield margin between long-term semi-gilt and gilt-edged stock widened from 1,35 to 1,90 per cent during the year. On the other hand, the yield margin between company loan securities and long-term semi-gilt-edged stock narrowed from 2,03 to 1,10 per cent. It would appear, therefore, that the tight market conditions forced the local authorities and public corporations to borrow at relatively higher rates than the other borrowers in the fixed-interest security market.

During the first two months of 1977, the yield on new issues of long-term semi-gilt-edged stock increased slightly further to 12,98 per cent. However, new issues during this period were much better supported than during 1976 and most of them were oversubscribed. In March the yield adjusted to the apparent easier market situation when a new issue yield on semi-gilt-edged stock was fixed at 12,79 per cent.

Share market

The share market remained depressed throughout 1976 and stock exchange turnover, in terms of the number of shares traded, reached its lowest level since 1967. Furthermore, most classes of share prices continued their downward trend which had started in August 1975.

A slightly firmer trend in non-mining share prices in December 1976 led to these prices showing little change during the fourth quarter. However, because of declines during the first three quarters, the year-end levels of the relevant prices were well below those at the end of 1975. Financial share prices and industrial and commercial share prices were 15 per cent and 9 per cent, respectively, lower in December 1976 than in December 1975. Gold mining share prices declined sharply during the first eight months of 1976 and thereafter increased by 29 per cent during the last four months of the year. At the end of 1976 these prices were on average still 16 per cent lower than at the end of 1975. Coal mining shares, which had risen sharply during the first nine months of 1976, increased slightly further during the last quarter and ended the year 59 per cent higher than in December 1975. Other non-gold metal and mineral share prices rose moderately during the first nine months of 1976, but then moved downwards during the fourth quarter and ended the year more or less at the same level as at the end of 1975.

The slightly firmer trend in share prices during December 1976 continued during January and, with the exception of gold mining shares, all classes of share prices reached a higher level in January 1977.

Reflecting the behaviour of share prices, the dividend yield on all classes of listed ordinary shares increased from 8,2 per cent in December 1975 to 10,5 per cent in December 1976, but declined again to 10,2 per cent in January 1977. The inverse yield gap between ordinary shares and long-term gilt-edged stock narrowed from 1,8 per cent to 0,5 per cent and then widened to 0,8 per cent during the same period. The December 1976 figure was the lowest year-end margin to be recorded since an inverse yield gap had first appeared in 1964.

Flow of longer-term funds to deposit-receiving and related institutions

The flow of longer-term funds to deposit-receiving and related institutions increased substantially during the second half of 1976 after it had shown a marked decrease during the first half of the year. Notwithstanding this improvement, the inflow was still considerably smaller than in 1975.

The seasonally adjusted increase in building society shares and deposits during the second half of 1976 amounted to R326 million, compared with R253 million during the first half of the year and R786 million during 1975. The seasonally adjusted savings and long-term deposits with banking institutions, which had declined by R34 million during the first half of 1976, rose by R321 million during the second half. The total increase of R286 million in these deposits during 1976 was markedly lower than the corresponding figure of R983 million for 1975. Investments in the Post Office Savings Bank and in National Saving Certificates also increased during the second half of 1976 and amounted to R112 million, compared with R71 million during the first half of the year. Funds invested in participation mortgage bond schemes, however, decreased from R37 million in the first half to R25 million in the second half of 1976. In 1975 R115 million and R24 million were invested in the savings facilities of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications

and in participation mortgage bond schemes, respectively.

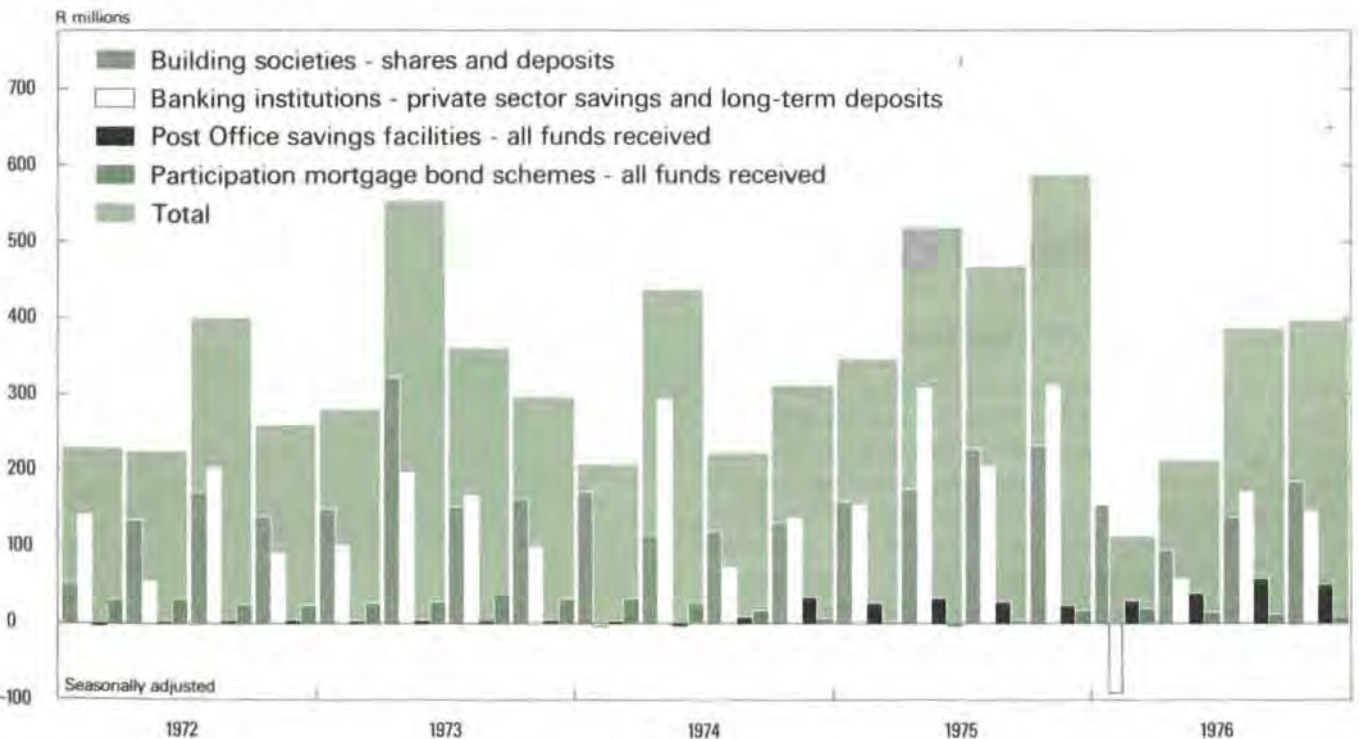
The flow of longer-term funds to the building societies during January 1977, seasonally adjusted, was lower than either that of January 1976 or the monthly average for the last quarter of 1976, but the flow to the monetary banking institutions was well above that for January 1976 and the monthly average for the last quarter of 1976.

Mortgage and real estate markets

The larger flow of funds to building societies during the second half of 1976 was reflected in an increase in the new mortgage loans granted by the societies. The monthly average of new mortgage loans granted during the second half of 1976 was 19 per cent higher than during the second quarter and 2 per cent higher than during the first six months of the year. The total amount of new mortgage loans granted by building societies during 1976, namely R1 070 million, was considerably less than the total of R1 261 million in 1975. However, the actual amount paid out on new mortgages during 1976 amounted to R1 199 million and exceeded the preceding year's figure by R118 million. The amount of funds invested in mortgages by participation mortgage bond schemes increased from R121 million in 1975 to R145 million in 1976.

Notwithstanding the decrease in the inflow of funds to the building societies during January 1977, new

Flow of funds to financial institutions



Fixed property market



mortgage loans granted, seasonally adjusted, amounted to R85 million which was approximately at the same level as the monthly average of R89 million during 1976.

During 1976 the value of the real estate transactions remained at a low level and the property market in general continued to be very sluggish.

Kwartaallikse ekonomiese oorsig

Algemene opmerkings

Die gunstige uitwerking van die beperkende fiskale en monetêre beleid, wat in die derde kwartaal van 1976 te bespeur was, is gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1976 voortgesit. Die tekort op die lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans het verder afgeneem, die goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes het opgehou om te daal, die Regering se finansies het verbeter, die koers van toename in geld- en kredietsekkings is aansienlik verminder en pryse het stadiger toegeneem.

Nadat dit in die eerste kwartaal van 1976 'n piek bereik het, het die tekort op die lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans in die loop van 1976, en in die besonder gedurende die tweede helfte van die jaar, progressief afgeneem. Die meeste van die hoofkomponente van die lopende rekening het tot die verbetering in die tweede helfte van 1976 bygedra. Goedere-uitvoere het aansienlik toegeneem, nie alleen as gevolg van stygings in die pryse van uitvoerkommoditeite nie, maar ook as gevolg van 'n groter volume van uitvoere. Terselfdertyd het goedere-invoere in sowel geldelike as reële terme afgeneem terwyl netto onsigbare betalings aan die res van die wêreld gedaal het, hoofsaaklik as gevolg van laer vrag- en versekeringsbetalings en 'n vermindering in dividende wat aan buitelanders betaal is. Die netto goudproduksie het tot en met die derde kwartaal gedaal en daarna in die vierde kwartaal effens toegeneem as gevolg van 'n styging in die prys van goud.

Gedurende die loop van 1976 het die basiese saldo, d.w.s. die saldo op lopende rekening plus langtermynkapitaalbewegings, ook verbeter en slegs 'n klein tekort is gedurende die tweede helfte van die jaar aangeteken.

Die kapitaalrekening van die betalingsbalans het egter gedurende die loop van 1976 versleg as gevolg van politieke onsekerhede, die laer vlak van investering en die daling in goedere-invoere. 'n Aansienlike netto invloeiing van kapitaal gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1976 is gevolg deur 'n klein netto invloeiing in die tweede kwartaal en 'n klein netto uitvloeiing in die derde kwartaal. Gedurende die vierde kwartaal het amptelike lenings, insluitende trekkings op die Internasionale Monetêre Fonds, tot 'n aansienlike netto invloeiing van kapitaal gelei. Die netto resultaat van hierdie ontwikkelings op die lopende en kapitaalrekenings was dat die afname in die goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes gedurende die eerste drie kwartale van 1976 verander het in 'n klein toename in die vierde kwartaal.

As gevolg van 'n groot netto uitvloeiing van korttermynkapitaal nie verwant aan buitelandse reserwes nie, het die netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes egter gedurende 1976 aansienlik gedaal, maar die daling was aansienlik kleiner gedurende die tweede helfte as in die eerste helfte van die jaar. Die netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes, een van die nuwe saldo's wat in die betalingsbalans* onderskei word, is gelyk aan die bruto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes min alle buitelandse korttermynverpligtinge van die Reserwebank, lenings by die Internasionale Monetêre Fonds en korttermynlenings van die sentrale regering en ander monetêre bankinstellings by buitelandse banke en amptelike instellings.

Die beperkende uitwerking van die 1976-Begroting is in die derde en vierde kwartale van 1976 in die Regering se rekeninge weerspieël. Na die uitskakeling van seisoenskommelings het die totale tekort op die Skatkisrekening afgeneem en die netto skuldposisie van die Skatkis teenoor die banksektor het gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 verminder. Hierdie afname in die bankkrediet aan die regeringsektor het baie bygedra tot die afname in die koers van toename in die hoeveelheid geld en kwasi-geld gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976.

Nadat dit gedurende die eerste helfte van 1976 teen 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers van 16 persent gestyg het, het die hoeveelheid geld en kwasi-geld gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 met slegs effens meer as 2 persent gestyg. 'n Versnelling in die toename van bankkrediet aan die private sektor gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 is meer as geneutraliseer deur 'n afname in die netto krediet aan die regeringsektor. 'n Toename in langtermyndeposito's van die private sektor by die banksektor het ook tot die laer koers van toename in die hoeveelheid geld en kwasi-geld bygedra. Alhoewel die banke onder die bestaande kredietplafonne 'n mate van ruimte vir kredietverlening gehad het, het hulle likwiditeitsposisie tot aan die einde van 1976 en in Januarie 1977 stram gebly.

Die toestand op die kapitaalmark het regdeur 1976 stram gebly en langtermynrentekoerse en opbrengskoerse het opwaarts beweeg. Die vraag na langtermynfondse het sterk gebly en groot bedrae is in die kapitaalmark geleen, in die besonder deur die openbare sektor.

*Kyk Bylaag tot hierdie Kwartaalblad: Suid-Afrika se betalingsbalans, 1956-1975.

Die aandelemark het regdeur 1976 bedruk gebly en aandele-opbrengskoerse het tot rekordvlakke gestyg. Gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 het die vloei van langertermynfondse na finansiële tussengangers tot 'n hoër vlak gestyg en het die verbandleningsbedrywigheid toegeneem. Die vaste eiendomsmark het traag gebly.

Alhoewel die inflasiekoers nog steeds hoog is, het dit in 1976 voortgegaan om 'n dalende neiging te toon. Gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1976 het die seisoensaangesuiwerde verbruikers- en groothandelsprysindekse teen jaarkoerse van onderskeidelik 9 persent en 14 persent gestyg. Afgesien van 'n verdere verstewiging van die betalingsbalans, sal die owerhede se beleidsoogmerke 'n hoër voorrang gee aan 'n verdere vermindering in die inflasiekoers tot 'n meer aanvaarbare vlak. 'n Voortsetting van die beperkende monetêre en fiskale beleid sal nodig wees om hierdie doelstelling te bereik. Alhoewel die korttermynmaatreëls van die Anti-inflasie Manifes aan die einde van Maart 1977 beëindig word, sal die langtermynmaatreëls van krag bly.

Ongelukkig is die beperkende fiskale en monetêre beleid, oor die korttermyn, nie bevorderlik vir 'n hoër groeikoers of laer werkloosheid nie. Die reële toegevoegde waarde van die nie-landbousektore van die volkshuishouding het alreeds gedurende die laaste drie kwartale van 1976 gedaal en 'n toename van ongeveer $1\frac{1}{2}$ persent in die reële bruto binnelandse produk is in die kalenderjaar 1976 aangeteken. Aangesien die ruilvoet gedurende 1976 verder verswak het, is 'n negatiewe groeikoers van ongeveer 1 persent in die reële bruto nasionale produk aangeteken.

Nasionale rekeninge

Lae ekonomiese groeikoers

Die koers van toename in die reële bruto binnelandse produk het effens afgeneem vanaf ongeveer 2 persent in 1975 tot bykans $1\frac{1}{2}$ persent in 1976. Indien die toegevoegde waarde van landbou uitgesluit word, het die groeikoers in die nie-landbousektore van die volkshuishouding afgeneem vanaf ongeveer 3 persent in 1975 tot slegs $1\frac{1}{2}$ persent in 1976. Soos uit die bygaande tabel blyk, het die laer groeikoers in 1976 hoofsaaklik voortgespruit uit afnames in die reële toegevoegde waarde van die landbou, fabriekswese, konstruksie, groot- en motorhandel en laer koerse van toename in die reële toegevoegde waarde van ander belangrike sektore soos die kleinhandel, vervoer, opberging en kommunikasie, en algemene owerheid. Die reële inkome wat deur die goudmynbou geskep is, het in 1976 min verandering getoon, vergeleke met 'n aansienlike afname in 1975. Slegs die sektor nie-goudmynbou het 'n aansienlik groter bydrae tot groei as in 1975 gelewer.

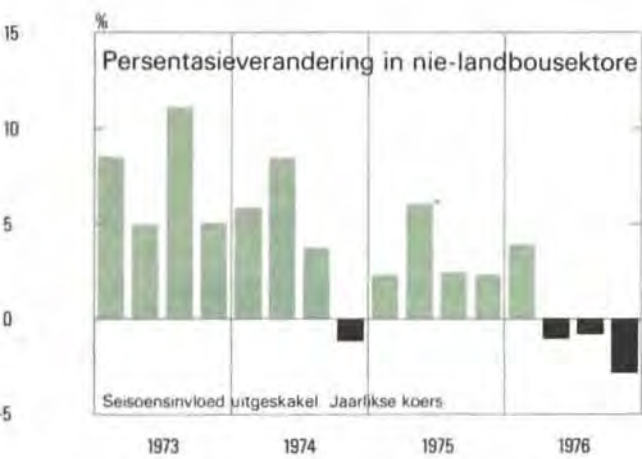
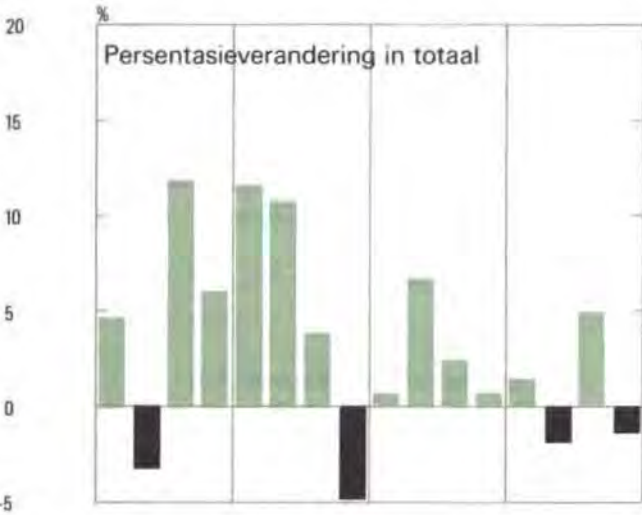
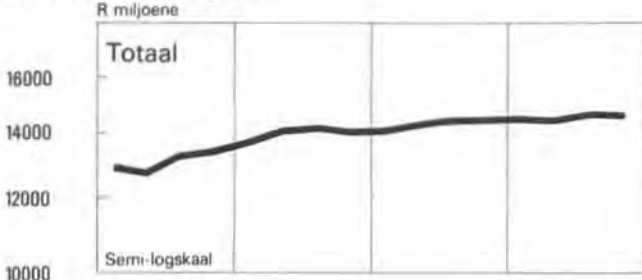
Omdat die ruilvoet in 1976 verder versleg het, onder andere as gevolg van die daling in die gemiddelde goudprys, is 'n negatiewe groeikoers van ongeveer 1 persent in die reële bruto nasionale produk in 1976 aangeteken, vergeleke met 'n negatiewe koers van ongeveer $1\frac{1}{2}$ persent in 1975.

Teen heersende pryse het die koers van toename in die bruto binnelandse produk afgeneem vanaf $13\frac{1}{2}$ persent in 1975 tot ongeveer 12 persent in 1976. Hierdie afname is uitsluitlik toe te skryf aan 'n daling in die koers van toename in die vergoeding van werknemers vanaf 19 persent in 1975 tot 14 persent in 1976, omdat die koers van toename in die bruto bedryfsurplus effens toegeneem het vanaf $6\frac{1}{2}$ persent in 1975 tot 8 persent in 1976. Ofskoon die verlangsamings van die koers

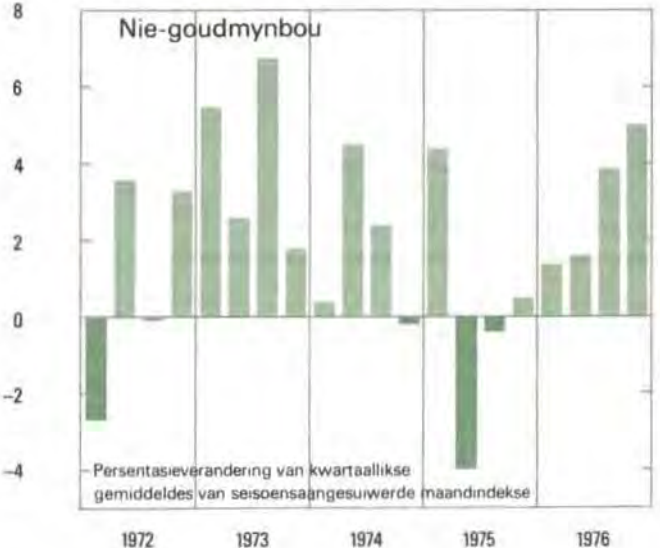
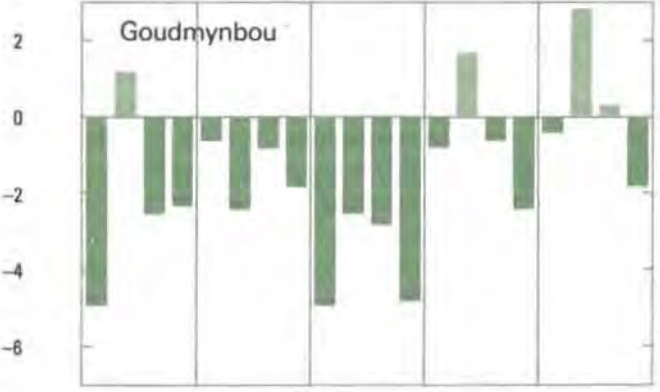
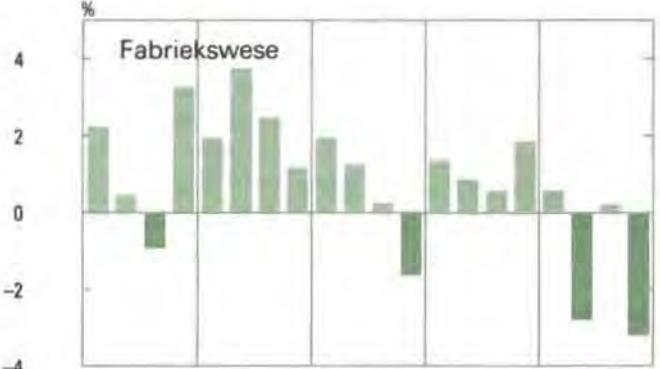
Persentasieverandering in die bruto binnelandse produk teen konstante 1970-pryse

	1975	1976
Landbou, bosbou en vissery	-8	-1
Mynbou en steengroewery	-2	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Goudmynbou	-6	-
Nie-goudmynbou	1	4
Fabriekswese	2	$-\frac{1}{2}$
Konstruksie (kontrakteurs)	$-2\frac{1}{2}$	$-3\frac{1}{2}$
Groot- en kleinhandel, ens	2	-2
Groothandel	-	-3
Kleinhandel	3	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Motorhandel	7	-11
Vervoer, opberging en kommunikasie	9	6
Algemene owerheid	$6\frac{1}{2}$	5
Ander sektore	3	3
Totale bruto binnelandse produk	2	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Nie-landbousektore	3	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Sekondêre en tersiêre sektore	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Bruto nasionale produk	$-1\frac{1}{2}$	-1

Bruto binnelandse produk teen konstante 1970-pryse



Fisiese volume van produksie



van toename in die vergoeding van werknemers in al die vernaamste sektore waarneembaar was, het die grootste verandering in die geval van die mynbou en die sektor vervoer, opberging en kommunikasie voorgekom.

Die verskil tussen die groeiakoerse teen heersende en konstante pryse impliseer 'n afname in die koers van toename in die bruto binnelandse produkdeflator vanaf ongeveer 11 persent in 1975 tot ongeveer 10 persent in 1976. Die laer koers van toename in hierdie maatstaf van die totale inflasie in 1976 het voorgekom nie-

staande die prysverhogende uitwerking van die devaluasie van die rand in September 1975 en was die gevolg van 'n algemene verlangsaming van die koers van toename in binnelandse groot- en kleinhandelspryse en 'n afname in die gemiddelde goudprys.

Kwartaalike ramings van die totale reële bruto binnelandse produk toon dat negatiewe groeiakoerse in die tweede en vierde kwartale van 1976 aangeteken is. In die geval van die nie-landbousektore is negatiewe

groeikoerse in die laaste drie kwartale van 1976 aangeteken. Die reële toegevoegde waarde van belangrike sektore soos die goudmynbou, fabriekswese, konstruksie en groot- en kleinhandel, insluitende die motorhandel, het in die vierde kwartaal almal dalings getoon, wat gesamentlik die opmerkbare toename in die reële inkome wat deur die nie-goudmynbou en die landbou geskep is, meer as geneutraliseer het. Die reële toegevoegde waarde van die ander sektore in die vierde kwartaal het in vergelyking met die derde kwartaal min verandering getoon. Die verdere verslegting van die reële ekonomiese bedrywigheid in die nie-landbousektore kan toegeskryf word aan die afname in feitlik al die komponente van totale reële binnelandse vraag gedurende die laaste kwartaal van 1976.

Afname in reële binnelandse besteding

Soos die bygaande tabel toon, het al die hoofkomponente van die reële totale binnelandse vraag in 1976 òf kleiner persentasietoenames getoon òf afgeneem. Die bruto binnelandse besteding teen heersende pryse het in 1976 die bruto nasionale produk met 'n aansienlik kleiner marge as in 1975 oorskry, 'n ontwikkeling wat ook in 'n opmerkbare afname in die tekort op die lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans weerspieël is.

Persentasieverandering in die totale binnelandse vraag teen konstante 1970-pryse

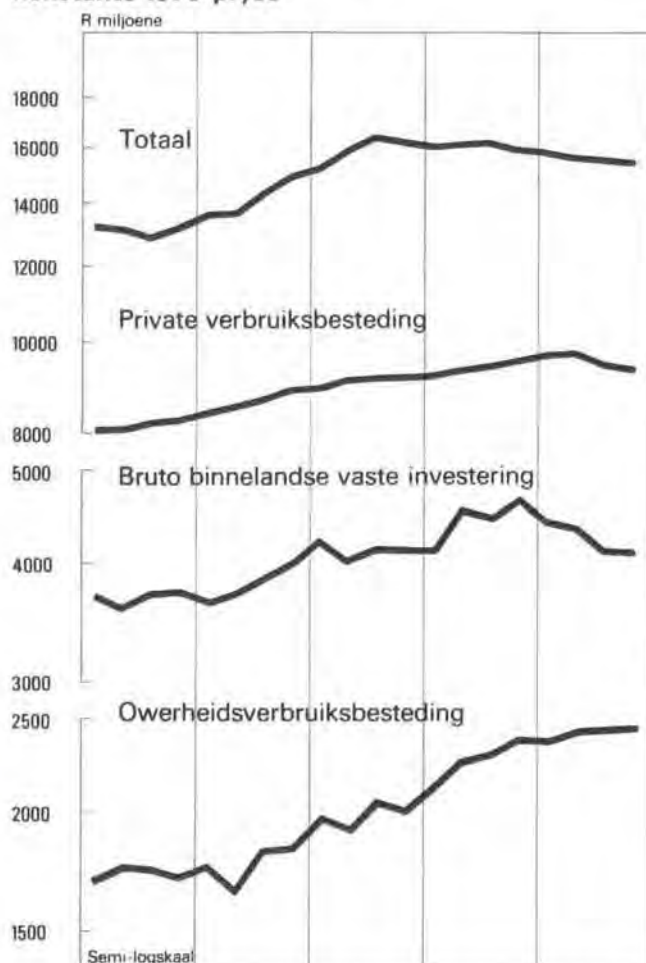
	1975	1976
Private verbruiksbesteding	3	2
Owerheidsverbruiksbesteding	14	7
Bruto binnelandse vaste investering	8	-4½
Verandering in voorrade (R miljoene)	169	-404
Bruto binnelandse besteding	1	-3

Kwartaallikse ramings van die reële bruto binnelandse besteding toon dat nadat 'n hoë vlak in die derde kwartaal van 1975 bereik is, die totale reële binnelandse vraag gedurende al vier kwartale van 1976 afgeneem het. Gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1976 het die bruto binnelandse besteding teen heersende pryse die bruto nasionale produk met 'n kleiner marge as in die vorige kwartaal oorskry. Hierdie ontwikkeling is ook weerspieël in 'n verdere afname in die seisoensaangesuiwerde tekort op die lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans.

Laer koers van toename in reële private verbruiksbesteding

Alhoewel die koers van toename in reële private verbruiksbesteding vanaf 3 persent in 1975 tot slegs ongeveer 2 persent in 1976 verlangsaam het, was laasgenoemde groeikoers nog steeds hoër as dié van die reële bruto binnelandse produk. Soos in die bygaande tabel getoon word, het reële besteding aan al die klasse van goedere, uitgesonderd dié aan televisiestelle, in 1976 òf gedaal òf laer groeikoerse aangeteken as in die

Bruto binnelandse besteding teen konstante 1970-pryse



voorafgaande jaar, terwyl reële besteding aan dienste vinniger as in die voorafgaande jaar toegeneem het.

Dit wil voorkom asof die laer koers van toename in die reële beskikbare persoonlike inkome die belangrikste enkele faktor was wat vir die daling in die reële besteding aan die meeste klasse van goedere verantwoordelik was, alhoewel die aansienlike afname in woningboukonstruksie teen konstante pryse ook tot die verdere afname in reële besteding aan meubels en

Persentasieverandering in die belangrikste klasse van private verbruiksbesteding teen konstante 1970-pryse

	1975	1976
Duursame goedere	3	-3
Meubels en huishoudelike toerusting	-15	-8
Persoonlike vervoertoerusting	2	-17
Ander goedere, insluitende televisiestelle	73	32
Semi-duursame goedere	4	-1
Klerasie en skoëisel	5	1
Ander goedere	3	-3
Nie-duursame goedere	3	2½
Dienste	2½	4
Totale private verbruiksbesteding	3	2

ander groot huishoudelike toerusting bygedra het. Die skerp afname van ongeveer 19 persent in die aantal nuwe motors wat gedurende 1976 verkoop is, kan op sy beurt ook beïnvloed gewees het deur die hoër pryse van motorvoertuie, die verhoogde onderhoudskoste en die laer koers van vervanging van motors as gevolg van die laer snelheidspere wat as deel van die brandstofbesparingsmaatreëls ingestel is.

Ofskoon die aanvang van die amptelike televisieprogramme vroeg in 1976 tot 'n aansienlike styging in die besteding aan televisiestelle aanleiding gegee het, het die reële besteding aan *totale* duursame goedere in 1976 nog steeds 'n klein daling getoon. Reële besteding aan duursame goedere uitgesonderd televisiestelle het in 1976 in werklikheid met 11 persent gedaal. Verder het die aantal televisiestelle gelisensieer, nadat dit gedurende die eerste helfte van 1976 skerp gestyg het, gedurende die derde en vierde kwartale van 1976 met nie minder nie as 29 persent en 50 persent, onderskeidelik, gedaal. Hierdie ontwikkeling is deels 'n aanduiding van die mate waarin die bestaande verbruikersmark vir televisiestelle versadig is en van die feit dat die ekspansionistiese invloed van die instelling van televisie aansienlike dryfkrag verloor het.

Kwartaallike ramings van reële private verbruiksbesteding dui op 'n verlangsaaming van die koers van toename gedurende die eerste helfte en op werklike dalings in die reële besteding gedurende die derde en vierde kwartale van 1976.

Afname in die koers van toename in reële owerheidsverbruiksbesteding

Die koers van toename in reële owerheidsverbruiksbesteding het vanaf 14 persent in 1975 tot ongeveer 7 persent in 1976 gedaal. Laasgenoemde toename het uit 'n toename van 5 persent in vergoeding van werknemers en 'n toename van 10 persent in reële besteding aan goedere en ander dienste (insluitende verdedigingsuitgawes) bestaan. In totaal het reële nie-verdedigingsuitgawes in 1976 met 2 persent toegeneem, vergeleke met 7 persent gedurende die voorafgaande jaar. Kwartaallike ramings toon

dat die meer beperkende maatreëls wat in die 1976/77-Begroting ingestel is om die koers van toename in owerheidsverbruiksbesteding in toom te hou, in die laaste helfte van 1976 begin deurwerk het. Gevolglik het die koers van toename in reële owerheidsverbruiksbesteding in die tweede helfte van 1976 aansienlik verlangsaam.

Afname in reële bruto binnelandse vaste investering

Die afname in reële vaste kapitaalbesteding was 'n belangrike bydraende faktor tot die algehele afname in totale reële bruto binnelandse besteding gedurende 1976. Soos die bygaande tabel toon, het reële vaste investering in al die verskillende sektore óf afgeneem óf teen 'n laer koers toegeneem, met die uitsondering van kapitaalbesteding deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Spoorweë wat teen 'n hoër koers toegeneem het. Laasgenoemde toename was hoofsaaklik die gevolg van die aankope van nuwe vliegtuie en toevoegings tot rollende materiaal.

Kwartaallike ramings van reële vaste investering toon dat 'n dalende neiging gedurende al vier kwartale van 1976 merkbaar was. Reële vaste kapitaalbesteding van openbare korporasies het vanaf die tweede kwartaal, en dié van openbare owerhede gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 gedaal. Reële vaste investering van die private sektor het egter vanaf ongeveer die middel van 1975 ononderbroke gedaal.

Persentasieverandering in bruto binnelandse vaste investering teen konstante 1970-pryse

	1975	1976
Private sektor	1	-9
Landbou, bosbou en vissery	18	-21
Mynbou en steengroewery	9	4
Fabriekswese	6	-3
Groot- en kleinhandel	-15	-14
Private woongeboue	-17	-7
Ander	7	-20
Openbare korporasies	24	-9
Fabriekswese	-15	-43
Elektrisiteit, gas en water	51	18
Ander	61	-5
Openbare owerhede	14	5
Suid-Afrikaanse Spoorweë	21	31
Ander vervoer en kommunikasie	12	-9
Germeenskaps- en maatskaplike dienste	9	-7
Ander (behuising, ens.)	19	6
Totaal	8	-4½

Skerp afname in voorraadinvestering teen konstante pryse

Een van die vernaamste redes vir die afname in die totale reële binnelandse vraag gedurende 1976 was die opmerklike afname in netto voorraadinvestering. Nadat die boekwaarde van totale voorrade in 1975 met meer as R1 600 miljoen toegeneem het, het dit in

Nie-landbouvoorrade as 'n persentasie van bruto binnelandse produk uitgesonderd landbou



1976 met minder as die helfte van dié bedrag, naamlik met ongeveer R650 miljoen, toegeneem. Die ver naamste rede vir hierdie aansienlike verandering was 'n opmerkbare afname in die opbouing van nywerheids- en handelsvoorrade vanaf R1 070 miljoen in 1975 tot R500 miljoen in 1976. Teen konstante 1970-pryse was die skommeling selfs nog meer opvallend, naamlik 'n verandering vanaf 'n opbouing van voorrade van R169 miljoen in 1975 tot 'n vermindering van R404 miljoen in 1976. Die vlak van nywerheids- en handelsvoorrade teen konstante 1970-pryse het met ongeveer R250 miljoen gedaal, terwyl reële landbouvoorrade in die handel en reële diamantvoorrade vir die res van die afname verantwoordelik was.

Kwartaallikse ramings van *reële* voorraadinvestering toon dat die vlak van totale voorrade gedurende al vier kwartale van 1976 gedaal het en aansienlik bygedra het tot die volgehoue afname in die totale reële vraag en die afname in die volume van goedere-invoere. Nywerheids- en handelsvoorrade teen konstante pryse, wat in die tweede helfte van 1975 begin daal het, het die grootste bydrae tot die totale afname in 1976 gelewer. Teen heersende pryse het die boekwaarde van nywerheids- en handelsvoorrade gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1976 'n klein afname getoon. Die boekwaarde van nywerheidsvoorrade het min verandering getoon, met die gevolg dat die verhouding van voorrade tot verkope in die fabriekswesesektor vanaf 92 persent in die eerste kwartaal van 1976 tot 87 persent in die vierde kwartaal gedaal het. Ofskoon die boekwaarde van groot- en kleinhandelsvoorrade 'n kleiner toename as gedurende die voorafgaande vyf kwartale getoon het, het dalende verkope meegebring dat die verhouding van voorrade tot verkope vanaf 71 persent in die eerste kwartaal tot 72 persent in die vierde kwartaal van 1976 toegeneem het.

Onvoldoende binnelandse besparing

Nieteenstaande 'n toename van R216 miljoen in die bruto binnelandse besparing en 'n afname in die totale vaste en voorraadinvestering teen heersende pryse ten bedrae van R101 miljoen in 1976, was die vlak van binnelandse besparing in 1976 nog steeds onvoldoende om die totale binnelandse investering te finansier. Alhoewel die bedrag aan netto buitelandse kapitaal en die goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes wat gebruik is om die tekort te finansier in 1976 nog steeds R1 515 miljoen bedra het, was dit nietermin heelwat minder as die R1 832 miljoen aan buitelandse fondse wat in 1975 aangewend is. Gevolglik het die relatiewe aandeel van buitelandse fondse wat aangewend is om die binnelandse investering te finansier vanaf 22 persent in 1975 tot 18 persent in 1976 afgeneem, vergeleke met 'n jaarlikse gemiddelde verhouding van ongeveer 15½ persent vir die tydperk 1970 tot 1976. Die verhouding van bruto binnelandse besparing tot die bruto binnelandse produk het egter in 1976 tot 23½ persent gedaal; die laagste vlak wat sedert 1971 aangeteken is en ook laer as die gemiddelde vlak vir die tydperk 1970 tot 1976.

Ofskoon *bruto* binnelandse besparing in 1976 matig toegeneem het, het *netto* binnelandse besparing, d.w.s. ná voorsiening vir waardevermindering, met R139 miljoen afgeneem. 'n Toename in maatskappybesparing is meer as geneutraliseer deur 'n aansienlike afname in die lopende surplus van die algemene owerheid, terwyl persoonlike besparing min verandering getoon het.

Konjunkturoneigings, arbeidstoestand en pryse

Konjunkturaanwysers, nasionale rekeninge-statistiek en ander aanwysers van die reële bedrywigheid in die ekonomie, toon dat die Suid-Afrikaanse volkshuishouding gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1976 in die afwaartse fase van die konjunkturgolf gebly het. Die reële ekonomiese bedrywigheid in die nie-landbousektore het in werklikheid vir die derde agtereenvolgende kwartaal 'n daling getoon. Met uitsondering van die nie-goudmynbouproduksie, het die reële toegevoegde waarde van alle ander nie-landbousektore in die vierde kwartaal òf verder afgeneem òf teen 'n laer koers as in die voorafgaande kwartaal toegeneem, wat daarop dui dat die resessionêre neigings wydverspreid is. Afgesien van die feit dat die Suid-Afrikaanse ekonomie nou vir 30 maande in die afwaartse fase van die konjunkturgolf verkeer het, wat verreweg die langste resessiefase in die na-oorlogse tydperk is, is daar aanduidings dat die intensiteit daarvan gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 ook aansienlik toegeneem het.

Soos verwag kon word, het die resessionêre neigings 'n gunstige invloed op die lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans, die koers van prysstygings en die druk op geskoolde arbeid gehad. Werkloosheid, veral van ongeskoolde werkers, het egter 'n vraagstuk van groot belang geword.

Arbeidstoestand

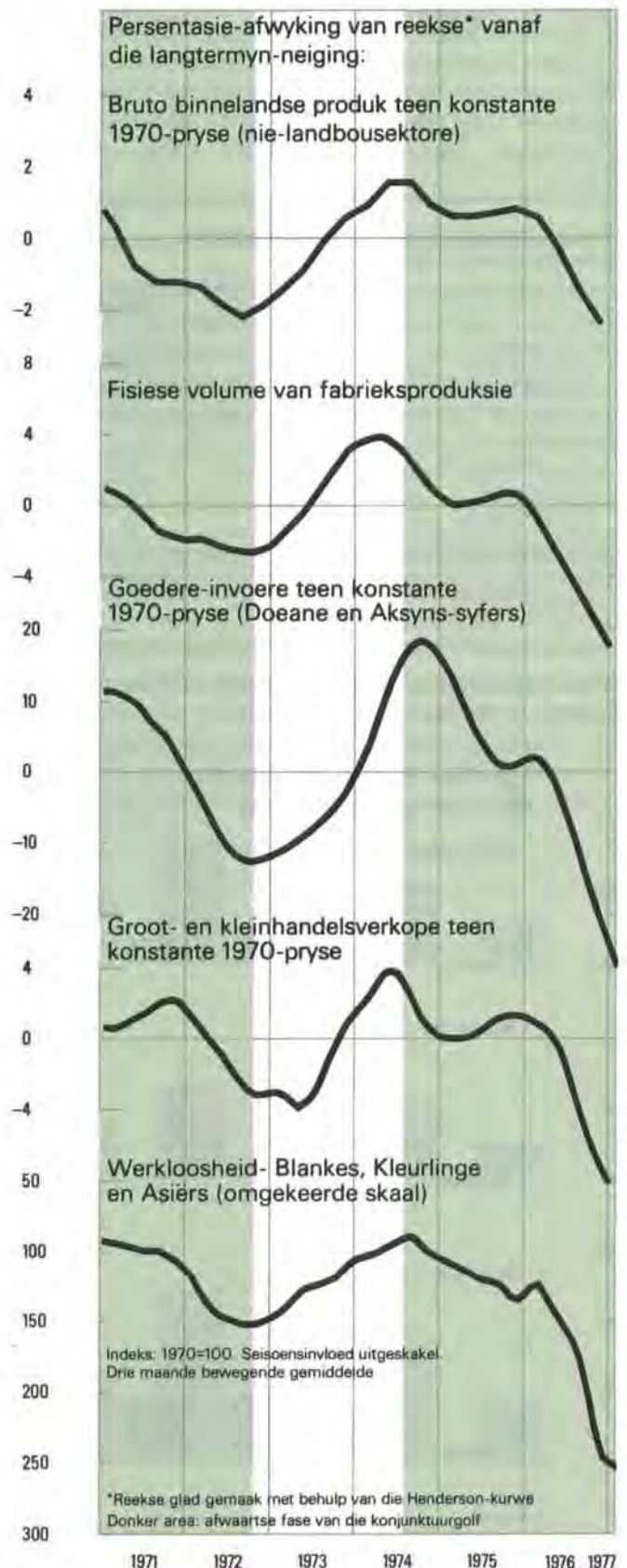
Die langdurige afwaartse fase van die huidige konjunkturgolf het 'n diepgaande uitwerking op die arbeidstoestand in Suid-Afrika gehad. In teenstelling met volgehoue arbeidstekorte in die verlede, veral aan geskoolde arbeid, is die huidige toestand een van toenemende werkloosheid, veral onder ongeskoolde arbeid. Die uitwerking van die resessie op die arbeidstoestand word duidelik geïllustreer deur die skerp toename in die seisoensaangesuiwerde aantal geregistreerde werklose Blankes, Kleurlinge en Asiërs vanaf 10 568 in Februarie 1976 tot nie minder nie as 22 207 in Februarie 1977. Laasgenoemde syfer verteenwoordig sowat een persent van die vergelykbare arbeidsmag. Alhoewel amptelike gegewens nie beskikbaar is nie, is daar aanduidings dat die aantal werklose Swartes ook betekenisvol toegeneem het.

Werkverskaffing in die nie-landbousektore – persentasieverandering

	1975	1976 ¹
Openbare sektor	6,4	4,1
Mynbousektor	-6,2	5,7
Private sektor uitgesonderd mynbou	1,9	0,3
Totaal	2,0	2,2

¹ Eerste nege maande van 1976 vergeleke met die ooreenstemmende tydperk in 1975.

Konjunkturaanwysers



Soos die bygaande tabel toon, het werkverskaffing vinniger toegeneem in 1976 as in 1975, as gevolg van 'n styging in die aantal in die mynbousektor in diens, terwyl die toename in alle ander sektore kleiner was.

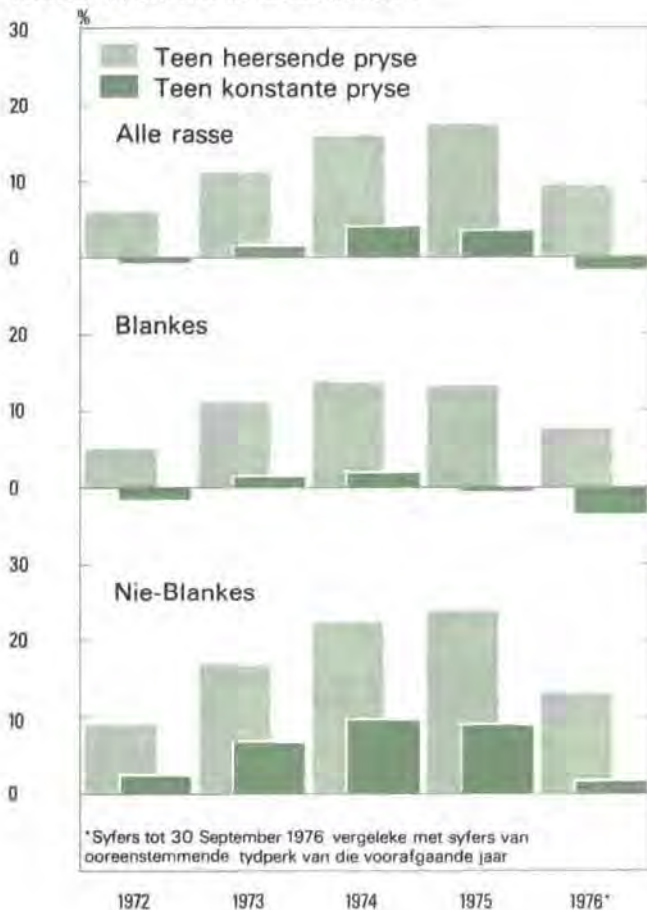
Bo en behalwe die verlangsamings in die koers van toename in die werkverskaffing in die meeste sektore, is dit duidelik uit die bygaande tabel dat die totale aantal oortydure deur die arbeidsmag in die fabriekswese en konstruksie gewerk, sowel as die totale ure deur

Aantal ure gewerk deur produksiewerkers – persentasieverandering

	1975	1976 ¹
Fabriekswese:		
Gewone ure	-0,3	0,7
Oortydure	-4,9	-5,1
Totale ure	-0,8	0,1
Konstruksie:		
Gewone ure	0,1	-6,4
Oortydure	-2,3	-16,1
Totale ure	-0,1	-7,4

¹ Eerste elf maande van 1976 vergeleke met die ooreenstemmende tydperk in 1975.

Persentasieverandering in salarisse en lone per werker in die nie-landbousektore



konstruksiewerkers gewerk, in 1976 skerp afgeneem het.

Met inagneming van die styging in die lewenskoste, soos deur die verbruikersprysindeks gemeet, het die reële vergoeding per werknemer in die nie-landbousektore van die volkshuishouding in die eerste drie kwartale van 1976 met 1,4 persent afgeneem vergeleke met dieselfde tydperk in 1975, teenoor 'n styging van 3,6 persent in 1975. Gemiddelde reële salarisse en lone per kapita het in die betrokke drie kwartale met 3,2 persent afgeneem in die geval van Blankes en met 1,7 persent toegeneem in die geval van nie-Blanke werkers. Daar moet egter op gelet word dat die gemiddelde reële vergoeding per werker vir albei hierdie groepe gedurende elkeen van die eerste drie kwartale van 1976 afgeneem het.

Pryse

Nieteenstaande die resessionêre neigings in die ekonomie regdeur 1976, is die koers van toename in pryse vir die jaar in sy geheel teen 'n hoë peil gehandhaaf. Opmerklike toenames in die pryse van ingevoerde goedere, onder andere as gevolg van die devaluasie van die rand in September 1975, aansienlike stygings in staatsgeadministreerde pryse, en opwaartse aanpassings in indirekte belasting, het belangrike bydraes tot die volgehoue hoë koers van toename in die binnelandse pryse gemaak. In die loop van die jaar het die koers van toename in verbruikers- sowel as groothandelspryse egter 'n dalende neiging getoon.

Die gemiddelde maandelikse verbruikersprysindeks het in 1976 met 11,1 persent gestyg, vergeleke met stygings van 13,5 en 11,6 persent in 1975 en 1974, onderskeidelik. Die laer koers van toename in voedselpryse, huur en die koste van mediese dienste en kommunikasie het 'n betekenisvolle bydrae tot die laer algehele koers van toename gemaak. Skerp stygings in die pryse van motorvoertuie, petrol, vervoer en behuisingskoste, uitgesonderd huur, is aangeteken.

Ná 'n toename teen 'n jaarkoers van 13,3 persent in die tweede kwartaal, het die koers van toename in die seisoensaangesuiwerde verbruikersprysindeks in die daaropvolgende twee kwartale afgeneem tot 10,8 persent en 9,0 persent onderskeidelik. Hierdie laer koerse van toename in die derde sowel as die vierde kwartaal is meegebring deur die laer en dalende koerse van toename in voedselpryse, pryse van elektriese toerusting, huur, en die koste van dienste soos ontspanning en kommunikasie. Huiseienaarskoste en bediendelone het egter voortgegaan om teen hoë en steeds toenemende koerse te styg. Die koers van toename in verbruikerspryse vanaf Januarie 1976 tot Januarie 1977 was 10,8 persent.

Die gemiddelde maandelikse groothandelsprysindeks van goedere vir binnelandse aanwending het in 1976 met 15,1 persent gestyg, teenoor 18,0 en 17,3

Jaarlikse persentasieverandering van kwartaallike gemiddeldes van seisoensaangesuiwerde maandelike prysindekse

	1975 tot 1976	4e kw. 1975 tot 1e kw. 1976	1e kw. 1976 tot 2e kw. 1976	2e kw. 1976 tot 3e kw. 1976	3e kw. 1976 tot 4e kw. 1976
Verbruikerspryse	11,1	10,1	13,3	10,8	9,0
Goedere	11,3	11,0	14,1	11,4	8,2
Dienste	10,8	8,4	11,6	9,6	10,4
Groothandelspryse	15,1	12,7	15,3	15,5	14,0
Goedere geproduseer in Suid-Afrika	14,4	10,4	15,3	18,7	16,1
Ingevoerde goedere	17,3	18,8	15,3	7,1	8,2

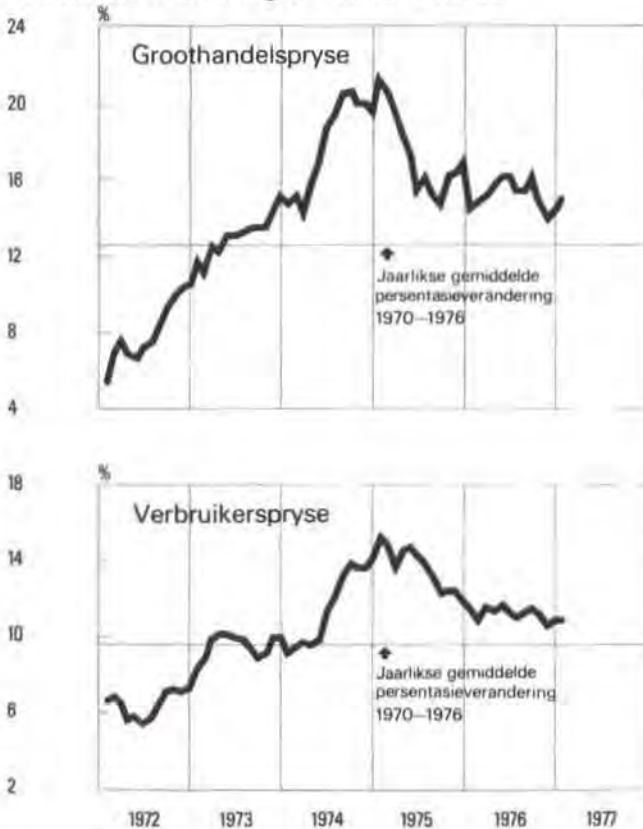
persent in 1975 en 1974, onderskeidelik. Skerp stygings in die pryse van basiese metale, nie-elektriese masjinerie, vervoertoerusting, steenkool en elektrisiteit was hoofsaaklik vir die voortsetting van 'n hoë koers van toename in die pryse van goedere geproduseer in Suid-Afrika in 1976 verantwoordelik.

Die jaarlikse koers van toename in die seisoensaangesuiwerde groothandelsprysindeks het in die tweede en derde kwartaal van die jaar versnel, voordat dit in die vierde kwartaal matig verlangsaam het. Die pryse van goedere in die binneland geproduseer het min of meer hierdie neiging gevolg, maar die stygings in die pryse van ingevoerde goedere het gedurende die

eerste drie kwartale van 1976 voortdurend afgeneem en toe in die vierde kwartaal effens versnel. Die groothandelsprysindeks vir alle goedere het vanaf Januarie 1976 tot Januarie 1977 met 15,0 persent gestyg.

Uit die oorsig van prysontwikkelings en die bygaande grafiek is dit duidelik dat alhoewel die koerse van die prysstygings in 1976, soos gemeet deur die verbruikers- en groothandelsprysindeks, laer was as dié gedurende die voorafgaande twee jare, die huidige koerse nog steeds betreklik hoog is vergeleke met die gemiddelde jaarlikse koerse van toename sedert 1970. Boonop is daar in Maart 1977 aansienlike opwaartse aanpassings gemaak in indirekte belastinge en vervoertariewe wat, tesame met die skerp styging in elektrisiteitstariewe vanaf Januarie, en 'n verdere opwaartse aanpassing in die prys van petrol, vanselfsprekend in die komende maande oor die algemeen 'n nadelige uitwerking op die toename in binnelandse pryse sal hê.

Pryse
Persentasieverandering oor twaalf maande



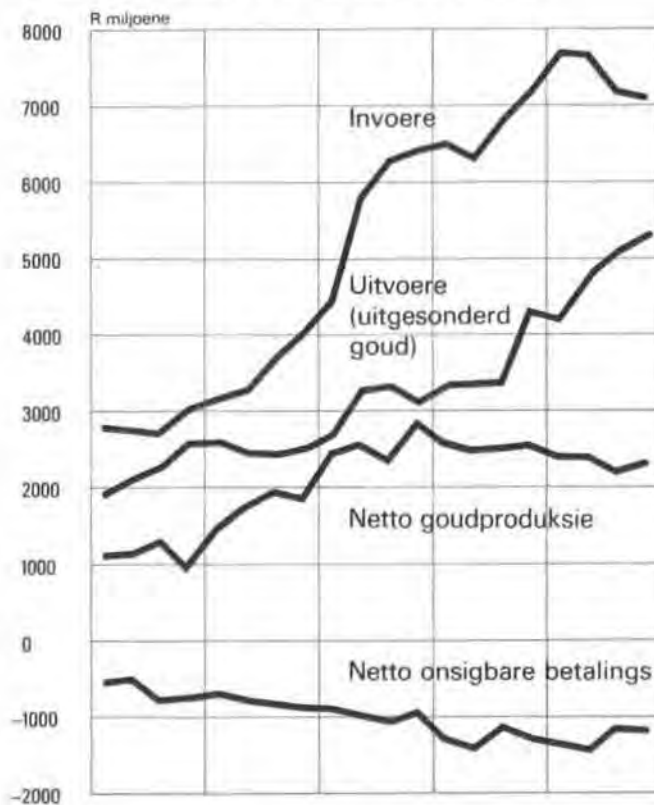
Betalingsbalans

Die beperkende monetêre en fiskale beleid wat die afgelope twee jaar deur die owerhede gevolg is, tesame met die algemene oplewing in die volkshuishoudings van die meeste nywerheidslande, was hoofsaaklik verantwoordelik vir die opmerkbare verbetering in die tekort op die lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans in die loop van 1976. Op die kapitaalrekening het politieke onsekerhede, die laer vlak van die investering, en 'n daling in die waarde van goedere-invoere gedurende die loop van 1976 egter 'n afname in die netto invloeiing van buitelandse kapitaal veroorsaak. 'n Daling in die netto invloeiing van langtermynkapitaal in 1976 het 'n effense verswakking in die basiese saldo tot gevolg gehad en die verdere netto uitvloeiing van korttermynkapitaal nie verwant aan reserwes nie, het meegebring dat die netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes gedurende die jaar aansienlik afgeneem het. As gevolg van die aangaan van korttermynlenings deur die sentrale regering en banksektor om die reserwes te ondersteun en waardasie-aansuiwerings, het die bruto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes in 'n mindere mate gedurende 1976 gedaal en selfs in die vierde kwartaal matig gestyg.

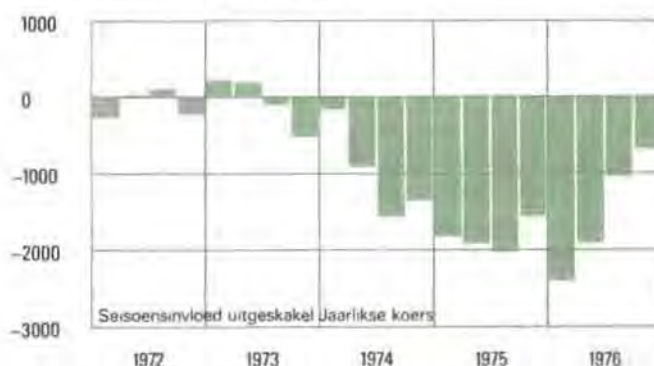
Aansienlike verbetering op die lopende rekening

Alhoewel die tekort op die lopende rekening slegs matig vanaf R1 832 miljoen in 1975 tot R1 515 miljoen in 1976 gedaal het, het dit in die loop van die jaar aansienlik verbeter vanaf 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers van R2 405 miljoen in die eerste kwartaal tot slegs R693 miljoen in die laaste kwartaal. Die vermindering in die tekort het veral in die tweede helfte van die jaar plaasgevind en is selfs nog meer opmerklik indien die tekort op die lopende rekening as 'n persentasie van die bruto binnelandse produk uitgedruk word. Die matige verbetering vir die jaar as geheel was hoofsaaklik toe te skryf aan die baie hoë vlak van die tekort gedurende die eerste helfte van die jaar. Die vermindering in die tekort gedurende 1976 was die netto resultaat van 'n aansienlike toename in goedere-uitvoere wat gedeeltelik deur 'n verdere matige toename in goedere-invoere en 'n afname in die netto goudproduksie

Lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans



Saldo op lopende rekening



Tekort op die lopende rekening

Seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers

	R miljoene	Persentasie van BBP
1975 Derde kwartaal	2 029	7,7
Vierde kwartaal	1 561	5,8
1976 Eerste kwartaal	2 405	8,8
Tweede kwartaal	1 916	6,7
Derde kwartaal	1 046	3,5
Vierde kwartaal	693	2,3

geneutraliseer is. Netto onsigbare betalings aan die res van die wêreld het min verandering getoon. In die loop van die jaar het al die belangrikste komponente van die lopende rekening egter tot die aansienlike verbetering in die tekort bygedra, met uitsondering van die netto goudproduksie wat tot en met die derde kwartaal gedaal en vervolgens in die vierde kwartaal effens gestyg het.

Nadat die waarde van goedere-uitvoere in 1974 met 24 persent en in 1975 met bykans 16 persent toegeneem het, het dit in 1976 verder gestyg met nie minder nie as 34 persent tot R4 841 miljoen. Op 'n kwartaalbasis was die toename in die seisoensaange-

suiwerde jaarkoers van goedere-uitvoere gedurende 1976 net so opmerklik nl. vanaf R4 222 miljoen in die eerste kwartaal tot R5 277 miljoen in die laaste kwartaal van 1976. Afgesien van die aansienlike toename in die randopbrengste van uitgevoerde goedere weens die devaluasie van die rand en 'n oplewing in die pryse op internasionale kommoditeitsmarkte, het die volume van uitgevoerde goedere ook toegeneem. Die toename in die waarde van goedere-uitvoere het in die meeste groepe uitvoer-kommoditeite voorgekom, maar groot toenames is veral ten opsigte van diamante, wol, uraan en koper aangeteken. In teenstelling hiermee het die waarde van suiker en mielies uitvoer gedurende 1976 aansienlik gedaal as gevolg van 'n opmerkbare afname in die prys van suiker en die kleiner mielie-oes.

Die waarde van goedere-invoere het toegeneem vanaf R6 717 miljoen in 1975 tot R7 433 miljoen in 1976 of met bykans 11 persent, vergeleke met stygings van 62 en 17 persent in die twee voorafgaande jare onderskeidelik. Die laer koers van toename in die waarde van goedere-invoere is deur 'n matige daling in die volume teweeggebring, wat gedeeltelik deur 'n verdere styging in die pryse van ingevoerde goedere teengewerk is. Die laer koers van toename in die waarde van goedere-invoere kan in verband gebring word met die voortgesette verlangingsaming in die koers van toename van die binnelandse ekonomiese bedrywigheid en die instelling van die invoer-depositoskema met ingang 2 Augustus 1976. In die besonder was die verhoogde intensiteit van die verlangingsaming in die bedrywigheid verantwoordelik vir die daling in die waarde van goedere-invoere vanaf 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarsyfer van R7 711 miljoen in die eerste kwartaal van 1976 tot R7 132 miljoen in die vierde kwartaal van die jaar. Die verdere matige styging in die waarde van goedere-invoere gedurende 1976 as 'n geheel het in die meeste van die belangrikste kommoditeitsgroepe voorgekom. Groot stygings is in die invoer van verdedigingstoerusting, olie, tekstiele en plastiese materiaal aangeteken. 'n Toename van 14 persent in die waarde van ingevoerde voertoerusting was uitsluitend aan die invoer van sewe passasiersvliegtuie deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens toe te skryf. 'n Toename van slegs 7 persent is in 1976 in die waarde van die invoer van masjinerie en elektriese toerusting aangeteken, vergeleke met 'n toename van 37 persent in 1975. Dit is ook betekenisvol om daarop te let dat 'n aansienlike afname in die invoer van basiese metale voorgekom het, wat 'n aanduiding is dat die tekorte wat ten opsigte van sekere van hierdie metale ondervind is, verdwyn het as gevolg van die intensifisering van die afname in die ekonomiese bedrywigheid.

Nadat die netto onsigbare betalings aan die res van die wêreld gedurende die voorafgaande drie jare met gemiddeld meer as 26 persent toegeneem het, het dit op ongeveer die vlak wat in 1975 bereik is, gebly. Sowel die ontvangste vir dienste as betalings vir dienste

het min verandering getoon in vergelyking met die voorafgaande jaar, maar gedurende die loop van die jaar het betalings vir dienste aan buitelanders aansienlik afgeneem vanaf 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers van R3 001 miljoen in die tweede kwartaal tot R2 652 miljoen in die vierde kwartaal van 1976. Hierdie skerp afname is hoofsaaklik meegebring deur kleiner betalings vir internasionale vrag en versekering van goedere, as gevolg van die kleiner volume van ingevoerde goedere, en deur die feit dat hoër rentebetalings op buitelandse lenings meer as geneutraliseer is deur 'n daling in dividendbetalings aan buitelanders.

Die waarde van die netto goudproduksie het vanaf R2 540 miljoen in 1975 tot R2 346 miljoen in 1976 of met 7,6 persent gedaal, vergeleke met 'n daling van slegs 1 persent in 1975. Hierdie ontwikkeling is feitlik geheel en al die gevolg van 'n daling in die goudprys op die private mark, aangesien die fisiese volume van die goudproduksie in 1976 slegs effens met 0,3 persent gedaal het. Die afname in die waarde van die netto goudproduksie sou natuurlik aansienlik groter gewees het as dit nie was vir die hoër randopbrengs van goud wat deur die devaluasie van die rand in September 1975 meegebring is nie. Die gemiddelde dollarprys van goud op die vrye mark het in 1976 met 22,5 persent gedaal, vergeleke met 'n afname van slegs 8,1 persent in die gemiddelde randprys. Vanaf Augustus 1976 het die goudprys op die private mark egter aansienlik verbeter vanaf 'n gemiddelde van ongeveer \$110 na meer as \$136 in Februarie 1977 en na net meer as \$150 per fyn ons op 22 Maart 1977. Hierdie verbetering in die goudprys was ook verantwoordelik vir 'n matige toename in die netto goudproduksie gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1976, nadat dit gedurende die voorafgaande drie kwartale afgeneem het.

Basiese saldo

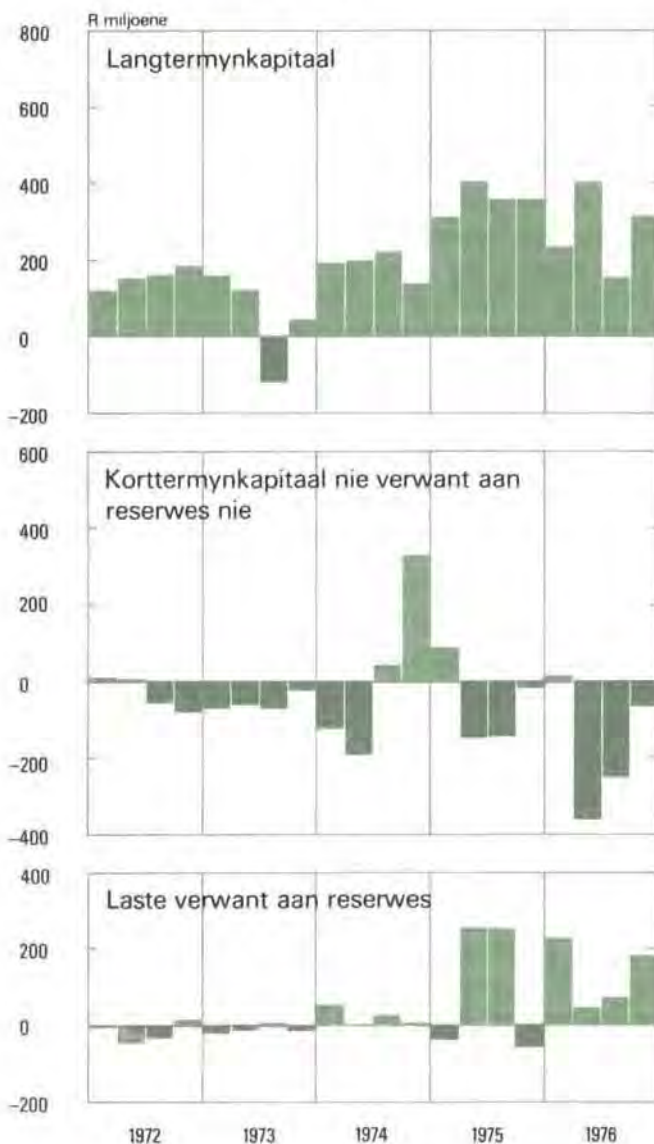
Ondanks die verbetering op die lopende rekening in 1976 het die basiese saldo vanaf 'n tekort van R86 miljoen in 1975 na 'n tekort van R402 miljoen in 1976 verswak as gevolg van 'n afname in die netto invloeiing van buitelandse langtermynkapitaal vanaf die rekord-syfer van R1 746 miljoen in 1975 tot R1 113 miljoen in 1976. Hierdie afname in die netto invloeiing van buitelandse langtermynkapitaal was grotendeels die gevolg van politieke onsekerheid in Suidelike Afrika en die lae vlak van die binnelandse ekonomiese bedrywigheid, en het in die besonder in die invloeiing na die private sektor voorgekom. Buitelandse langtermynlenings van die sentrale regering en banksektor het ook gedurende 1976 afgeneem, maar openbare korporasies het voortgegaan om aansienlike bedrae in die buiteland te leen ten einde infrastrukturele ontwikkelings te finansier.

Die basiese saldo, nie aangesuiwer vir seisoensinvloede nie, het gedurende die loop van 1976 aansienlik verbeter vanaf 'n tekort van R294 miljoen in die eerste kwartaal na 'n oorskot van R52 miljoen in die

Basiese saldo en netto invloeiing van langtermynkapitaal
Rand miljoene

	1976					Totaal
	1975	Eerste kwartaal	Tweede kwartaal	Derde kwartaal	Vierde kwartaal	
Saldo op lopende rekening	-1 832	-531	-483	-105	-396	-1 515
Langtermynkapitaal (totaal)	1 746	237	402	157	317	1 113
Sentrale regering en banksektor	331	119	-33	-8	60	138
Openbare korporasies en plaaslike owerhede	718	129	227	250	115	721
Private sektor	697	-11	208	-85	142	254
Basiese saldo	-86	-294	-81	52	-79	-402

Totale kapitaalbewegings



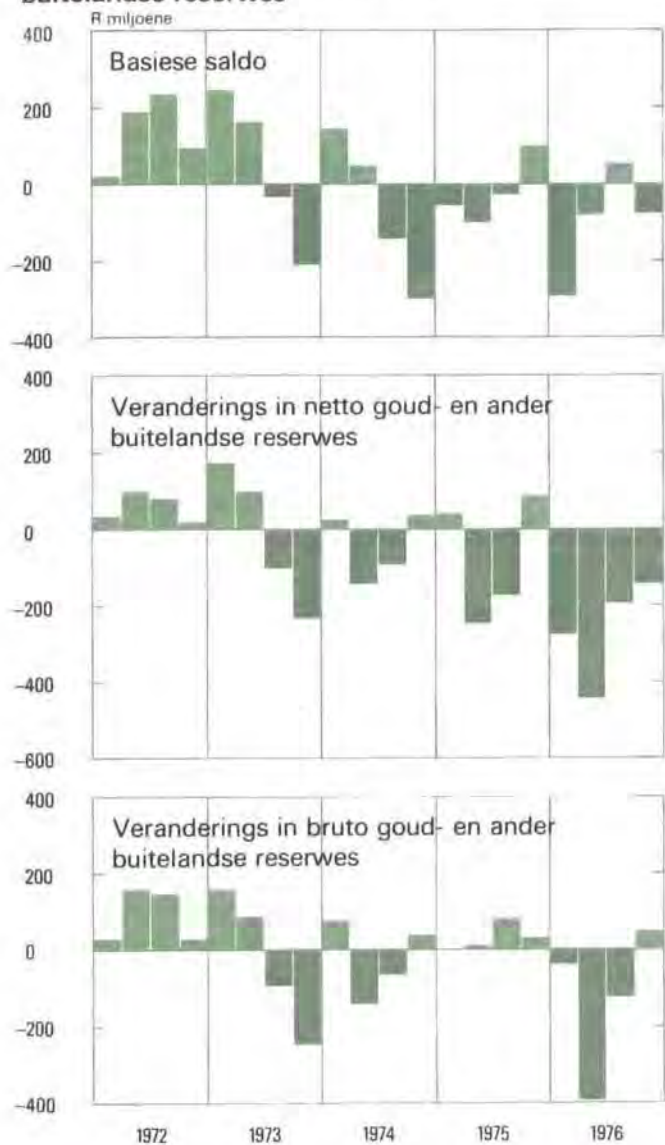
derde kwartaal, voordat dit weer verswak het na 'n tekort van R79 miljoen in die vierde kwartaal. Soos in die bygaande tabel aangetoon word, het die netto invloeiing van buitelandse langtermynkapitaal gedurende 1976 aansienlik geskommel, maar het weens die volgehoue hoë koers van buitelandse lenings deur openbare korporasies op 'n betreklik hoë vlak regdeur die jaar gebly. Die netto langtermynkapitaalbewegings na die sentrale regering en banksektor en die private sektor het gedurende die jaar tussen matige netto uitvloeings en aansienlike netto invloeiings geskommel.

Aansienlike afname in die netto en bruto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes

Die netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes het merkbaar meer as die basiese saldo verswak, wat impliseer dat daar gedurende 1976 'n uitvloeiing van korttermynkapitaal wat nie verwant is aan reserwes nie, plaasgevind het. Laasgenoemde netto uitvloeiing van kapitaal kan geheel en al toegeskryf word aan 'n netto uitvloeiing van korttermynkapitaal van die private sektor, insluitende foute en onaangetekende transaksies, wat R822 miljoen beloop het. Hierdie aansienlike uitvloeiing van korttermynfondse was, in besonder, hoog gedurende die tweede en derde kwartale van 1976, maar het daarna na net R48 miljoen in die laaste kwartaal van die jaar afgeneem. Aan die ander kant het 'n toename in buitelandse handelskrediet en buitelandse deposito's by monetêre bankinstellings tot 'n invloeiing van korttermynkapitaal van R166 miljoen na die sentrale regering en banksektor gedurende 1976 bygedra. Die netto resultaat van die aansienlike tekort op die lopende rekening, 'n kleiner netto invloeiing van langtermynkapitaal en die aansienlike netto uitvloeiing van korttermynkapitaal wat nie verwant is aan reserwes nie, was dat die netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes gedurende 1976 met soveel as R1 056 miljoen as gevolg van betalingsbalanstransaksies afgeneem het, teenoor 'n afname van slegs R305 miljoen in 1975.

Gedurende 1976 het die bruto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes met slegs R219 miljoen na 'n vlak van R886 miljoen aan die einde van Desember afgeneem. Hierdie matige afname in die bruto in vergelyking met

Basiese saldo en veranderings in buitelandse reserves



Die skerp afname in die goud- en ander buitelandse reserves gedurende 1976 het hoofsaaklik in die goud- en ander buitelandse reserves van die Reserwebank voorgekom, terwyl die buitelandse valuta-besit van die sentrale regering en die monetêre bankinstellings ongeveer op dieselfde vlak gebly het. Bykomend tot die daling in die goud- en ander buitelandse reserves van die Reserwebank, het die goudruilooreenkomste ook 'n aansienlike uitwerking op die samestelling van hierdie reserves gehad. Hoofsaaklik as 'n gevolg van hierdie ooreenkomste het die goudreserwes van die Reserwebank gedurende 1976 met R150 miljoen gedaal tot R375 miljoen aan die einde van die jaar. Hierdie ooreenkomste was ook gedeeltelik verantwoordelik vir die betreklik klein afname van R378 miljoen aan die einde van 1975 tot R324 miljoen aan die einde van 1976 in die buitelandse valuta-besit van die Reserwebank.

die netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserves, kan toegeskryf word aan die uitwerking van die goudruilooreenkomste in Maart 1976 en kompenserende korttermynlenings deur die sentrale regering en banksektor gedurende 1976. Gedurende die jaar is gebruik gemaak van krediet wat deur die Internasionale Monetêre Fonds voorsien is ten bedrae van R316 miljoen. Ondanks 'n verdere trekking van R39 miljoen op die Internasionale Monetêre Fonds onder bestaande bystandsooreenkomste, het die bruto goud- en ander buitelandse reserves in Januarie met 'n verdere R51 miljoen afgeneem. Gedurende Februarie het die bruto goud- en ander buitelandse reserves van die Reserwebank met 'n verdere R74 miljoen na R645 miljoen teen die einde van daardie maand gedaal.

Monetêre en banktoestand

Geld en kwasi-geld

Nadat dit gedurende 1975 in sy geheel met 17 persent toegeneem het, het die hoeveelheid geld en kwasi-geld gedurende die eerste helfte van 1976 aangehou om betreklik vinnig te styg, naamlik teen 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarcoers van 16 persent. Gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 het die jaarcoers van toename egter tot slegs effens meer as 2 persent afgeneem. Vir die kalenderjaar 1976 was die toename slegs 9 persent (R777 miljoen) – die laagste jaarlikse persentasiecoers van toename sedert 1971. As gevolg van hierdie opmerkbare verlansaming het die verhouding van die gemiddelde hoeveelheid geld en kwasi-geld tot die bruto binnelandse produk, albei seisoensaangesuiwerd, vanaf 31,3 persent gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1976 tot 30,5 per sent gedurende die vierde kwartaal gedaal.

Die eng gedefinieerde geldhoeveelheid het gedurende 1976 met 3 persent gestyg, wat 'n verdere afname was van die styging van 7 persent wat gedurende 1975 aangeteken is.

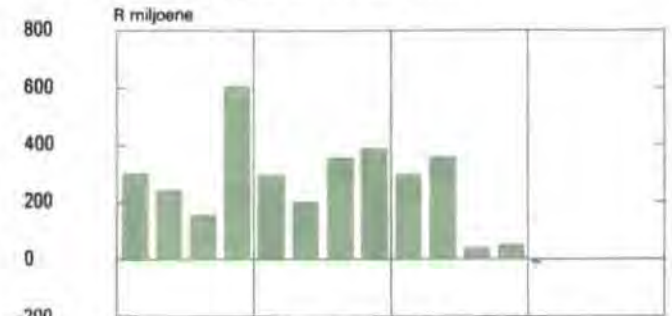
Gedurende Januarie 1977 het die seisoensaangesuiwerde hoeveelheid geld en kwasi-geld min verandering vanaf sy vlak aan die einde van Desember getoon. Die koers van toename vir die twaalf maande vanaf Januarie 1976 tot Januarie 1977 het minder as 8 persent beloop.

Oorsake van verandering in geld en kwasi-geld

Die skerp verlansaming in die koers van toename in die hoeveelheid geld en kwasi-geld gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 was hoofsaaklik die gevolg van 'n kleiner styging in die *netto* eise van die banksektor teen die regeringsektor.

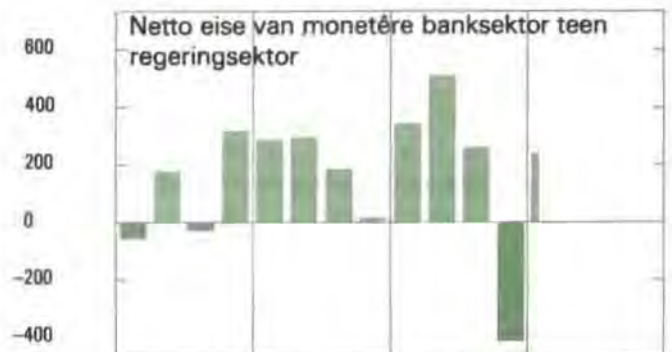
Nadat dit gedurende die eerste ses maande van die jaar (in die besonder gedurende die tweede kwartaal) met R857 miljoen, seisoensaangesuiwerd, toegeneem het, het die netto eise van die banksektor teen die regeringsektor gedurende die derde kwartaal slegs met R264 miljoen gestyg en gedurende die vierde kwartaal in werklikheid met meer as R400 miljoen gedaal. Hierteenoor het die eise teen die private sektor, nadat dit gedurende die vier maande vanaf die einde van April 1976 tot die einde van Augustus gedaal het, gedurende September, Oktober en November vinnig gestyg maar vervolgens gedurende Desember min verdere verandering getoon. Die binnelandse kredietverlening, dit wil sê die totaal van die netto eise van die monetêre banksektor teen die regeringsektor en eise teen die private sektor, het eweneens 'n verminderde styging getoon vanaf 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarcoers van toename van 19 persent gedurende die eerste helfte van 1976 tot 'n koers van 5 persent gedurende die tweede helfte.

Verandering in geld en kwasi-geld



Oorsake van verandering in geld en kwasi-geld

Verandering in:



*Verandering vanaf einde Desember 1976 tot einde Januarie 1977

Oorsake van veranderings in geld en kwasi-geld
R miljoene

	Seisoens- invloed nie uit- geskakel nie	Seisoensinvloed uitgeskakel				Jan. 1977
		1976				
		Jaar 1976	1e kw.	2e kw.	3e kw.	
Netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes	-753	-37	-545	-187	10	-129
Eise teen die regeringsektor:						
Bruto eise	852					
Regeringsdeposito's*	-113					
Netto eise	739	344	513	264	-417	240
Eise teen die private sektor	556	106	5	152	293	32
Langtermyn private deposito's*	6	128	74	-147	-50	-39
Netto ander bates	229					
Totale oorsake van veranderings	777	305	361	43	56	-4

*Toename-, afname+

Die netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes van die monetêre banksektor het gedurende 1976 in sy geheel met R753 miljoen gedaal. Alhoewel hierdie bedrag aanmerklik groter was as die daling van R462 miljoen wat gedurende 1975 aangeteken is, het daar vanaf die eerste tot die tweede helfte van die jaar 'n baie aansienlike verbetering voorgekom. Nadat dit gedurende die eerste ses maande van 1976 met R582 miljoen (seisoensaangesuiwerd) gedaal het (ten spyte van die goudruiloorreënkomste van 12 Maart), het die netto buitelandse reserwes gedurende die derde kwartaal teen 'n sterk verminderde koers afgeneem en vervolgens vanaf die einde van September tot die einde van Desember effens gestyg. Maandelikse seisoensaangesuiwerde gegewens toon egter dat die netto buitelandse reserwes, ná 'n opmerklieke styging gedurende November, gedurende Desember weer ietwat gedaal het.

Die langtermyndeposito's van die private sektor by die banksektor, seisoensaangesuiwerd, het vanaf die einde van Desember 1975 tot die einde van Julie 1976 met ongeveer R230 miljoen afgeneem maar vervolgens gedurende die oorblywende vyf maande van die jaar weer met nagenoeg dieselfde bedrag gestyg. Die netto toename in hierdie deposito's gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 het in beduidende mate tot die verminderde groeiakoers van die geld- en kwasi-geldhoeveelheid gedurende hierdie tydperk bygedra.

Opmerklieke veranderings in die oorsake van veranderings in die hoeveelheid geld en kwasi-geld het egter weer gedurende Januarie 1977 plaasgevind. Ná hul effense toename gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1976, het die seisoensaangesuiwerde netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes weer gedurende Januarie skerp afgeneem, terwyl die seisoensaangesuiwerde netto eise teen die regeringsektor 'n hernieuide groot toename getoon het. Aan die ander kant het die eise teen

die private sektor slegs matig toegeneem terwyl langtermyndeposito's van die private sektor voortgegaan het om te styg.

Bankkrediet aan die private sektor

Gedurende 1976 het die bankkrediet aan die private sektor met die betreklik klein bedrag van R556 miljoen, of minder as 7 persent, toegeneem, in vergelyking met R1 409 miljoen of 20 persent gedurende 1975. Ná stygings gedurende Januarie, Februarie en April, het die bankkrediet aan die private sektor, seisoensaangesuiwerd, gedurende die vier maande vanaf die einde van April tot die einde van Augustus taamlik opmerklik met ongeveer R150 miljoen gedaal voordat dit gedurende die res van die jaar weer met meer as R450 miljoen of teen 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers van ongeveer 17 persent gestyg het. Dit wil voorkom of die daling vanaf Mei tot Augustus 1976 'n weerspieëling was van die gesamentlike uitwerking van die kredietplafonne wat in Februarie ingestel is, 'n verslapping van die kredietvraag van die private sektor in ooreenstemming met die resessieneigings in die ekonomie, en die oorskotlikwiditeit van die banke wat gedurende die grootste deel van hierdie tydperk oor die algemeen laag was. Die hernieuide styging in bankkrediet aan die private sektor gedurende September, Oktober en November in die besonder, was gedeeltelik 'n weerspieëling van akkommodasie deur die banke aan sakeondernemings wat in die heersende ongunstige sake-toestande kontantvloei- en ander finansieringsprobleme ondervind het, asook van 'n sekere uitwerking wat die invoerdepositoskema op die kredietvraag gehad het. Gedurende Desember het die totale diskonteringe en voorskotte van die handelsbanke, aksepanke en monetêre huurkoop- en algemene banke aan die private sektor egter slegs effens toegeneem.

Die huurkoop- en verhuuringsfinansiering van die handelsbanke, aksepbanke en monetêre huurkoop- en algemene banke, alhoewel baie kleiner in omvang as diskonteringe en voorskotte, het gedurende 1976 in sy geheel met nie minder nie as 20 en 31 persent, onderskeidelik, toegeneem. In teenstelling met die banke se diskonteringe en voorskotte, het hierdie vorms van krediet voortgegaan om dwarsdeur die jaar betreklik bestendig te styg en het dit in die loop van die tweede en derde kwartale geen dalings getoon nie. Die totale lenings aan die private sektor van die monetêre huurkoop- en algemene banke het gedurende die jaar teen 'n ietwat hoër koers as dié van die handelsbanke toegeneem.

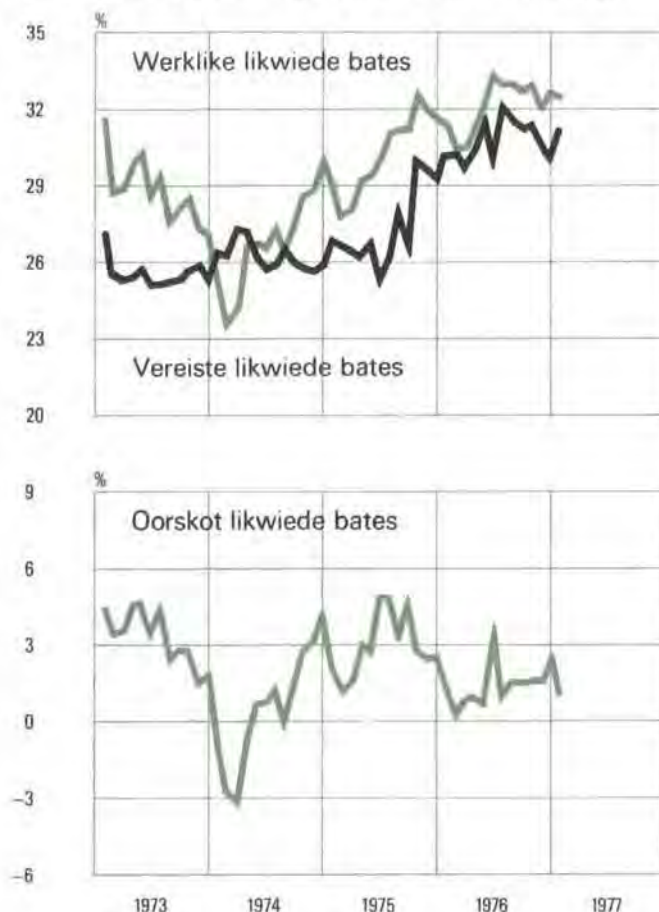
Die betreklik geringe styging in die eise teen die private sektor gedurende Januarie 1977 het hoofsaaklik 'n styging in verdiskonteringe en voorskotte deur die handelsbanke weerspieël.

Banklikwiditeit

Die oorskot-likwiditeitsverhoudings van bankinstellings, wat gedurende die laaste paar maande van 1975 hoofsaaklik as gevolg van verhogings van die likwiede batevereistes opmerklik gedaal het, het daarna verdere seisoensdalings getoon tot baie lae vlakke aan die einde van Februarie 1976. Met uitsondering van Junie 1976, het hierdie verhoudings vervolgens gedurende die grootste deel van die res van die jaar op betreklik lae vlakke gebly voordat dit gedurende Desember ietwat verbeter het. Die verbetering gedurende Desember, wat grotendeels as seisoenaal beskou kan word, was hoofsaaklik die gevolg van 'n toename van R147 miljoen in die werklike likwiede batebesit van die handelsbanke, wat onder andere 'n weerspieëling was van 'n styging in Reserwebankkrediet aan die Landbank.

As gevolg van die huidige hoë vlakke van die likwiede batevereistes teenoor *toenames* in die banke se kort- en middeltermynverpligtings teenoor die publiek, het die banke se vereiste minimum besit aan likwiede bates gedurende die jaar met R456 miljoen of ongeveer 14 persent toegeneem, in vergelyking met 'n toename in hul totale verpligtings teenoor die publiek van minder as 11 persent. Die gevolglike verdere styging in die verhouding van die banke se vereiste likwiede bates tot hul totale verpligtings teenoor die publiek het voorgekomen spyte van 'n duidelike verskuiwing in die termynstruktuur van hul deposito- en ander verpligtings vanaf die korttermyn- na die middeltermynkategorie wat veral gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 opmerklik was.

Likwiditeitsverhoudings van alle bankinstellings



Die groot toename in die vereiste likwiede batebesit van die banke het gelei tot 'n aansienlike toename in die banke se werklike besit aan likwiede bates. As 'n persentasie van hul totale verpligtings teenoor die publiek het die banke se besit aan likwiede bates gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 en Januarie 1977 meer as 32 persent beloop.

As gevolg van 'n neiging dat deposito's verplaas word vanaf die kleiner na groter banke (wat gevolg het op die probleme wat deur sekere eiendomsontwikkelaars en twee klein banke ondervind is), is sekere stappe op 22 Februarie 1977 deur die Reserwebank aangekondig. Dit het ingesluit 'n versekering deur die Bank dat die volledigste moontlike finansiële akkommo-

Oorskot-likwiditeitsverhoudings van bankinstellings, %

	1976						1977
	Mrt.	Jun.	Sept.	Okt.	Nov.	Des.	Jan.
Handelsbanke	1,8	5,1	1,7	1,9	2,3	3,8	1,8
Ander monetêre banke	-1,2	0,3	1,3	1,3	0,4	0,8	0,1
Ander banke	0,4	-0,1	0,7	0,9	0,8	0,4	-1,4
Alle banke	0,8	3,4	1,5	1,6	1,6	2,7	1,1

dasie, indien nodig, op die gebruikelike wyse aan die kleiner banke verleen sal word; 'n ooreenkoms met die vyf grootste banke om 'n bedrag van R55 miljoen, bo en behalwe hulle vereiste minimum saldo's, by die Nasionale Finansiële Korporasie in stand te hou wat vir terug-sirkulering na die kleiner banke beskikbaar sal wees; en 'n vermindering in die bedrag van individuele deposito's by banke en bouverenigings (uitgesonderd deposito's wat banke en bouverenigings van mekaar aanneem) wat van rentekoersbeheer vrygestel is vanaf R1 miljoen tot R250 000, met ingang 23 Februarie.

Toestand op die geldmark en korttermynrentekoerse

Alhoewel die koerse op private geldmarkinstrumente, as 'n weerspieëling van die beperkende beleidsinstelling van die monetêre owerhede, gedurende 1976 op hoë vlakke gebly het, was die algemene neiging afwaarts, veral ná Maart. Dit was in 'n groot mate 'n aanduiding van die verminderde vraag na bankkrediet. Die koers op verhandelbare depositosertifikate van drie maande byvoorbeeld, wat op 26 Maart op 14,75 persent gestaan het, het ná taamlik opmerklike skommelings tot 8,75 persent op 5 November gedaal. Die diskontokoers op bankaksepte van drie maande het op soortgelyke wyse gedurende hierdie tydperk bykans sonder onderbreking vanaf 11,75 persent tot 9,00 persent afgeneem.

As 'n weerspieëling van die strammer toestand op die geldmark gedurende November en Desember 1976 en Januarie en Februarie 1977, wat grotendeels deur die skerp daling in netto eise teen die regeringsektor tot en met Januarie 1977 en die verdere daling in die netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes vanaf die middel van November 1976 teweeggebring is, het die geldmarkrentekoerse opwaarts geneig. Terwyl die koers op verhandelbare depositosertifikate van drie maande gestyg het vanaf sy laagtepunt van 8,75 in 1976, aangeteken op 5 November, tot 10,25 persent op 25 Februarie 1977, het die diskontokoers op bankaksepte van drie maande toegeneem vanaf 9,00 tot 9,90 persent oor dieselfde tydperk. In teenstelling met die neiging van die koerse op nie-likwiede geldmarkinstrumente, het die skatkiswissel-tenderkoers effens toegeneem vanaf 6,93 persent aan die begin van 1976 tot 7,88 persent op 25 Februarie 1977.

Die diskontohuise en die NFK het gedurende 1976 min probleme met die werwing van fondse ondervind. Nadat dit oor die maandeinde van Februarie 1976 tot R508 miljoen op 1 Maart gedaal het, het die daggeldlenings by die diskontohuise gedurende Maart vinnig gestyg en daarna is die huise by die aanvaarding van verdere deposito's bykans aanhoudend deur die kapitaalvereistes van die Bankwet aan bande gelê. 'n Hoogtepunt van R902 miljoen is op 3 November aangeteken, waarna die daggeldlenings ietwat gedaal het tot R807 miljoen aan die einde van Januarie 1977 en vervolgens, soos verwag kon word, oor die Februarie-maandeinde skerp gedaal het tot R749 op 5 Maart.

Onder hierdie omstandighede het die banke se saldo's by die NFK, bo en behalwe hul vereiste saldo's, ná Februarie 1976 op hoë vlakke gestaan en in werklikheid in een stadium (25 Junie) R639 miljoen beloop. In ooreenstemming met die strammer toestande wat gedurende die laaste deel van 1976 en vroeg in 1977 ondervind is, is hierdie saldo's skerp verminder.

Die rentekoerse op deposito's by bankinstellings het gedurende 1976 en die begin van 1977 grotendeels onveranderd gebly. Depositokoerse in die korttermynkategorie het gedurende die eerste week van Februarie 1976 opwaarts geneig en 'n aantal bankinstellings het hul daggelddepositokoerse aan die einde van Oktober of die begin van November verlaag. Die Bankkoers is gedurende hierdie tydperk een keer verhoog, naamlik vanaf $8\frac{1}{2}$ tot 9 persent op 22 Julie 1976. Dit het die banke toegelaat om hul prima-oortrekkingskoers vanaf 12 tot $12\frac{1}{2}$ persent te verhoog.

Staatsfinansies

Staatsinkomste-invorderings

Gedurende die eerste tien maande van die 1976/77-fiskale jaar, d.w.s. die tydperk April 1976 tot Januarie 1977, het die persentasie styging in die sentrale regering se inkomste-invorderings, vergeleke met die ooreenstemmende tydperk van die vorige fiskale jaar, nou ooreengekom met die Begroting se verwagte styging van 11 persent vir die fiskale jaar as geheel.

In die geval van goudmynhuurkontrak- en inkomstebelastingbetalings deur goudmynmaatskappye is 'n groter persentasie-afname vir die eerste tien maande aangeteken as wat in die Begroting vir die fiskale jaar in sy geheel verwag is. Doeaneregte het ook 'n groter persentasie-afname getoon as wat verwag is, maar ander inkomsteposte soos aksyns- en verkoopregte en inkomstebelastingbetalings deur individue het teen 'n hoër koers gestyg.

Skatkisrekening

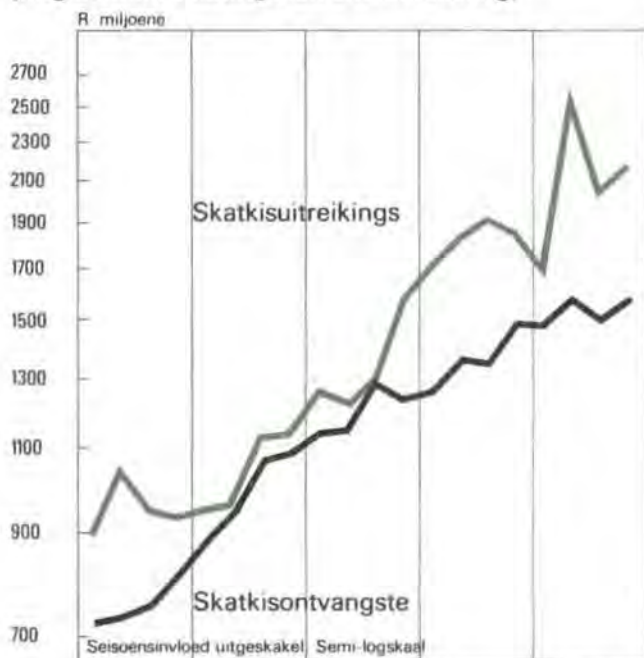
Persentasieveranderings vergeleke met die ooreenstemmende tydperk in die voorafgaande jaar

	Apr. 1976 tot Jan. 1977	1976/77- Begroting
Ontvangste		
Doeane-, aksyns- en verkoopreg	22,5	23,5
Inkomstebelasting (uitgesonderd goudmyne)	15,3	16,4
Inkomstebelasting en huurkontrak-betalings deur goudmyne	-37,4	-22,1
Ander binnelandse inkomste	8,6	0,0
Totaal	10,1	11,0
Uitreikings	18,9	13,4

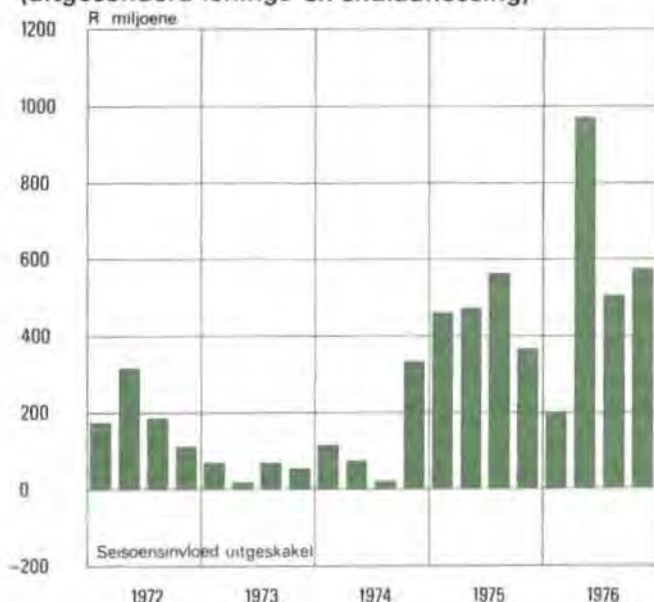
Skatkisuitreikings

In teenstelling met die inkomste-invorderings wat grootliks met die Begrotingsramings ooreengekom het, het skatkisuitreikings gedurende die eerste tien maande van die fiskale jaar met soveel as 19 persent bo dié van die ooreenstemmende tydperk van 1975 gestyg, of heelwat meer as die styging van 13½ persent wat in die Begroting (soos aangepas vir supplementêre bewilligings) vir die fiskale jaar in sy geheel voorsien is. Na die aanvanklike skerp styging van uitreikings gedurende die eerste kwartaal van die fiskale jaar, vergeleke met die ooreenstemmende tydperk van 1975, het skatkisuitreikings gedurende die daaropvolgende kwartaal slegs matig gestyg, maar weer gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1976 en Januarie 1977 versnel. Gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1976 het uitreikings met 16 persent bo die ooreenstemmende syfer vir 1975 gestyg en in Januarie 1977 met 14 persent. Ten einde aan die Begrotingsramings te voldoen, sal skatkisuit-

Ontvangste en uitreikings op die Skatkisrekening (uitgesonderd lenings en skuldaflossing)



Tekort op die Skatkisrekening (uitgesonderd lenings en skuldaflossing)



reikings gedurende die laaste twee maande van die fiskale jaar aansienlik laer moet wees as die ooreenstemmende syfer vir die voorafgaande jaar.

Voorsiening moet egter vir die gebruikelike nodige addisionele bewilligings deur die Parlement voor die sluiting van die fiskale jaar gemaak word. Die addisionele uitgawes, wat op 28 Februarie deur die Minister van Finansies aan die Parlement voorgelê is, het R260,3 miljoen t.o.v. die Staatsinkomsterekening en R7,7 miljoen t.o.v. die Suidwes-Afrikarekening

bedra. Daar word verwag dat 'n gedeelte van die bykomstige bedrae wat gevra word deur besparings en uit interne bronne gefinansier sal word.

Die hoofbegroting van die sentrale regering vir 1977/78 sal op 30 Maart 1977 aan die Parlement voorgelê word. Ten einde 'n verlies aan inkomste vir die Tesourie, as gevolg van die gebruiklike opwelling in die verkope van belasbare goedere vóór die Begroting in afwagting van stygings in tariewe, te vermy, is verskeie indirekte belastings deur die Minister van Finansies op 7 Maart 1977 verhoog. Dit het verhoogde doeane- en aksynsreg op bier, wyn, spiritualieë en tabak en 'n 25 persent verhoging in die verkoopreg ingesluit. Laasgenoemde reg, wat op die invoerder/fabrieksvlak gehef word, wissel nou tussen 8 en 33 persent. Na verwagting sal hierdie verhogings, wat vanaf 7 Maart geld, R144 miljoen gedurende die 1977/78 fiskale jaar, wat op 1 April 1977 begin, oplewer.

Finansiering van die skatkistekort

Na die aanvanklike groot tekort van R936 miljoen op die Skatkisrekening (uitgesonderd lenings en skuldaflossings) gedurende die eerste kwartaal van die fiskale jaar, het die tekort afgeneem tot R290 miljoen gedurende die tweede kwartaal voordat dit weer tot R652 miljoen in die derde kwartaal toegeneem het. Nieteenstaande die seisoenstoename gedurende die derde kwartaal van die fiskale jaar, was die tekort gedurende die tydperk Julie tot Desember 1976 ongeveer dieselfde as dié vir die eerste kwartaal van die fiskale jaar alleen. Gedurende Januarie 1977 is 'n tekort van R74 miljoen aangeteken. In die finansiering van die skatkistekort moes die Tesourie sy netto skuldposisie teenoor die monetêre banksektor gedurende die eerste kwartaal van die fiskale jaar met R550 miljoen verhoog. Gedurende die tweede kwartaal is sy netto skuldposisie teenoor die monetêre banksektor in werklikheid met R149 miljoen verminder en gedurende die daaropvolgende vier maande het dit met 'n verdere R5 miljoen afgeneem, hoofsaaklik vanweë groter lenings by die private nie-banksektor en die buitelandse sektor.

Vir die eerste tien maande van die fiskale jaar het die tekort op die Skatkisrekening R1 952 miljoen bedra. Hierdie syfer is meer as R280 miljoen hoër as die beraamde tekort vir die fiskale jaar 1976/77 in sy geheel. In die finansiering van hierdie tekort is 'n aansienlike bedrag van R931 miljoen gedurende die tydperk van tien maande onder beskouing van die private nie-banksektor geleen. Van hierdie bedrag het byna R300 miljoen betalings van verpligte leningsheffings verteenwoordig en R89 miljoen beleggings in Nasionale Verdedigingsobligasies. Verder het die Staatskuldkommissaris 'n netto bedrag van R295 miljoen in staatseffekte belê. Nieteenstaande die belangrike bydrae tot die skatkisfinansiering deur binne-landse nie-bankbronne van finansiering, was die

Tesourie verplig om gedurende die eerste tien maande van die 1976/77-fiskale jaar nie alleen meer gebruik te maak van die monetêre banksektor as 'n bron van finansiering nie, maar om ook in 'n groter mate op buitelandse lenings staat te maak. Netto buitelandse lenings het R329 miljoen bedra waarvan R291 miljoen fondse wat van die Internasionale Monetêre Fonds verkry is, verteenwoordig het. Die Tesourie se netto skuldposisie teenoor die monetêre banksektor het gedurende die tydperk onder beskouing met R396 miljoen toegeneem, wat bestaan uit 'n toename van R391 miljoen in daardie sektor se besit aan staatskuldbewyse en 'n afname van R5 miljoen in skatkisdeposito's.

Die Spoorwegbegroting

Die 1977/78 Begroting van die Suid-Afrikaanse Spoorweë en Hawens is op 9 Maart 1977 deur die Minister van Vervoer aan die Parlement voorgelê. Volgens verwagte bedryfsresultate vir die huidige finansiële jaar, wat op 31 Maart 1977 sal eindig, sal bedryfsinkomste hoër wees as wat aanvanklik verwag is, gedeeltelik as gevolg van tariefverhogings in die loop van die jaar. Hoër bedryfsuitgawes, weens salaris- en ander kostestygings, sal egter na verwagting 'n bedryfstekort van R33 miljoen vir 1976/77 tot gevolg hê.

Teen bestaande tariewe word verwag dat die 1977/78 finansiële jaar met 'n tekort van meer as R344 miljoen sal sluit. Om hierdie tekort te dek, het die Minister 'n wye reeks tariewe verhoog, insluitende spoorvrag- en passasierstariewe, hawegelde, padvervoertariewe, lugtariewe en tariewe vir oliepyplyne. Daar word verwag dat die hoër tariewe die inkomste met 14,6 persent sal laat toeneem. Ten einde kapitaaluitgawes te beteuel, sal die voltooiing van meeste goedgekeurde projekte vertraag word en nuwe projekte tot 'n minimum beperk word. Uitgawes aan kapitaal- en verbeteringswerke sal gevolglik na verwagting met R265 miljoen, of met 21 persent, tot R971 miljoen gedurende die 1977/78 finansiële jaar daal. Met inagneming van 'n styging van 21 persent in bedryfsuitgawes, sal totale uitgawes deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Spoorweë en Hawens na verwagting met slegs 6 persent bo die vergelykbare syfer vir 1976/77 styg.

Kapitaalmark

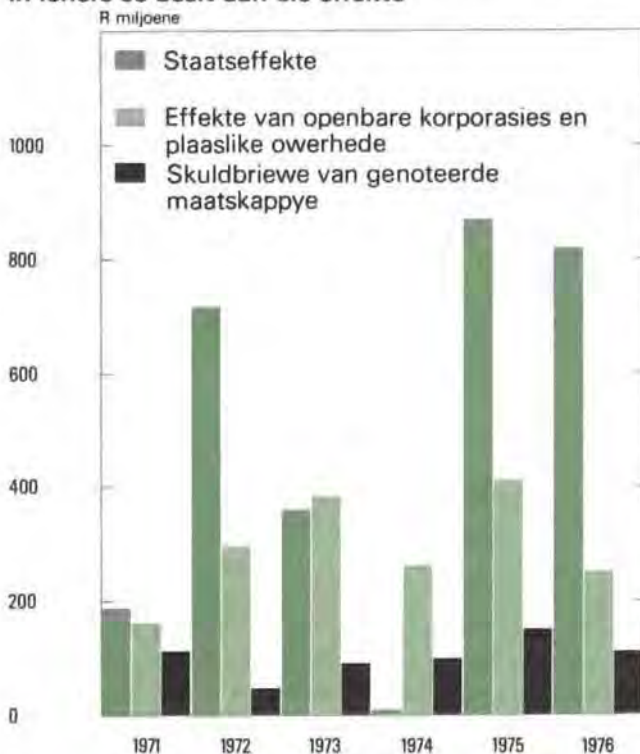
Mark vir vaste-rentedraende effekte

Toestande in die mark vir vaste-rentedraende effekte het regdeur 1976 stram gebly. Ondanks die uitstelling en afstelling van 'n aantal geskeduleerde nuwe uitgiftes, is daar nog 'n aansienlike bedrag aan nuwe kapitaal opgeneem.

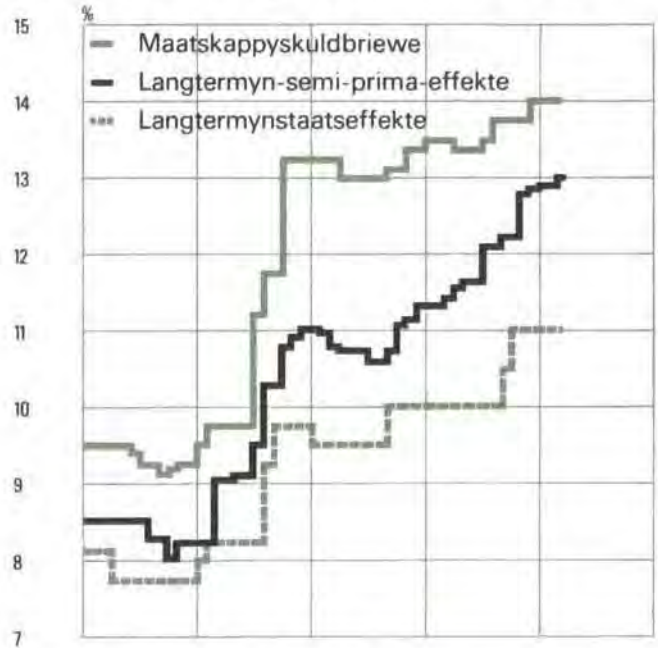
Netto nuwe uitgiftes van bemarkbare effekte deur die openbare sektor, uitgesonderd die toename in die betrokke leners se besit aan hul eie effekte, het gedurende 1976 R1 071 miljoen bedra, vergeleke met die rekordbedrag van R1280 miljoen in 1975. Daarbenewens het maatskappye in die private sektor wat op die effektebeurs genoteer is, nuwe uitgiftes van vaste-rentedraende effekte ten bedrae van R118 miljoen gemaak wat ook ietwat minder as die rekordbedrag van R182 miljoen gedurende 1975 was.

Die opbrengskoerse op alle klasse vaste-rentedraende effekte het gedurende 1976 merkbaar gestyg. Die opbrengskoers op langtermynstaatseffekte het in Augustus vanaf 10,0 tot 10,5 persent en teen die einde van September tot 11,0 persent gestyg. Die opbrengskoers op nuwe langtermynuitgiftes van die hoogste graad semi-prima-effekte het vanaf 11,35 persent aan die begin van 1976, tot 12,90 persent aan die

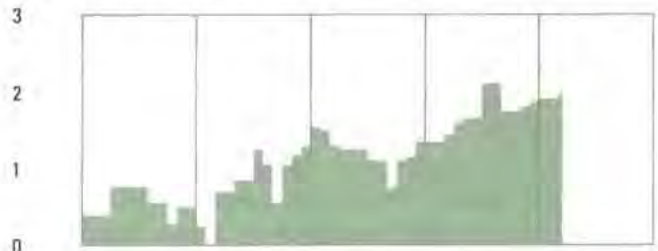
Netto uitgiftes van bemarkbare binnelandse vaste-rentedraende effekte, uitgesonderd veranderings in leners se besit aan eie effekte



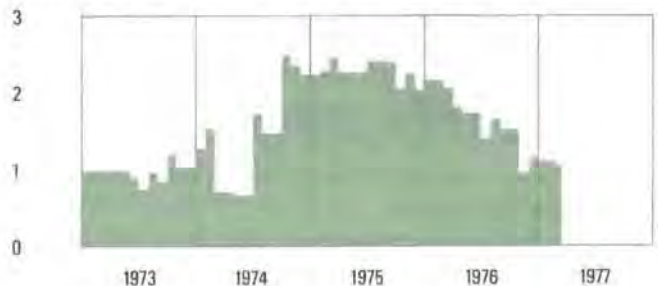
Opbrengskoers op vaste-rentedraende effekte



Opbrengskoersmarge tussen langtermyn-semi-prima- en prima-effekte



Opbrengskoersmarge tussen maatskappyskuldbriewe en langtermyn-semi-prima-effekte



einde van die jaar gestyg. In die loop van die jaar het die opbrengskoers op nuwe uitgiftes van maatskappyskuldbriewe vanaf 13,375 tot 14,00 persent gestyg. As gevolg van hierdie opbrengskoersbewegings, het die marge tussen die opbrengskoerse op langtermynsemi-prima en -prima-effekte gedurende die jaar vanaf 1,35 tot 1,90 persent vergroot. Aan die ander kant het die marge tussen die opbrengskoerse op maatskappyskuldbriewe en langtermynsemi-prima-effekte vanaf

2,03 tot 1,10 persent vernou. Dit wil dus voorkom asof die stram marktoestande die plaaslike owerhede en die openbare korporasies gedwing het om teen relatief hoër koerse as die ander leners in die mark vir vaste-rentedraende effekte te leen.

Gedurende die eerste twee maande van 1977 het die opbrengskoers op nuwe uitgiftes van langtermynsemi-prima-effekte effens verder tot 12,98 persent gestyg. Nuwe uitgiftes is egter gedurende hierdie tydperk baie beter as gedurende 1976 ondersteun en die meeste was oorvolskryf. Gedurende Maart het die opbrengskoers by die skynbaar ruimer marktoestande aangepas toe die opbrengskoers op 'n nuwe uitgifte van semi-prima-effekte op 12,79 persent vasgestel is.

Aandelemark

Die aandelemark het regdeur 1976 terneergedruk gebly en die effektebeursomset, gemeet volgens die aantal aandele verhandel, het tot sy laagste vlak sedert 1967 gedaal. Verder het die meeste klasse aandelepryse hul afwaartse beweging, wat in Augustus 1975 begin het, voortgesit.

'n Effense verstewiging van die pryse van nie-mynbouaandele gedurende Desember 1976 het daartoe gelei dat hierdie pryse gedurende die vierde kwartaal min verandering getoon het. As gevolg van dalings gedurende die eerste drie kwartale was die vlakke van die betrokke pryse aan die einde van jaar egter heelwat laer as aan die einde van 1975. Die pryse van finansiële aandele en van nywerheids- en handelsaandele was in Desember 1976 onderskeidelik 15 en 9 persent laer as in Desember 1975. Goudmynaandelepryse het gedurende die eerste agt maande van 1976 skerp gedaal, en daarna gedurende die laaste vier maande van die jaar met 29 persent gestyg. Aan die einde van 1976 was hierdie pryse nog gemiddeld 16 persent laer as aan die einde van 1975. Die pryse van steenkoolmynaandele, wat gedurende die eerste nege maande van 1976 skerp gestyg het, het gedurende laaste kwartaal nog effens verder gestyg en die jaar met 59 persent hoër as in Desember 1975 afgesluit. Ander metaal- en mineraalaandelepryse, uitgesonderd goud, het gedurende die eerste nege maande van 1976 matig gestyg, maar het toe gedurende die vierde kwartaal afwaarts beweeg en het die jaar op min of meer dieselfde vlak as aan die einde van 1975 afgesluit.

Die ietwat stewiger neiging in aandelepryse gedurende Desember 1976 het gedurende Januarie voortgeduur en alle klasse aandelepryse, met die uitsondering van goudmynaandelepryse, het in Januarie 1977 'n hoër vlak bereik.

As 'n weerspieëling van die verloop van aandelepryse, het die dividendopbrengskoers op alle klasse genoteerde gewone aandele vanaf 8,2 persent in Desember 1975 tot 10,5 persent in Desember 1976 gestyg, maar daarna weer tot 10,2 persent in Januarie 1977 gedaal. Die omgekeerde rendementsgaping tussen gewone aandele en langtermynstaatseffekte het

gedurende dieselfde tydperk vanaf 1,8 persent tot 0,5 persent vernou en daarna weer tot 0,8 persent vergroot. Die syfer vir Desember 1976 was die kleinste jaareindgaping wat aangeteken is sedert die omgekeerde rendementsgaping vir die eerste keer in 1964 sy verskyning gemaak het.

Beweging van langertermynfondse na deposito-nemende en verwante instellings.

Die beweging van langertermynfondse na deposito-nemende en verwante instellings het gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 aansienlik toegeneem, nadat dit 'n aanmerklike afname gedurende die eerste helfte van die jaar getoon het. Ondanks hierdie verbetering was die invloeiing nog aansienlik kleiner as in 1975.

Die seisoensaangesuiwerde toenames in bouverenigingaandele en -deposito's het gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 R326 miljoen bedra, vergeleke met R253 miljoen gedurende die eerste helfte van die jaar en R786 miljoen gedurende 1975. Die seisoensaangesuiwerde spaar- en langtermyndeposito's by bankinstellings, wat gedurende die eerste helfte van 1976 met R34 miljoen afgeneem het, het gedurende die tweede helfte met R321 miljoen gestyg. Die totale toename van R286 miljoen in hierdie deposito's gedurende 1976 was aansienlik laer as die ooreenstemmende bedrag van R983 miljoen vir 1975. Beleg-

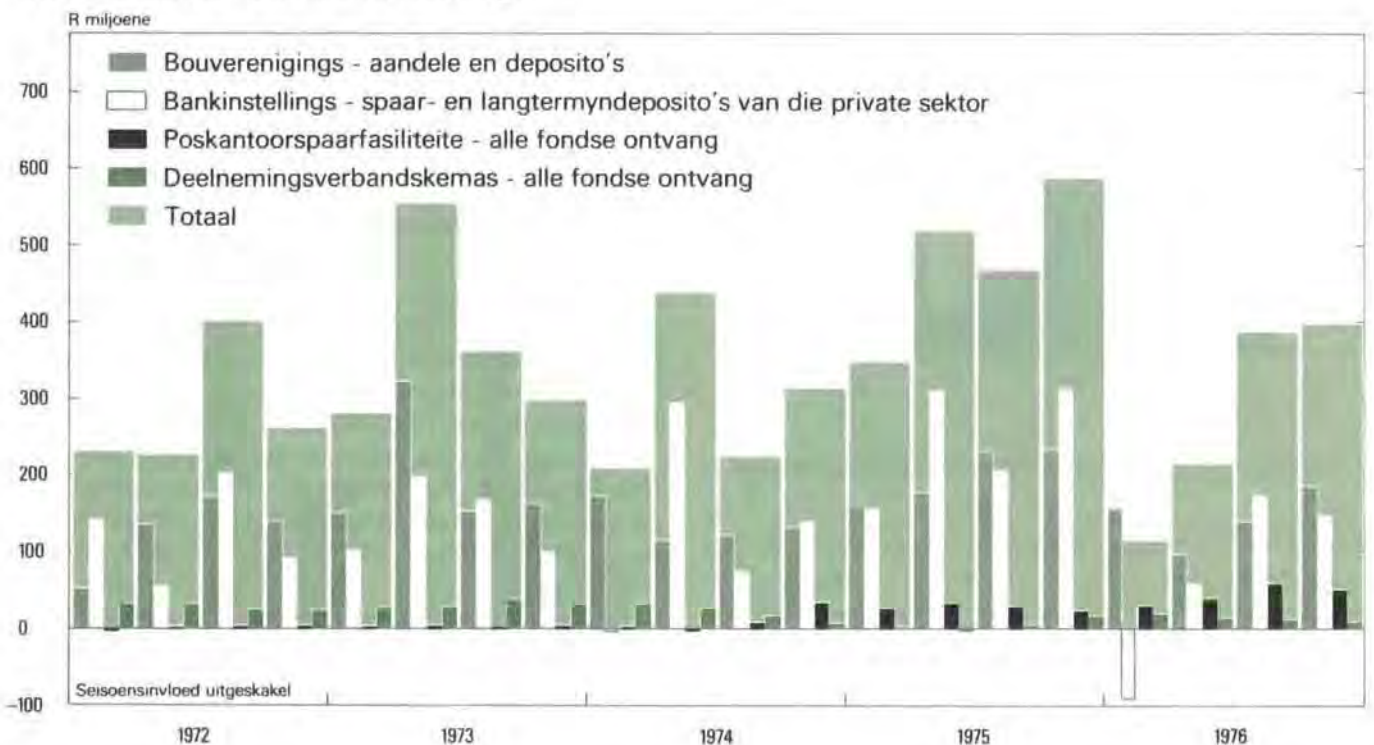
gings in die Posspaarbank en in Nasionale Spaarsertifikate het ook in die tweede helfte van 1976 toegeneem en het R112 miljoen bedra, vergeleke met R71 miljoen gedurende die eerste helfte van die jaar. Fondse wat in deelnemingsverbandskemas belê is, het egter vanaf R37 miljoen in die eerste helfte tot R25 miljoen in die tweede helfte van 1976 afgeneem. In 1975 is onderskeidelik R115 miljoen en R24 miljoen in die spaarfasiliteite van die departement Pos- en Telekommunikasiewese en in deelnemingsverbandskemas belê.

Die beweging van langertermynfondse na die bouverenigings, na seisoensaansuiwering, was in Januarie 1977 laer as gedurende sowel Januarie 1976 as die maandelikse gemiddelde gedurende die laaste kwartaal van 1976, maar die beweging na die monetêre bankinstellings was heelwat hoër as dié vir Januarie 1976 en die maandelikse gemiddelde vir die laaste kwartaal van 1976.

Verband- en vaste eiendomsmark

Die groter beweging van fondse na bouverenigings gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 is in 'n toename in nuwe verbandenings toegestaan deur bouverenigings weerspieël. Die maandelikse gemiddelde van nuwe verbandenings toegestaan gedurende die tweede helfte van 1976 was 19 persent hoër as gedurende die tweede kwartaal en 2 persent hoër as gedurende die eerste ses maande van die jaar. Die

Vloei van fondse na finansiële instellings



Mark vir vaste eiendom



totale bedrag aan nuwe verbandlenings toegestaan deur bouverenigings gedurende 1976, naamlik R1 070 miljoen, was aansienlik minder as die totaal van R1 261 miljoen in 1975. Die werklike bedrag wat gedurende 1976 op nuwe verbandlenings uitbetaal is, het egter R1 199 miljoen bedra en die voorafgaande jaar se syfer met R118 miljoen oorskry. Die bedrag aan fondse wat deur deelnemingsverbandskemas in verbande belê is, het vanaf R121 miljoen in 1975 tot R145 miljoen in 1976 toegeneem.

Ten spyte van die afname in die beweging van fondse na die bouverenigings gedurende Januarie 1977, het nuwe verbandlenings toegestaan, na seisoensaansuiwering, R85 miljoen bedra, wat ongeveer op dieselfde vlak was as die maandelikse gemiddelde van R89 miljoen gedurende 1976.

Die waarde van vaste eiendomstransaksies het gedurende 1976 op 'n lae vlak gebly en die eiendoms-mark het oor die algemeen baie traag gebly.