

Quarterly economic review

Introduction

Modest rates of growth – despite fair strength of the underlying economic recovery since mid-1986 – were recorded in the South African economy in the second and third quarters of 1987. A considerably more favourable picture of an economy in the advanced-revival stages of a moderate cyclical upswing could be gained, however, from developments in the fourth quarter. The marked strengthening of aggregate output growth in the fourth quarter of 1987 partly represented a rebound to more normal production levels in the primary sectors (agriculture and mining). It was attained despite a levelling-off of real output in manufacturing industry at approximately the high level of the preceding quarter. Firm rates of output growth continued to be displayed, however, by most other secondary and tertiary activities.

The seasonally adjusted and annualised rate of increase in real gross domestic product of nearly 5 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1987 marginally exceeded the quarterly growth rates that had been recorded in the second half of 1986 and was the highest such rate to be attained since the closing stages of the "mini-boom" of 1983-84. It would also appear to have been accompanied by a generally more positive climate of business and consumer sentiment than had been experienced in the South African economy at any stage in the preceding three to four years. Comparatively strong and rising levels of both domestic production and domestic expenditure would appear to have persisted into the first few months of 1988.

Total real gross domestic expenditure, having increased briskly in the first three quarters of 1987, continued to rise relatively firmly in the fourth quarter. Steady advances continued to be recorded in real private consumption expenditure. Aggregate real gross domestic fixed investment increased only marginally in the third quarter of 1987 but rose impressively in the fourth quarter, largely because of a relatively firm performance of private-sector fixed investment demand. Mild further increases were recorded in aggregate real inventories in both the third and the fourth quarter of the year.

Real gross domestic product in the calendar year 1987 as a whole was some 2½ per cent higher than in 1986. This may be compared with real growth rates of approximately 1 per cent in 1986 and of -1 per cent in 1985. Real gross *national* product in 1987 grew by 3½ per cent, resulting in mild increases in real gross national product and in real personal disposable income per head of the South African population. This compared favourably with significant declines in the average standard of living in the years from 1981 to 1983, and again in 1985 and 1986.

Aggregate real gross domestic expenditure in calendar 1987 exceeded its 1986 level by nearly 5 per cent and was some 10 per cent higher in the fourth quarter of 1987 than in the fourth quarter of 1986. Included in the increase in total real gross domestic expenditure from 1986 to 1987 were year-to-year increases of 3½ per cent and 5½ per cent in real private consumption expenditure and real government consumption expenditure, respectively. Total real gross domestic fixed investment declined slightly further in 1987 after having dropped sharply in 1986. Real *private* fixed investment, however, showed its first increase in a full calendar year since 1981.

Merchandise imports rose substantially further in the fourth quarter of 1987 in accordance with the steadily advancing level of gross domestic expenditure and the higher level of real output growth in the fourth quarter in particular. A marked further strengthening of merchandise export earnings, however, caused the surplus on the current account of the balance of payments to rise from a level of R5,5 billion, at a seasonally adjusted annual rate, in the third quarter of 1987 to R6,1 billion in the fourth quarter. The current account surplus for 1987 as a whole amounted to R6,2 billion. The decline in this surplus during the year (from R7,2 billion in 1986) was attributable entirely to an 11 per cent increase in the value of merchandise imports.

The capital account of the balance of payments improved dramatically in 1987. Declines of R1,4 billion in the outflow of long-term capital and of R1,7 billion in the outflow of short-term capital not related to reserves caused the total outflow of non-reserve-related capital to contract from R6,1 billion in 1986 to only R3,1 billion in 1987. Non-residents were net purchasers of securities quoted on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange in the fourth quarter of 1987 for the first time since April 1985. The total outflow of non-reserve-related capital nevertheless rose fairly substantially in the fourth quarter.

Net repayments on foreign liabilities related to reserves shrank from R2,3 billion in 1986 to R1,2 billion in 1987. An increase in such liabilities was recorded in the fourth quarter.

The total gross gold and other foreign reserves, having decreased slightly in September and October 1987, declined further in November and December. The gross gold and other foreign reserves of the Reserve Bank subsequently recovered significantly in January 1988 but declined again in February.

The effective exchange rate of the rand appreciated by 3,1 per cent, on balance, from the beginning to the end of calendar 1987. It then declined, however, by 7,2 per cent up to 18 March 1988, in the light of increased strength of the US dollar up to the middle of February, the weakened performance of the dollar

price of gold, and a markedly lower surplus on the South African balance of trade in January 1988.

Significant further declines were recorded in the rates of increase in the various price indices in the fourth quarter of 1987, and substantially lower rates of inflation were reached in the course of the year.

In the area of monetary and financial developments, sharp accelerations were recorded in the fourth quarter of 1987 in the rates of increase in the M3 money supply and in bank credit to the private sector. The rate of increase in M3 from the fourth quarter of 1986 to the fourth quarter of 1987 nevertheless still fell comfortably between the 14 and 18 per cent lower and upper limits of the target range for growth in M3 in the 1987 targeting year.

A new target, ranging from 12 to 16 per cent, for the rate of increase in M3 from the fourth quarter of 1987 to the fourth quarter of 1988, was announced by the Reserve Bank on 22 February 1988. The lowering of the upper and lower limits of the 1988 target range by a further two percentage points from their 1987 counterparts was explained by the Bank as signalling "the determination of the monetary authorities to prevent excessive money creation from halting or reversing the pronounced downward tendency shown by the rate of inflation over the past two years". Attainment of the new target was believed by the authorities to be consistent with simultaneous achievement of an accelerated growth rate in real gross domestic product of 3 per cent or higher in calendar 1988 and of a further gradual decline of the inflation rate.

Money market interest rates, having displayed high stability in the course of most of 1987, hardened significantly on balance in December 1987 and in 1988 up to early March. Bank rate - i.e. the Reserve Bank's rediscount rate for Treasury bills for discount houses - was raised from 9,5 to 10,5 per cent with effect from 9 March 1988. This was the first change in Bank rate since 10 December 1986 and the first increase in this rate since its reversal to 21,75 per cent on 8 January 1985. It was accompanied by an increase in the clearing banks' prime overdraft rates from 13 to 14 per cent.

In motivating the Bank rate increase of 9 March 1988, the Governor of the Reserve Bank noted that this was to be regarded as a direct consequence of the marked improvement in domestic economic conditions in recent months. Strengthening of the economy had given rise to sharp increases in the demand for bank credit, a marked acceleration of growth in the money supply, and increases in most interest rates. The raising of Bank rate, however, although partly a technical adjustment to recent money market developments, also signified the adoption of a less accommodative monetary policy stance. In the changed conditions now prevailing, the Bank's earlier accommodative policy posture carried a risk of eventually resulting in inordinate increases in the money supply and in domestic spending. To

prevent any such overspending and, more specifically, to keep the rate of growth in M3 within its 1988 target range of 12 to 16 per cent, the Reserve Bank decided to slow down its own rate of credit creation. The increase in Bank rate was both a consequence and an integral part of this less accommodative strategy.

The capital markets in the final three months of 1987 witnessed marked declines in trading activity from the uncommonly high levels of preceding quarters. Long-term yields and interest rates hardened in the fourth quarter of 1987 and during January-February 1988 in the wake of the sharp drop in share prices on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange from 20 October and on the basis of a shift in interest rate expectations generally. In the area of government finance, the outcome of fiscal policy in 1987/88 was more stimulatory than had been envisaged in the Budget as presented in June 1987. Against a budgeted increase of 16,2 per cent in nominal Exchequer issues, these issues increased in 1987/88 by an estimated 18,9 per cent in nominal terms or by 4,5 per cent in real terms. Revenue, on the other hand, fell slightly short of the Budget estimates. The deficit before borrowing as a ratio of gross domestic product accordingly amounted to 5,8 per cent, as compared with the Budget estimate of 4,7 per cent.

A more cautious and less expansionary approach was indicated by the Minister of Finance for fiscal 1988/89. In his Budget speech delivered to Parliament on 16 March 1988, the Minister budgeted for a decline in real government expenditure in fiscal 1988/89. In nominal terms, the Budget provided for an increase of only 12,6 per cent in expenditure, an increase of 16,3 per cent in revenue, and a deficit before borrowing of 4,9 per cent of gross domestic product. Following recommendations by the Margo Commission, various structural changes to the South African tax system were announced by the Minister in his Budget speech. Further such changes are to be effected in the next two or three fiscal years.

The momentum that had been built up in the South African economy by the fourth quarter of 1987 appeared capable at the time of supporting a real growth rate in calendar 1988 of the order of 2½ to 3½ per cent. Since that time, however, certain developments have occurred that should be taken into consideration in an assessment of growth prospects for the South African economy in 1988.

Firstly, the sharp downward adjustment of equity values internationally from mid-October 1987, although limited in its more immediate impact on consumption and investment behaviour and the overall growth performances of the world's leading industrialised economies, nevertheless has caused most observers to scale down their forecasts for the growth rates of these economies in 1988 by approximately ½ percentage point.

Secondly, the weakening of the dollar price of gold

since mid-December 1987, including its temporary dip to below \$430 per fine ounce in late February 1988, appears to require some downward revision of the expected average dollar price of gold in 1988 from levels anticipated earlier.

Thirdly, it now appears that the broad uptrend in world commodity prices from late 1986 through 1987 may not be sustained throughout 1988.

Fourthly, the succession of drought and floods in recent months in extensive parts of South Africa's summer rainfall areas has given rise to a scaling-down of summer crop estimates.

Nevertheless, present indications are that the strengthened trend in domestic output and expenditure is still substantially intact.

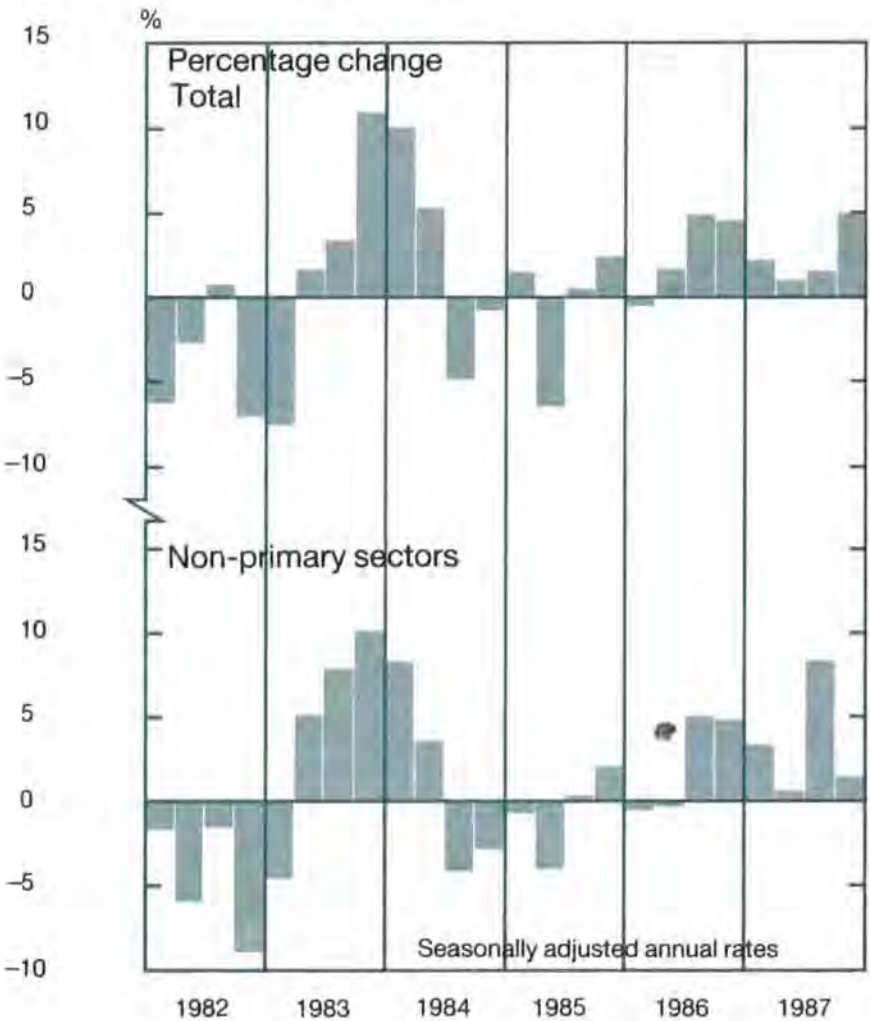
Domestic economic developments

Domestic output

Disappointingly slow growth of real gross domestic product at annualised rates of 1 and 1½ per cent in the second and third quarters of 1987 was attributable partly to non-cyclical factors. These included the unusually large number of non-working days in the second quarter and setbacks to agricultural and mining production in the third quarter. A considerably more favourable picture of an economy in the advanced-revival stages of a moderate cyclical upswing could be gained, however, from developments in the fourth quarter.

Revised estimates, in which 1985 is used as the base year for measuring aggregates at constant prices, show the annualised rate of increase in real gross domestic product in the fourth quarter of 1987 to have reached a level of nearly 5 per cent. This was the seventh consecutive quarterly increase in real gross domestic product since the fairly pronounced interruption of the recovery in real economic activity in the first quarter of 1986.

Real gross domestic product



Increases in real output in the fourth quarter of 1987 are estimated to have occurred in all principal sectors of the economy with the exception of manufacturing production. The more prominent production increases were recorded in agriculture, mining and commerce and in the transport, storage and communication sector. Agricultural output was boosted by a record wheat crop. Value added by the mining sector recovered in the fourth quarter from the third-quarter drop in production that had been brought about by the strike in a major part of the gold mining industry in August.

Increases in real value added in the commercial sector reflected improved conditions in all major subdivisions of that sector, viz. wholesale, retail and motor trade, catering and accommodation. Higher output levels in most trading activities clearly were based on a further strengthening of domestic final demand as well as on rising levels of imports and exports. Increases in activity in transportation appeared also to have been aided by recent changes in legislation, which have widened the scope for and the freedom of operations of transport contractors in the private sector.

In contrast to the fourth-quarter improvement in output levels in other sectors, real output in the manufacturing sector, which had advanced briskly in the third quarter of 1987, showed almost no change in the fourth quarter. This was attributable largely to the Natal floods of late September 1987, which caused disruption of certain production activities in that region and also interfered with the regular shipment of supplies to and from the interior. Excellent output performances by various subsectors of manufacturing industry, such as basic metals and machinery and equipment, did not succeed in neutralising fully declines in output in certain other subsectors, such as food, paper and chemicals.

With the exception of the primary sectors (agriculture and mining), significantly higher levels of real output

were attained by all major sectors of the economy in the calendar year 1987 as compared with calendar 1985 and 1986. Aggregate non-primary production in real terms in 1987 was nearly 3½ per cent higher than in the preceding year. Average growth in real output of the non-primary sectors had amounted to only 1 per cent in 1986 and to -1½ per cent in 1985.

Total real gross domestic product in 1987 was some 2½ per cent higher than in 1986. As in the case of aggregate real non-primary production, this fairly moderate year-to-year growth rate in total real output nevertheless represented a significant improvement on real growth rates of approximately 1 per cent in 1986 and of -1 per cent in 1985.

Real gross *national* product in 1987 rose by 3½ per cent. The significantly higher rate of growth in real gross national product than in real gross domestic product in the course of 1987 was attributable to an improvement in the terms of trade (i.e. in the ratio of export prices to import prices) and to a decline of approximately 10 per cent in net factor payments to the rest of the world. This marked decrease in total net factor rewards paid to the non-resident owners of productive resources that are employed in the South African economy, primarily reflected the decreasing amount of the country's outstanding foreign debt and resultant declines in net interest payments to foreigners.

The 3½ per cent rate of increase in real gross national product in 1987 was appreciably higher than the rate of population growth. The standard of living of the average South African therefore showed some improvement during the year. This stands in favourable contrast with fairly pronounced declines in the average standard of living in the years from 1981 to 1983, and again in 1985 and 1986.

Domestic expenditure

After frequent changes of direction in the second half of 1985 and throughout 1986, quarterly changes in aggregate real gross domestic expenditure assumed a more steadily upward course in 1987. The most recent estimates show total real gross domestic expenditure to have advanced at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 6½ per cent in the fourth quarter of 1987. This followed upon brisk quarter-to-quarter increases at seasonally adjusted annual rates of more than 24 per cent and of approximately 7½ per cent and 5½ per cent in the first, second and third quarters of 1987, respectively.

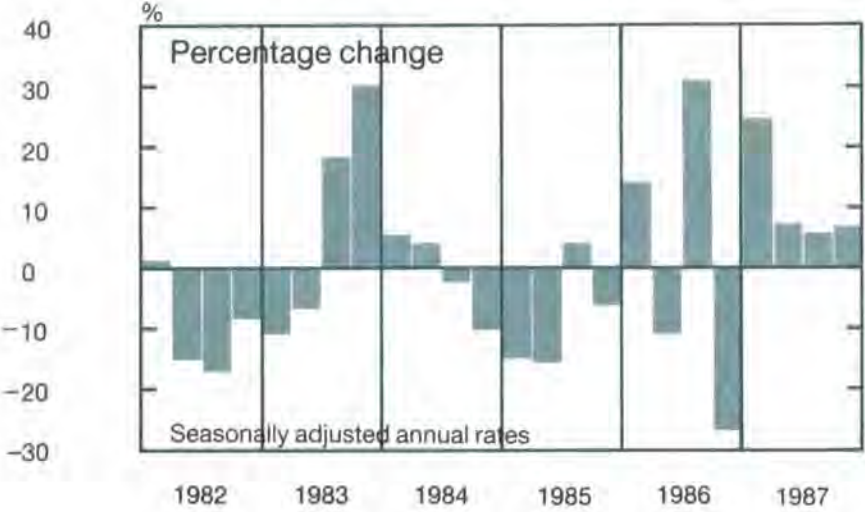
Total real gross domestic expenditure in the fourth quarter of 1987 was more than 10 per cent higher than in the fourth quarter of 1986. From the calendar year 1986 to the calendar year 1987, the increase in total real gross domestic expenditure amounted to nearly 5 per cent. This may be compared with an increase of only 1 per cent in 1986 and a decrease of as much as 8½ per cent in 1985.

Percentage change in real output

	1985	1986	1987
Primary sectors	2½	2	-1½
Agriculture	8½	16	2½
Mining	½	-3	-3
Non-primary sectors	-1½	1	3½
Manufacturing	-3½	1½	4
Construction	-7	-3½	3
Electricity, gas and water	6½	2½	4½
Commerce	-5	-3	4
General government services	½	3	4
Other services*	-	1½	2½
GDP at market prices	-1	1	2½
GNP at market prices	-1	1	3½

*Transport and communication; finance, insurance, real estate business services; and "other" community, social and personal services.

Real gross domestic expenditure

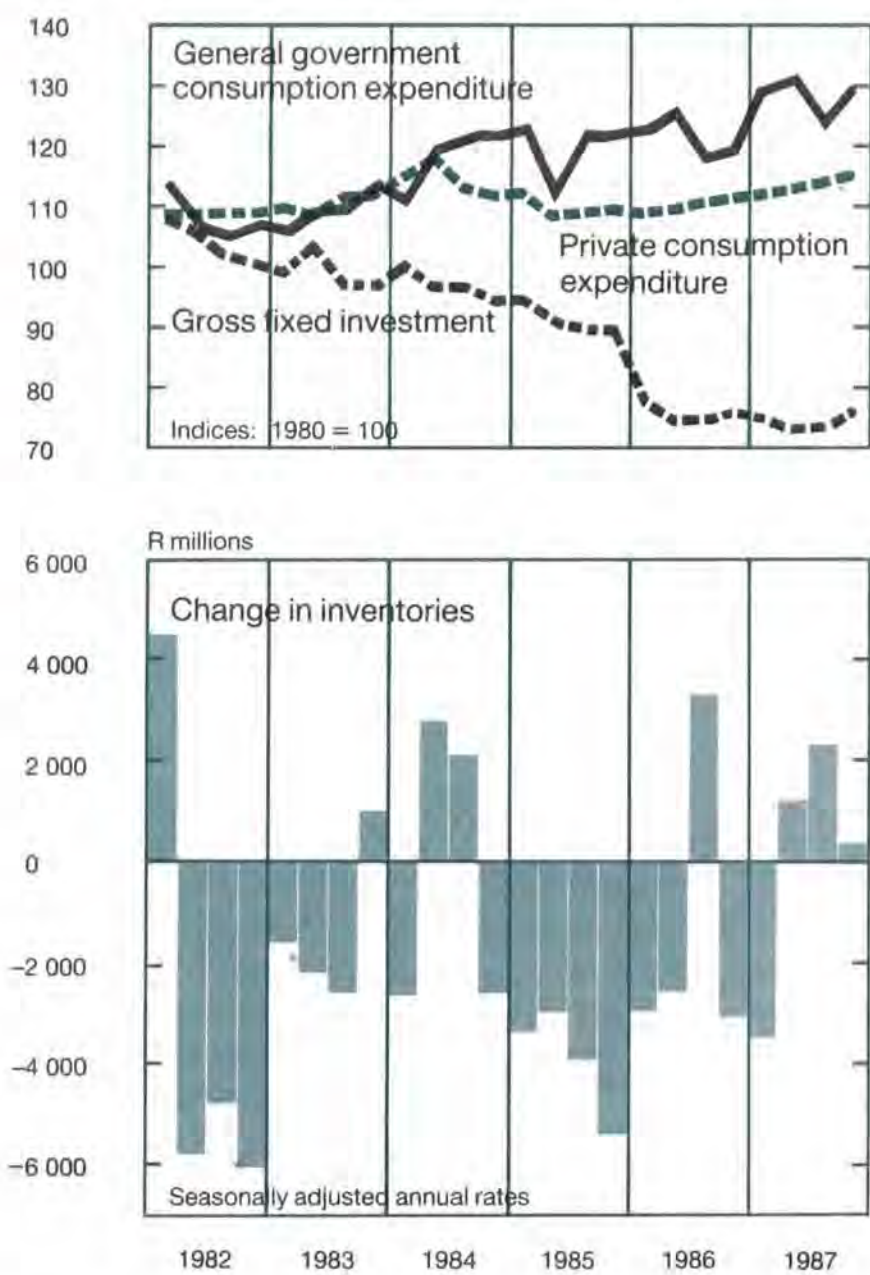


Significant increases were recorded in all principal components of real gross domestic expenditure in 1987. Real private consumption expenditure was 3½ per cent higher in the calendar year 1987 than in the preceding year. Its seasonally adjusted annual rate of increase in the final quarter of 1987 – representing a continuation of a relatively steady uptrend in such expenditures that had commenced in the second quarter of 1986 – amounted to 4 per cent. Marked increases were recorded in the fourth quarter of 1987 mainly in outlays on personal transport equipment, furniture and household appliances, clothing and various consumer services.

Total real private consumption expenditure in 1987 was aided by a slight increase in real personal disposable income per capita after significant decreases in per capita incomes had been recorded in 1985 and 1986. It was also encouraged by increased household borrowing capacity in nominal terms, an enhanced sense of security and stability, continuing low levels of interest rates when the prevailing inflation rate is taken into account, and a diminishing aversion to renewed increases in household debt. Within the general area of durable consumer spending, the abolition of import excise duty in May 1987 and the introduction of an additional television service served to strengthen the new and replacement demand for television sets.

Real consumption expenditure by general government rose in 1987 by as much as 5½ per cent. Increases in 1985 and 1986 had amounted to only 1 and 1½ per cent, respectively. A marked rate of increase in the real wage bill of general government in 1987 – mostly because of higher employment levels in the public sector – actually was outpaced by the rate of increase in expenditures on goods and non-labour services. After having declined sharply in the third quarter of 1987, aggregate real government consumption expenditure in the second half of 1987 nevertheless was still some 8 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1986.

Main components of real gross domestic expenditure



Real gross domestic fixed investment declined in the first half of 1987 and increased only marginally in the third quarter. It then rose impressively, however, in the fourth quarter at an annual rate of approximately 18 per cent. During the year 1987 as a whole aggregate real fixed investment contracted only slightly further by 1½ per cent, after a sharp drop of 17½ per cent in calendar 1986.

The marked revival of total real fixed investment in the fourth quarter of 1987 was based on increased fixed capital outlays by the private sector, public authorities and public corporations. Notable increases in private-sector fixed capital formation were recorded in agriculture, mining, commerce and finance. The increases in real fixed investment that had been observed in private manufacturing in the first three quarters of 1987 slowed down in the fourth quarter. Real fixed investment by private manufacturing industry nevertheless rose by 9 per cent from 1986 to 1987, after its sharp drop of nearly 30 per cent in 1986.

The increase in fixed investment in private manufacturing, together with a lower rate of decline in real private residential construction and an increase in capital expenditure financed by leasing contracts, was the principal factor in causing total real gross fixed investment in the private sector in 1987 to show its first yearly increase since 1981. The stepped-up level of real gross fixed investment in manufacturing did not, however, as yet result in an actual increase in manufacturing production capacity. The real fixed capital stock in manufacturing industry, in fact, actually declined further in 1987 by approximately 3 per cent.

Increases in real fixed investment by the public sector in the fourth quarter of 1987 were recorded by general government departments, the South African Transport Services and public corporations. For 1987 as a whole, however, fixed capital outlays by government business enterprises and public corporations still declined significantly. Real fixed investment by general government rose markedly in 1987 from its 1986 level.

Aggregate real inventories rose in the second quarter of 1987 for only the second time since mid-1984 and increased further in the third and fourth quarters. They also increased slightly on balance during 1987 as a whole. The fourth-quarter increase in aggregate real inventories was mainly due to stock building by mining, manufacturing and wholesale and retail trade. However, the ratio of industrial and commercial inventories to gross domestic product in the non-agricultural sectors of the economy in the third and fourth quarters of 1987 did not yet rise significantly above its historically low level of approximately 19 per cent.

Factor incomes

The rate of increase in total output at factor cost rose only slightly to 18 per cent in the calendar year 1987 from 16 per cent in 1986. Growth in aggregate nominal factor incomes accelerated sharply, however, from an annualised rate of 13½ per cent in the third quarter of 1987 to a rate of 24½ per cent in the fourth quarter. To a major extent this was a reflection of the return to more normal conditions, already referred to, in the primary sectors of the economy from the setbacks that had been experienced in the third quarter.

The accelerated rise in total factor rewards in the fourth quarter of 1987 was accounted for mainly by sharp increases in the gross operating surpluses of business enterprises, i.e. in non-labour remuneration. Improved business results were reported in virtually all sectors of the economy. The total operating surplus advanced by some 22½ per cent in the fourth quarter, against an increase of 4½ per cent in the preceding three months.

The rate of increase of 18 per cent in the total gross operating surplus in the calendar year 1987 broadly equalled the rate of increase in the operating surplus in 1986. A levelling-off of the rate of increase in capital

goods prices, and the sharp cutbacks in real capital spending of the past several years, made themselves felt, however, in a marked slowdown of the rate of increase in depreciation allowances. As a result of this slowdown, the rate of increase in the total *net* operating surplus actually rose sharply to approximately 23 per cent in 1987 from 12½ per cent in 1985 and 13½ per cent in 1986.

The rate of increase in aggregate nominal labour remuneration also rose significantly from the third to the fourth quarter of 1987. From the fourth quarter of 1986 to the fourth quarter of 1987, the share of labour remuneration in total value added advanced fractionally from 56½ to 57 per cent. To some extent, this very mild increase in the ratio wages to total factor incomes should be considered unusual in the prevailing business cycle conditions. A more pronounced rise in the share of labour rewards in total factor income has been a regular feature of the more advanced stages of cyclical upswings in the South African economy in the post-war period.

Domestic saving

The ratio of gross domestic saving to gross domestic product declined somewhat further to 23½ per cent in 1987 from 25 per cent in 1986. This mild further weakening of the economy's savings performance was attributable mainly to an increased shortfall of the current income of general government vis-à-vis current government expenditure. The balance of current government income over current government expenditure was transformed gradually over the past several years from a surplus of R2 billion in 1980 to a deficit of R3,6 billion in 1987.

Personal savings (or private household savings) in 1987 rose broadly proportionally to the rise in personal disposable income during the year as a whole. The average personal savings ratio of 3 per cent in 1987 therefore showed almost no change from the level of this ratio in 1986. However, in the third and fourth quarters of 1987 households' increased recourse to borrowing for financing consumer expenditure caused the average personal savings ratio to be reduced further to as little as 2½ per cent.

Net corporate saving advanced strongly in 1987. This was a reflection of the marked rise in the gross operating surplus of corporate businesses and of the reduced rate of increase in depreciation allowances, for reasons referred to earlier. Provisions for depreciation rose by 12 per cent in 1987, against increases of 21 per cent in 1985 and 26 per cent in 1986.

Employment

Total employment in the non-agricultural sectors of the economy rose by a slender 0,3 per cent in 1986 but somewhat more firmly – by 1,2 per cent – in the first three quarters of 1987 compared with the corresponding period in 1986. It increased at seasonally adjusted annual rates of 3,2 and 1,2 per cent in the second and third quarters of 1987, respectively. Information for the fourth quarter shows employment in manufacturing and construction to have expanded moderately further at seasonally adjusted annual rates of 2,2 and 2,5 per cent.

The moderate further strengthening of the demand for labour in manufacturing and construction was confirmed by a rise in these sectors in the ratios of overtime to ordinary hours worked. This ratio advanced from 7,6 to 8,7 per cent in construction and from 11,1 to 11,8 per cent in manufacturing from the third to the fourth quarter of 1987.

The total number of registered unemployed workers, which obviously reflects also the effects of factors other than the current strengthening of economic activity, continued to fluctuate in 1987 broadly around the levels of late 1985 and 1986. The total number of registered unemployed receded to 121 400 in May 1987 but rebounded to 139 400 in September. It then decreased to 129 700 in November before rising again to 133 800 in December. Registered unemployment among non-Black workers, however, contracted significantly from 83 400 in September 1986 to 64 800 in December 1987. Black unemployment was shown by the Current Population Survey to have decreased from 1 181 000 to 922 000, or from 19,9 to 14,5 per cent of the Black labour force, from July 1986 to September 1987.

Labour costs and productivity

Revised estimates show the average nominal amount of salaries and wages per worker in the non-agricultural sectors of the economy to have increased at broadly similar rates of 14,3 and 14,1 per cent in 1986 and in the first three quarters of 1987 (compared with the first three quarters of 1986), respectively. Wage remuneration per worker in real terms declined by 3,8 per cent in 1986 and by a further 2,0 per cent in the first three quarters of 1987.

Labour productivity in the non-agricultural sectors of the economy declined by 0,7 per cent in 1986 but rose by 0,9 per cent in the first three quarters of 1987. The improvement in labour productivity in 1987 occurred despite a sharply increased loss of man-days on account of stepped-up trade union activity. The number of man-days lost because of industrial action rose from 1,3 million in calendar 1986 to 5,8 million in calendar 1987.

The slight improvement in labour productivity was also the principal factor in explaining the slowdown in

the rate of increase in unit labour costs from 15,0 per cent in 1986 to 13,1 per cent in the first nine months of 1987.

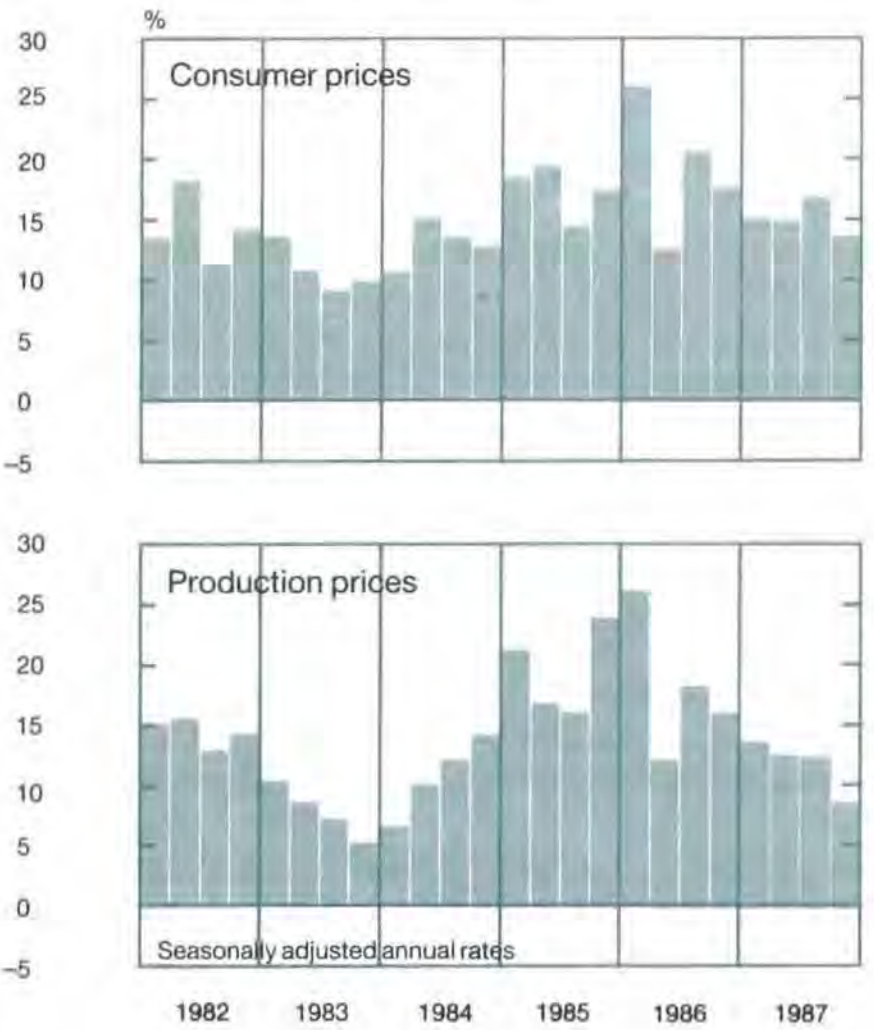
Prices

Substantial progress was made in the calendar year 1987 in bringing down the inflation rate. The year-to-year rise in the average level of the consumer price index slowed down from 18,6 per cent in 1986 to 16,1 per cent in 1987. Measured in the same way, the rate of increase in the production price index retreated from 19,6 per cent in 1986 to 13,9 per cent in 1987.

The quarter-to-quarter change in the average level of the consumer price index, at seasonally adjusted annual rates, slowed down very markedly from its peak of 26,0 per cent in the first quarter of 1986 to 15,1, 15,0 and 16,9 per cent in the first three quarters of 1987, respectively, and further to 13,7 per cent in the fourth quarter. The twelve-month rate of increase in consumer prices declined from 15,5 per cent in October 1987 to 15,0 and 14,7 per cent in November and December, and to 14,2 per cent in January 1988.

The quarter-to-quarter change in the production price index, at seasonally adjusted annual rates, subsided even more pronouncedly from its peak of 26,3

Percentage change in prices



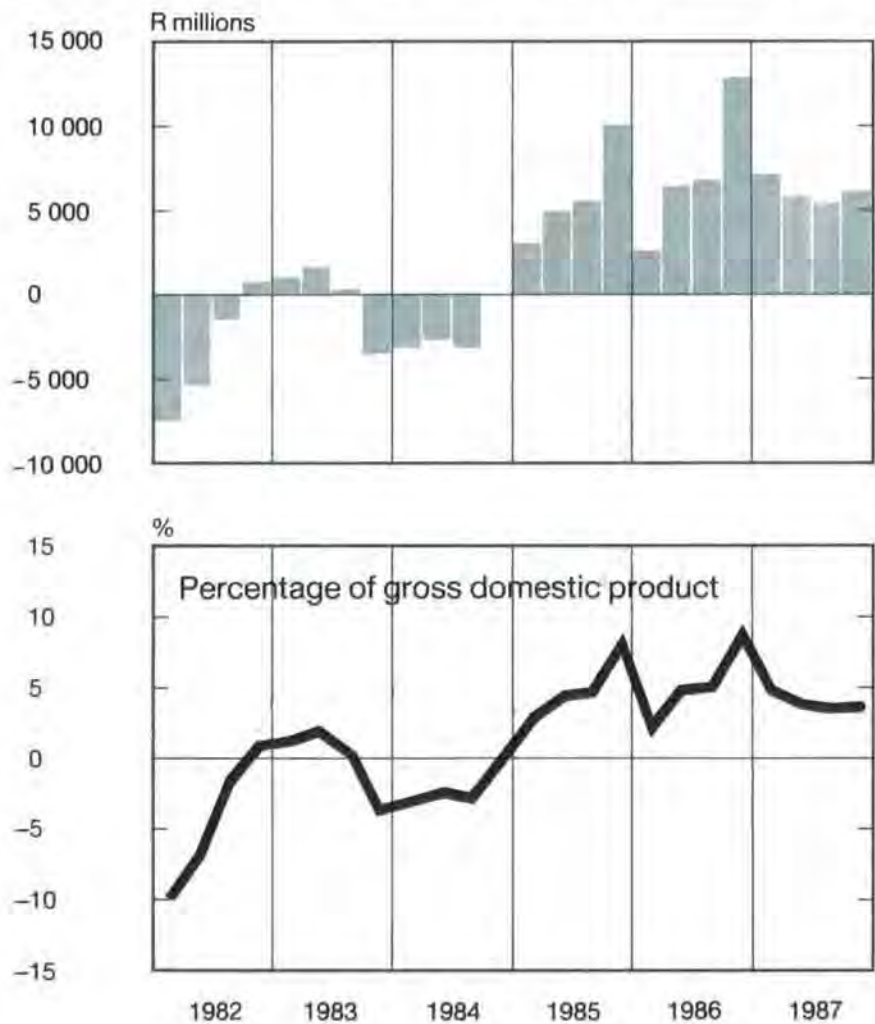
per cent in the first quarter of 1986 to 12,5 per cent in the third quarter of 1987 and to only 8,7 per cent in the fourth quarter. The twelve-month rate of increase in this index receded from its 1987 high of 16,1 per cent in April to a low of 11,3 per cent in December. This was the lowest level of this rate to be recorded since the rate of 11,0 per cent that had been observed in November 1984. In January 1988, however, it increased again to 11,8 per cent.

Balance of payments

Current account

A surplus was recorded on the current account of the balance of payments in 1987 for a third consecutive calendar year. This surplus was attained despite the generally rising level of domestic economic activity and the strengthening of aggregate domestic monetary demand in the course of the year, and despite the application of international sanctions against selected

Balance of payments: Balance on current account



Balance of payments on current account

Seasonally adjusted annual rates

R millions

	1986	1987				
		1st qr	2nd qr	3rd qr	4th qr	Year
Merchandise exports	25 048	23 882	24 468	24 810	27 424	25 146
Net gold exports	16 719	18 390	17 043	17 911	17 824	17 792
Merchandise imports	-25 514	-26 409	-27 370	-28 817	-30 684	-28 320
Net service and transfer payments	-9 057	-8 631	-8 305	-8 424	-8 504	-8 466
Balance on current account	7 196	7 232	5 836	5 480	6 060	6 152

South African export goods. The surplus, moreover, still amounted to as much as R6,2 billion or 3,7 per cent of gross domestic product, as compared with surpluses of R5,9 billion (4,9 per cent of gross domestic product) in 1985 and of R7,2 billion (5,2 per cent of gross domestic product) in 1986.

The decline in the current account surplus from calendar 1986 to calendar 1987 was mainly accounted for by a substantial rise in the value of merchandise imports. The value of merchandise exports showed little change from 1986 to 1987. Net gold exports increased only moderately. A significant decline was recorded, however, in net service and transfer payments to foreigners.

The value of merchandise imports in 1987 was 11 per cent higher than in 1986. Incorporated in this rise were increases of some 4½ per cent in import volumes and of some 6½ per cent in the average level of import prices. Substantial increases were recorded in imports of textiles, transport equipment, mineral products, plastic materials, and machinery and electrical equipment.

Net gold exports were some 6½ per cent higher in 1987 than in 1986. This increase was more than fully accounted for by a higher average rand price of gold in the course of the year. The volume of gold exports actually declined for the third consecutive year, reflecting

a further reduction in the average grade of ore mined as well as a loss of production on account of work stoppages. The volume of net gold exports in 1987, at 597 tons or 19,2 million fine ounces, was some 14 per cent lower than in the previous peak year 1984 and is likely to have amounted to slightly less than half of the total volume of gold production in the non-communist world.

The average fixing price of gold rose from US \$368 per fine ounce in 1986 to US \$447 in 1987, or by 21½ per cent. The higher average value of the rand in terms of the US dollar in the course of 1987, however, caused the average rand price of gold to rise only from R840 per fine ounce in 1986 to R909 in 1987, or by 8 per cent.

Net service and transfer payments to non-residents, which had increased uninterruptedly for nineteen years to a level of R9,1 billion in calendar 1986, declined to R8,5 billion, or by 6½ per cent, in calendar 1987. This was a result, mainly, of a decline in interest payments to foreigners in accordance with ongoing reductions of the outstanding amount of South Africa's foreign debt.

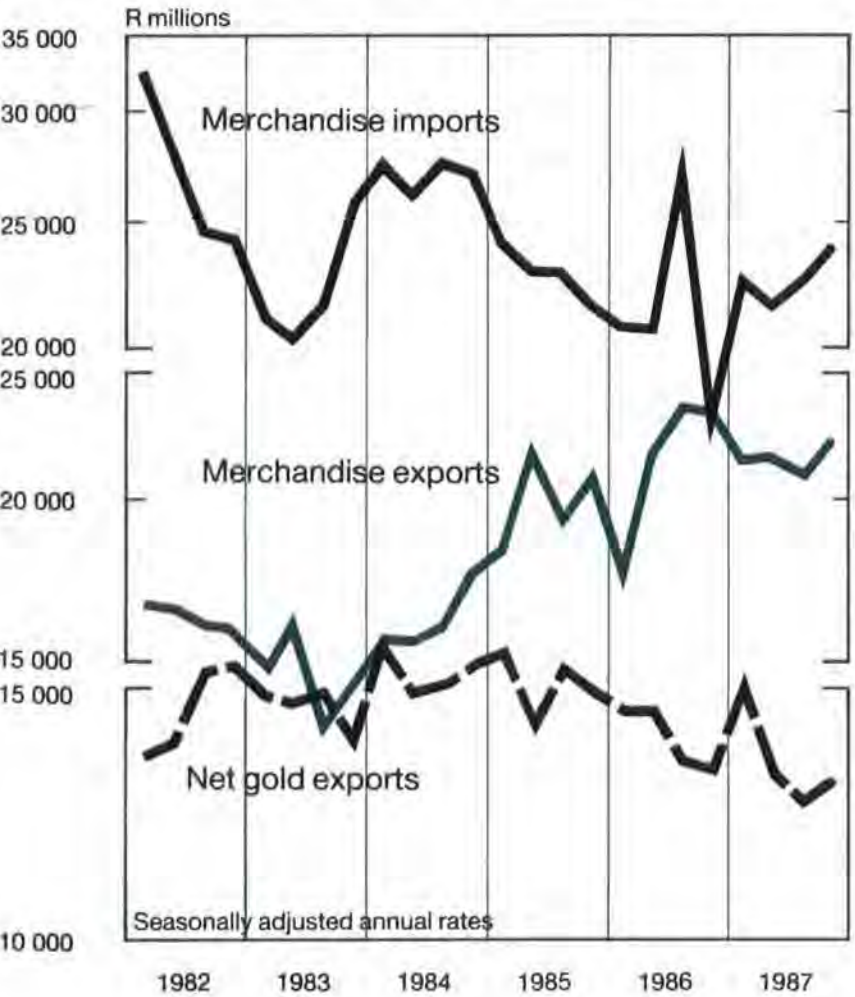
Quarterly surpluses on the current account of the balance of payments in the course of 1987, at seasonally adjusted annual rates, contracted from R7,2 billion in the first quarter to R5,8 billion and R5,5 billion in the second and third quarters, but recovered quite markedly to R6,1 billion in the fourth quarter. Recovery of the current account surplus in the fourth quarter was solely due to a strengthening of merchandise exports. At a seasonally adjusted and annualised level of R27,4 billion, the value of these exports in the fourth quarter of 1987 was within striking distance of the quarterly average of R27,8 billion of the very strong export performance that had been recorded in the second half of 1986.

Merchandise export volumes rose by some 6½ per cent from the third quarter of 1987 to the fourth quarter, mainly because of increased exports of mining products, processed foods and beverages, and chemical products. Export prices in the fourth quarter were some 4 per cent higher than in the third quarter, reflecting a continuation of the general uptrend of prices in the international commodity markets.

The value of merchandise imports also rose sharply further, by some 6½ per cent, from the third to the fourth quarter of 1987. At an annualised level of R30,7 billion, the value of these imports in the fourth quarter of 1987 was some 20 per cent higher than the quarterly average during 1986.

The fourth-quarter rise in the value of merchandise imports was attributable almost entirely to further increases in import volumes that were obviously related to the further strengthening of domestic economic activity and of real gross domestic expenditure in the third and fourth quarters of the year. Import prices were affected favourably by the stable level of prices in the international oil market, continued low inflation rates in trading partner countries, and relative stability of the

Real merchandise imports, exports and net gold exports



effective exchange rate of the rand. The rise in import prices from the third to the fourth quarter accordingly amounted to a marginal 1/2 per cent.

The volume of net gold exports, although on a downward trend in the year 1987 from preceding years, recovered significantly in the fourth quarter of 1987 from relatively low third-quarter levels. In addition, the average *dollar price* of gold at the London fixings advanced from \$457 in the third quarter to \$473 in the fourth quarter. The *rand value* of net gold exports nevertheless declined slightly from the third to the fourth quarter as a result of a decline in the average price of gold realised on the international gold market and because of appreciation of the rand vis-à-vis the US dollar.

The dollar fixing price of gold momentarily exceeded \$500 per fine ounce in mid-December 1987 but subsequently retreated to a level of around \$480. It fell back temporarily to \$440 in the first week of February 1988 on the basis of a weakening of international oil prices, expectations of declining world inflation and scaled-down perceptions of buoyancy in the world economy in 1988, and a weakening of non-investment demand for gold in the face of increasing supply. Having fluctuated for some time between \$440 and \$445 per fine ounce, the gold price then dipped to \$426 at the end of February but recovered to \$443 on 18 March.

Net service and transfer payments increased slightly in the fourth quarter of 1987 because of increased freight and insurance payments that were associated with the higher level of imports.

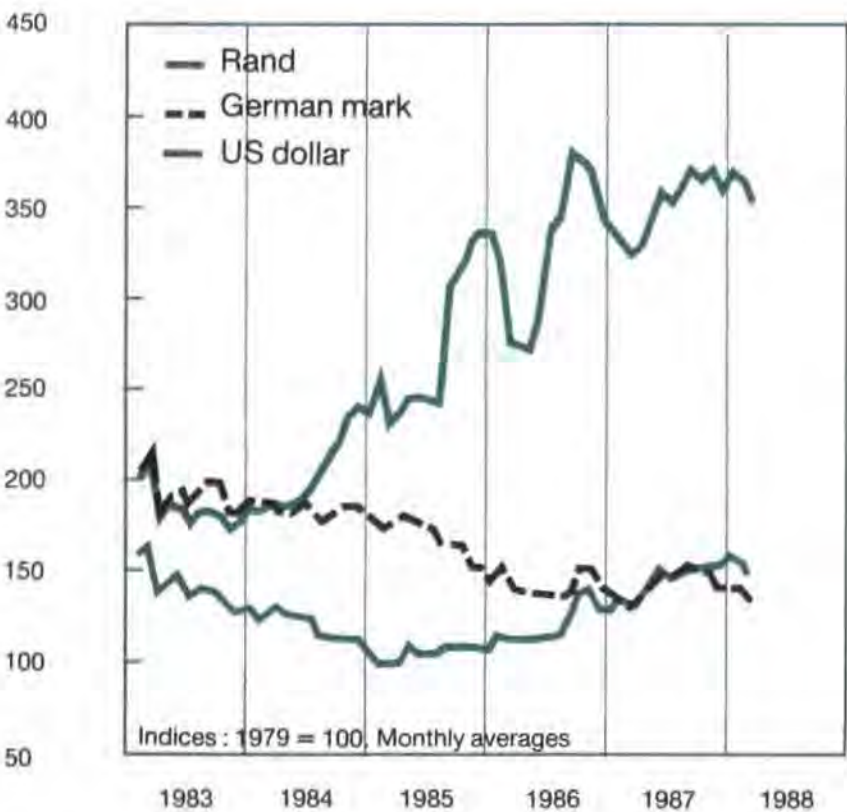
Capital account

The capital account of the balance of payments improved dramatically in 1987. The total net outflow of non-reserve-related capital shrank from R9,2 billion in 1985 and R6,1 billion in 1986 to only R3,1 billion in 1987. This decline occurred in short as well as long-term capital not related to reserves.

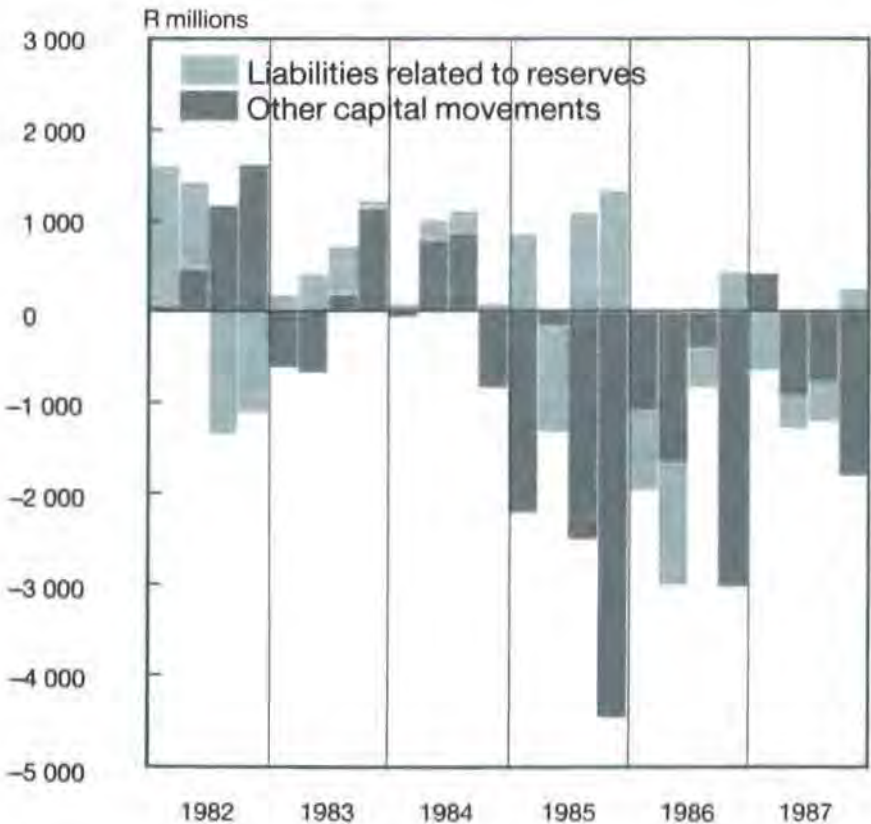
The outflow of long-term capital declined from R3,1 billion in 1986 to R1,7 billion in 1987. Although all sectors except public authorities contributed to this decline, a significant change-over from 1986 to 1987 was recorded by public corporations. Fairly substantial net new drawings of R817 million were made in 1987 by public corporations on new and existing loan facilities for project financing, compared with net repayments of R75 million in 1986. The outflow of other long-term capital not related to reserves was mainly related to repayments of foreign liabilities in accordance with the First and Second Interim Arrangements with foreign creditor banks.

The outflow of short-term capital not related to reserves declined from R3,0 billion in 1986 to R1,4 billion in 1987. This decline in the outflow of short-term capital occurred largely because of a smaller increase in foreign assets (consisting mostly of trade credits) held by South African residents. It was, therefore, related to the very limited extent of the increase in merchandise exports during the year. A decline in the net negative balance of "unrecorded transactions" also contributed to a lower level of net short-term capital

Gold price



Total capital movements



Net capital movements

R millions

	1986	1987				
		1st qr	2nd qr	3rd qr	4th qr	Year
Long-term capital						
Public authorities	-305	-9	-217	-60	-243	-529
Public corporations	-75	347	348	107	15	817
Banking sector	-103	38	-60	94	18	90
Private sector:						
Net purchases of listed securities by non-residents	-1 365	-209	-546	-531	73	-1 213
Other capital	-1 212	18	-278	-19	-584	-863
Total long-term capital	-3 060	185	-753	-409	-721	-1 698
Short-term capital including unrecorded transactions, but excluding reserve-related liabilities	-3 037	222	-173	-370	-1 050	-1 371
Total capital movements excluding liabilities related to reserves	-6 097	407	-926	-779	-1 771	-3 069
Change in liabilities related to reserves	-2 283	-627	-362	-426	248	-1 167

outflows in 1987 than in 1986. These factors were, however, offset to a certain extent by the effect of relatively low interest rates and the ready availability of bank credit in South Africa which encouraged domestic financing of the rising level of merchandise imports and fostered substitution of domestic for foreign sources of trade finance.

The total outflow of capital not related to reserves increased from R0,8 billion in the third quarter of 1987 to R1,8 billion in the fourth quarter. This increase was brought about, inter alia, by increased repayments of foreign debt in terms of the Second Interim Arrangements with foreign creditor banks and by larger redemptions of foreign-held bearer bonds and notes. Foreign trade credits also declined substantially in the fourth quarter, however, as a result of switching by South African businesses from foreign to domestic sources of trade finance for the reasons referred to above.

Non-residents, in the fourth quarter of 1987, were net *purchasers* of securities quoted on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange for the first time since April 1985. The amount of such purchases in that quarter was R73 million. In the third quarter, net *sales* had still amounted to R531 million.

The final instalment, amounting to R260 million, on South Africa's 1982 loan from the International Monetary Fund was repaid in November 1987. Liabilities related to reserves nevertheless showed a net inflow of R248 million in the fourth quarter of 1987. Net outflows had been recorded during the preceding nine months.

Foreign reserves

The total gross gold and other foreign reserves, having increased from R3,9 billion at the end of April 1986 to

R8,7 billion at the end of August 1987, declined slightly in September and October. They then decreased by more substantial amounts of R504 million in November and R115 million in December to R7,9 billion at the end of the year.

During 1987 as a whole the increase in the total gross gold and other foreign reserves amounted to R2,2 billion. This was a reflection of the continued large surpluses on current account and the greatly improved position of the capital account.

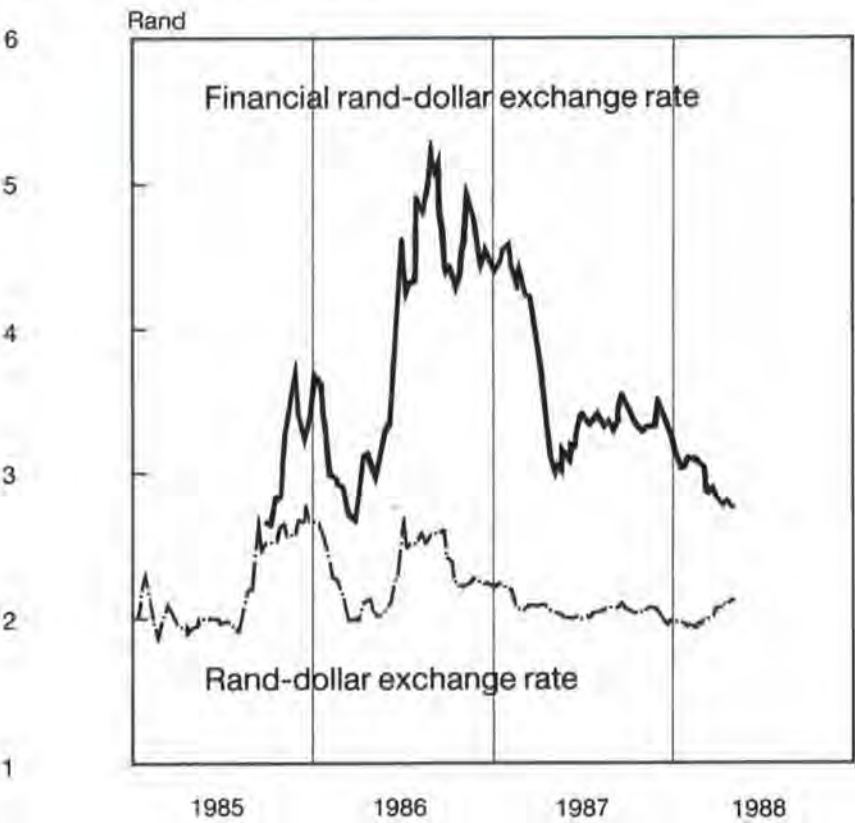
In January 1988 the gross gold and other foreign reserves of the Reserve Bank rose again by R293 million. The Bank's gold holdings rose from 5,83 million fine ounces at the end of December to 6,12 million fine ounces at the end of January. A renewed decline in the Bank's gross gold and other foreign reserves, amounting to R253 million, was, however, recorded in February. About half of this decline was attributable to a lower valuation of the gold reserves.

Exchange rates

Having increased by 3,0 per cent in the first nine months of 1987, the effective exchange rate of the rand, i.e. the average weighted value of the rand against the currencies of South Africa's most important trading partners, rose fractionally further – by 0,1 per cent – in the fourth quarter. Its appreciation in 1987 accordingly amounted to 3,1 per cent. This may be compared with an appreciation, on balance, of nearly 10 per cent from 31 December 1985 to 31 December 1986, and with depreciations of 30 per cent and 27,5 per cent in the calendar years 1984 and 1985, respectively.

The high degree of stability of the effective exchange rate of the rand in 1987 was the net result of substan-

Exchange rates of the rand



a further 7,1 per cent during the rest of the year. It then improved further from an average level of R3,0628 in December 1987 to R2,7778 on 3 February 1988 and – after a weakening to R2,9851 on 8 February – to R2,6950 on 18 March. The 20,2 per cent discount of the financial rand vis-à-vis the commercial rand on 18 March represented the lowest level of this discount since January 1986.

tial appreciation of the rand against the US dollar which was somewhat less than fully neutralised by depreciations against other major currencies.

A general strengthening of the US dollar, because of concerted intervention by a number of major central banks and because of better-than-expected United States trade statistics for November and December, contributed to a depreciation of the rand by 10,5 per cent against the dollar in the first eleven weeks of 1988. The effective exchange rate of the rand, however, declined by only 7,2 per cent during this period.

The exchange rate of the financial rand strengthened by 39,5 per cent in the first nine months of 1987 and by

Changes in exchange rates of the rand

	31 Dec 1986 to 30 Sept 1987	30 Sept 1987 to 31 Dec 1987	31 Dec 1986 to 31 Dec 1987	31 Dec 1987 to 18 Mar 1988
Weighted aver- age	3,0	0,1	3,1	-7,2
US dollar	5,7	7,6	13,7	-10,5
British pound ...	-4,6	-6,4	-10,8	-8,8
German mark ..	-0,3	-7,3	-7,5	-4,6
Swiss franc	-0,9	-9,8	-10,6	-2,0
Japanese yen..	-3,4	-9,9	-13,1	-6,1
French franc	0,4	-5,8	-5,4	-4,4
Financial rand ..	39,5	7,1	49,4	15,5

Financial markets

Money supply

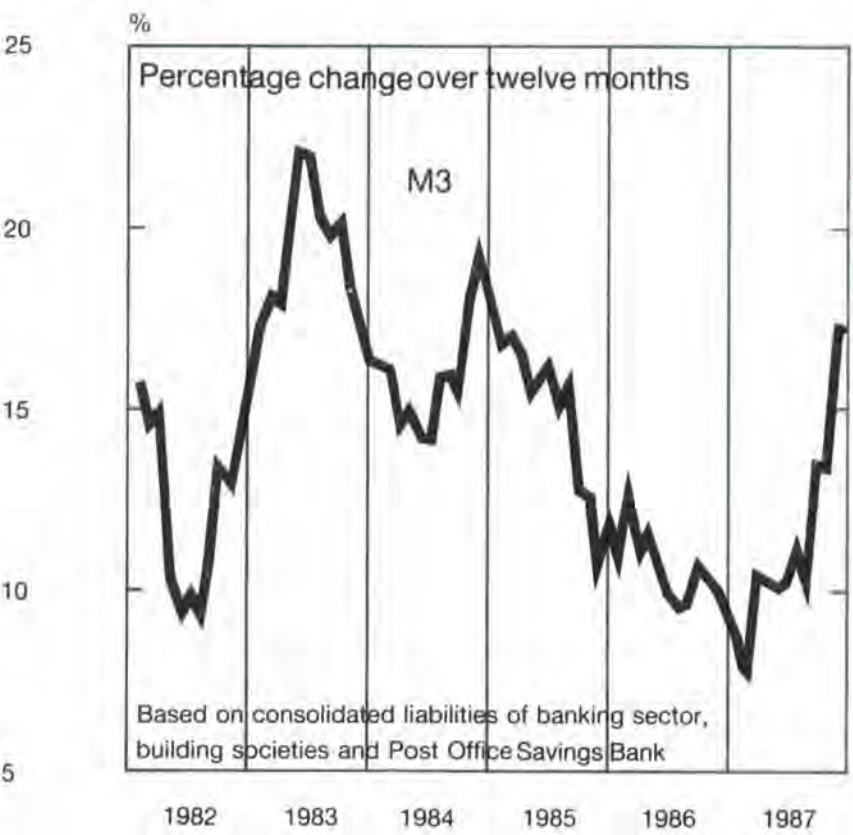
The quarter-to-quarter increase in M3, at seasonally adjusted annual rates, accelerated sharply from 5,0 per cent in the first quarter of 1987 to 16,1 and 15,8 per cent in the second and third quarters, respectively, and to no less than 26,1 per cent in the fourth quarter. As a result of this acceleration in money growth in successive quarters, the rate of increase in M3 over twelve-month periods was raised from its lower turning point of 7,7 per cent in February 1987 to 17,4 per cent in December. The provisionally estimated twelve-month rate of increase in M3 from its low end-of-January 1987 level up to the end of January 1988 amounted to 20,2 per cent.

M3 as at month-ends fell short of the lower limit of the targeting "cone" in the first ten months of the 1987 targeting year (which commenced in mid-November 1986). From January to August 1987 it also fell short of the lower limit of the targeting "tunnel". A R2,7 billion increase in M3 in September, however, caused M3 as at the end of that month to fall within the targeting cone for the first time in the 1987 targeting year. M3 as at the end of November and December similarly was well within the 1987 targeting cone if the cone were to have been extended beyond the end of the 1987 targeting year in mid-November 1987.

M3's quarterly average in the fourth quarter of 1987 was 15,5 per cent higher than in the fourth quarter of 1986. Its increase during the 1987 targeting year, as measured for targeting purposes, therefore fell comfortably between the lower and upper bounds of the target range of 14 and 18 per cent.

M3's velocity of circulation advanced mildly further (by 1,6 per cent, to 1,961) in the first quarter of 1987. It then contracted slightly, however, during the remainder of 1987, to an eventual level of 1,939 in the fourth quarter. Its *net* increase from the fourth quarter of 1986 to the fourth quarter of 1987, i.e. in the course of the 1987 targeting year, accordingly amounted to a fairly insignificant

Money supply



nificant 0,5 per cent. M3's velocity in the fourth quarter of 1987 was, however, some 13 per cent higher than the low point in velocity in the fourth quarter of 1984.

Rates of increase substantially in excess of the rate of increase of M3 in the course of 1987 were recorded in the "other demand deposits" component (i.e. the non-M1A component) of M1, in M1 itself, and in M2. These various rates of increase, moreover, accelerated markedly or sharply in the second half of the year. Comparatively low rates of increase, on the other hand, were registered in M1A and in the long-term deposit component of M3.

Growth in M1A, which comprises notes and coin in circulation outside the monetary system plus private sector holdings of cheque and transmission deposits, was held back during 1987 partly by the progressive

Components of M3: Percentage change over twelve months

	Coin and bank-notes	Cheque and transmission deposits	M1A	Other demand deposits	M1	Other short and medium-term deposits	M2	Long-term deposits	M3
1986: Dec	18,0	21,5	20,5	3,5	12,8	-1,6	4,3	24,6	9,3
1987: Mar	8,9	17,5	14,8	27,5	20,5	-3,8	6,2	22,4	10,5
: Jun	14,5	8,1	9,8	28,7	18,0	1,4	8,7	15,5	10,6
: Sept	17,8	4,1	7,8	46,8	24,0	5,1	13,4	14,8	13,8
: Dec	17,9	11,5	13,3	64,3	34,5	11,5	21,7	6,5	17,4

spread of banks' cash management schemes on behalf of clients. In terms of such schemes, credit and debit balances of companies or groups of companies in the books of banking institutions may be "set off" against one another. The credit balances so set off are those on client companies' current accounts. The introduction or more widespread adoption of "set-offs" therefore primarily exerts a depressing effect on M1A, and on the growth rate of M1A that may be observed over any particular period.

As explained in the Reserve Bank's recent publication *Money Supply Targets for 1988*, the net deposits that remain after the daily set-offs of clients' credit and debit balances have been effected, will normally be held on a call or overnight basis. Set-off procedures as adopted in 1987 therefore somewhat favoured the relative growth rate of the non-M1A or "other demand deposits" component of M1. Relatively very rapid and accelerating growth in the non-M1A component of M1 towards the end of 1987 was, however, accounted for mainly by a shift in investors' interest rate expectations. Expectations of a hardening of interest rates strongly favoured increased holdings of call and overnight deposits, i.e. of depository investments at the very short end of the maturity spectrum. Increases in call and overnight deposits accounted for R6,8 billion of the R13,8 billion increase in M3 from the end of December 1986 to the end of December 1987.

The marked acceleration in the rate of increase in M2 in the course of 1987 primarily reflected the sharply rising rates of increase in the non-M1A component of M1 and in M1 itself. A fairly marked recovery could also be observed, however, in the growth rate of the "other" short and medium-term deposit component of M2. This could be explained, primarily, from relative shifts by investors out of longer-term into shorter-term deposits, such as customarily tend to accompany depositors' expectations of future rises in interest rates. The counterpart of this shift into shorter-term deposits was to be found in a slowdown of growth in the long-term deposit component of M3 in the course of the year.

The principal "cause" – in the statistical or accounting sense – of the R13,8 billion increase in M3 in the course of calendar 1987 was a R12,6 billion increase in domestic credit extended by monetary institutions. The net gold and other foreign reserves of the monetary sector rose, on balance, by R4,0 billion during the first nine months of 1987. These foreign reserve holdings declined, however, by R0,9 billion during the fourth quarter.

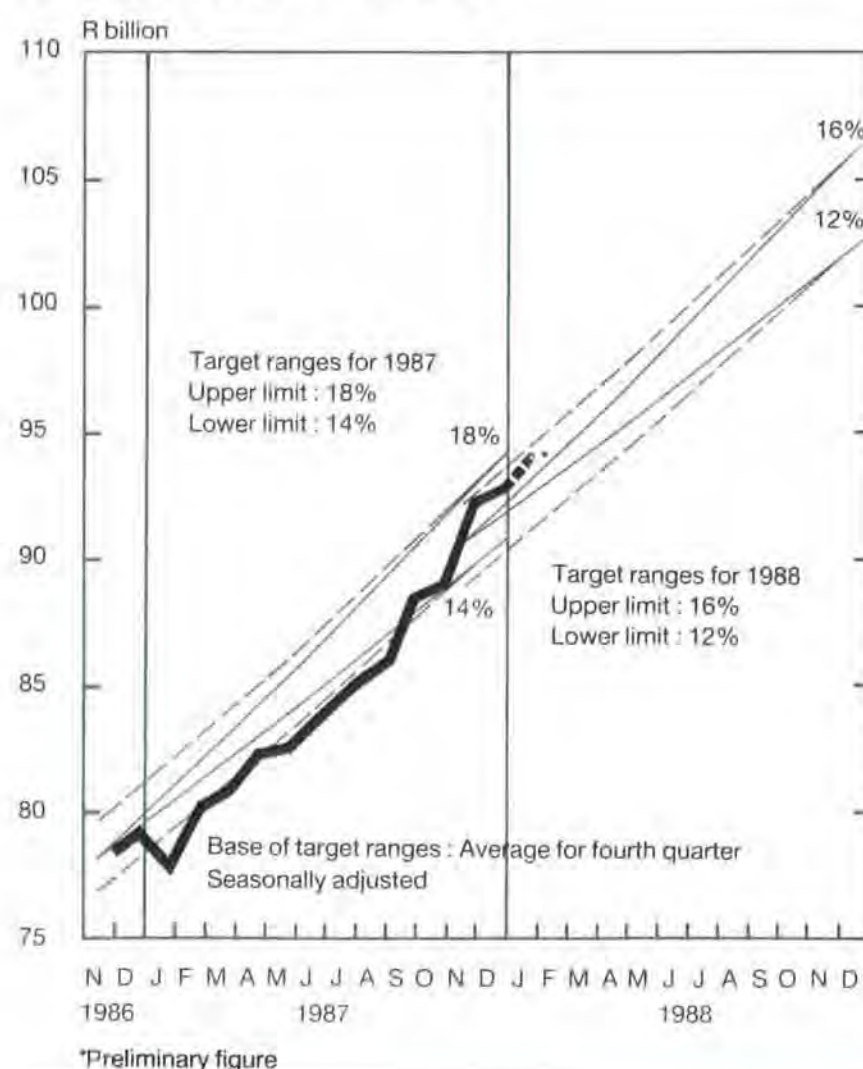
Of the R12,6 billion increase in domestic credit extended by the monetary sector in the course of 1987, R12,2 billion represented increases in credit extended to the private sector; monetary institutions' net claims on the government sector accordingly rose by a rela-

tively minor amount of only R0,4 billion during the year. Monetary institutions' claims on the private sector rose by R3,7 billion in the third quarter of 1987 and by no less than R6,0 billion in the fourth quarter. An unusually large proportion (35 per cent) of the R9,7 billion increase in monetary institutions' claims on the private sector in the second half of 1987 consisted of mortgage advances. Mortgage lending rose by R2,1 billion, or 8,7 per cent, among building societies and by R1,3 million, or as much as 16,4 per cent, among banking institutions during this period.

New money supply target

A new target, ranging from 12 to 16 per cent, for the rate of increase in M3 from the fourth quarter of 1987 to the fourth quarter of 1988 was announced by the Reserve Bank on 22 February 1988. In explaining the further reduction of two percentage points in these rates from their 1987 counterparts, the Bank stated that this was meant "to signal the determination of the monetary authorities to prevent excessive money creation from halting or reversing the pronounced downward tendency shown by the rate of inflation over the past two years". The new target was believed by the authorities to be consistent with growth of real gross domestic product in calendar 1988 of 3 per cent or

Target ranges for growth in M3



more, and with simultaneous achievement of a further gradual decline in the inflation rate.

In their deliberations concerning the monetary targets for 1988, note was taken by the authorities of recent suggestions to the effect that a more useful or appropriate target than for M3 may be set for M0, i.e. for the so-called "high-powered money supply". Also known as the "monetary base", M0 in South Africa consists of bank notes and coin in circulation outside the Reserve Bank plus banks' and building societies' deposits with the Reserve Bank. M0, therefore, is an extremely narrow monetary aggregate. It also differs from other such aggregates by including, in addition to money holdings of domestic private households and "non-monetary" business enterprises, coin, notes and balances held by institutions which themselves are in the so-called monetary sector. M0's behaviour over time will, of course, be affected by changes in payments habits and payments facilities.

In certain monetary control systems different from South Africa's, the central bank's creation of only limited amounts of "high-powered money" may be viewed as setting limits to – or, more generally, to "govern" – the expansion of the broader monetary aggregates (and the banks' extension of credit). In the South African monetary control system, however, movements in M0 are more appropriately viewed as *reflections* of changes in banks' and building societies' minimum required cash reserve holdings and of changes in the general public's need for hand-to-hand currency. The former kind of changes is linked to changes in banks' and building societies' short and medium-term liabilities to the public (i.e. in these institutions' "reservable" liabilities). The latter kind of changes is linked, mainly, to changes in the volume of the general public's purchases of the less valuable household consumption items.

Over extensive periods, M0's rate of increase will remain linked broadly to the rates of growth in the broader monetary aggregates and to the value of gross domestic product and gross domestic expenditure at current prices. It will also show a long-term relationship with inflation. M0, however, is less suitable than the broader monetary aggregates for *short-term* targeting purposes. An obvious reason for this is that M0 will be affected by changes in the percentage ratios of the banks' and/or the building societies' cash reserve requirements. A lowering of these requirements, moreover, would tend to *reduce* M0 while simultaneously tending to *raise* banks' and building societies' willingness and ability to extend credit and to increase the broader monetary aggregates.

Secondly, because of differential cash reserve requirement ratios against banks' and building societies' liabilities to the public of different maturities, shifts by depositors between different kinds of deposit – because of, for example, a shift in interest rate expect-

tations – may affect M0 in a manner that is essentially unrelated to underlying trends in the economy. Such shifts may *raise* M0 in a climate that is less conducive to general monetary expansion, or *lower* M0 in a climate that is more conducive to such expansion.

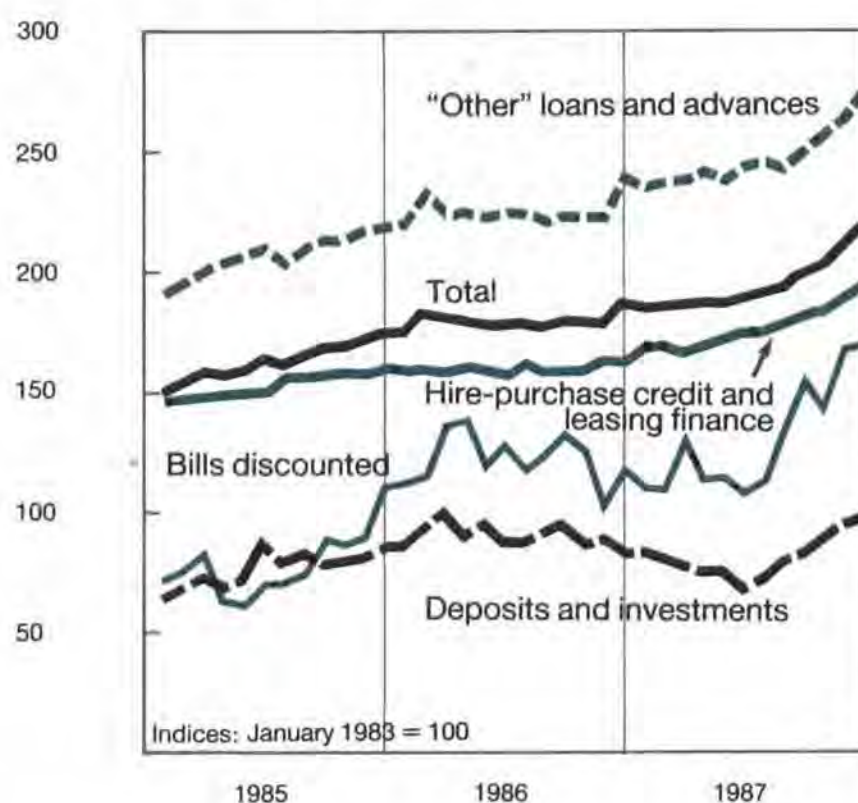
As a practical matter, movements in M0 over the past several years have been found to correlate relatively poorly (more so than other monetary aggregates) with movements in key macroeconomic variables, such as nominal gross domestic product or the general price level. M0's composition also makes it potentially less useful than certain other aggregates (or components of such aggregates) in foreshadowing forthcoming changes in domestic spending or production.

Bank credit

The quarter-to-quarter rate of change in bank credit to the private sector, in seasonally adjusted and annualised terms, amounted to 13,7, 2,5 and 13,1 per cent in the first three quarters of 1987, respectively, but then accelerated abruptly to no less than 36,2 per cent in the fourth quarter. The twelve-month rate of increase in bank credit to the private sector was raised by these developments from only 1,7 per cent in February 1987 to 11,2 per cent in September and to 17,2 per cent in December.

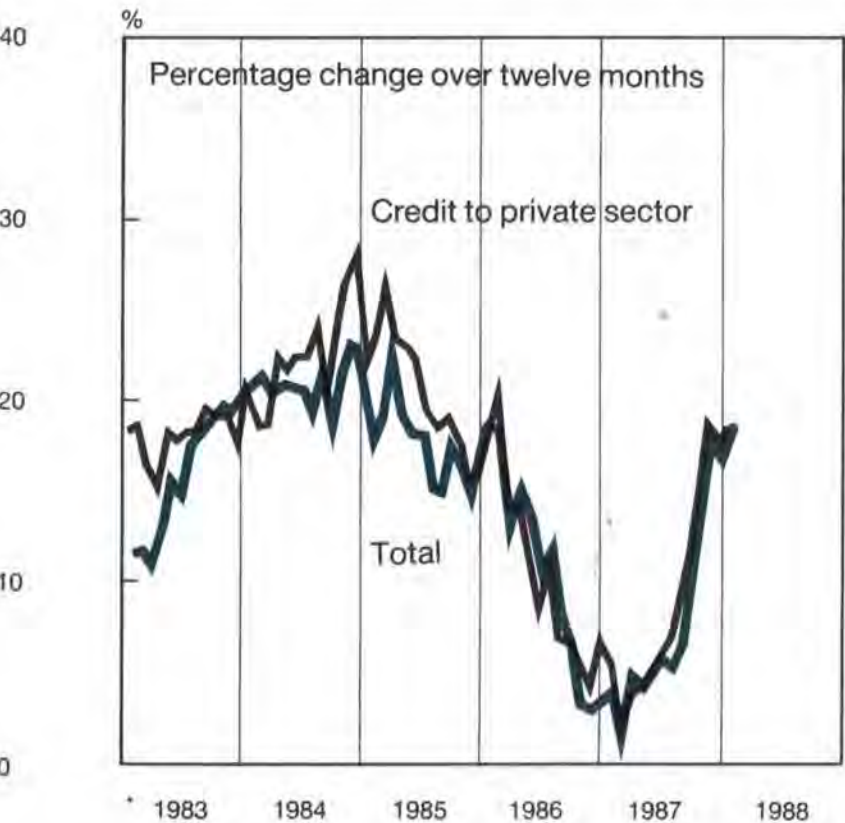
Factors playing a part in explaining the private sector's sharply increased recourse to bank credit in the final few months of 1987 included, firstly, the effects of steady expansion of production activity and

Bank credit to the private sector



domestic spending, rising imports and the mild turn-around in fixed investment and inventory accumulation; secondly, increased household willingness to make use of bank credit for financing durable goods purchases in particular, and a strengthening of the demand for mortgage loans; thirdly, the elimination or reversal of various factors fostering "disintermediation" in much of 1986 and early 1987; and fourthly, declines in the fourth quarter of 1987 in the net foreign reserves and some apparent substitution of domestic for foreign sources of finance.

Bank credit



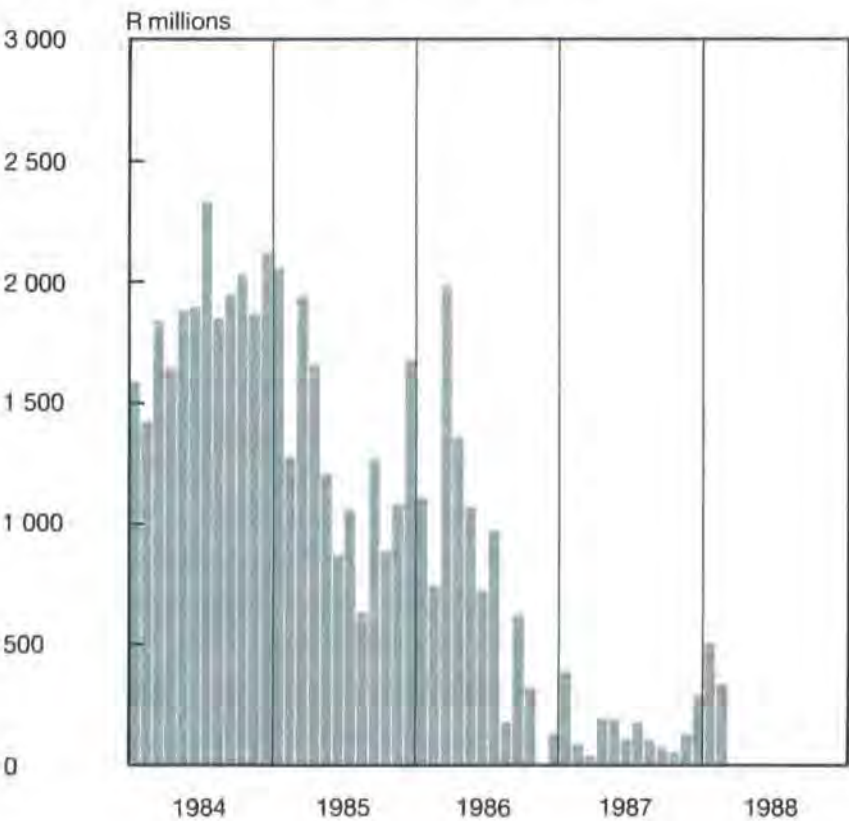
Part of the rise of the twelve-month rate of increase in total bank credit to the private sector to 17,2 per cent in December 1987 was explained by the accelerated extension of hire-purchase credit and leasing finance, which rose by 20 per cent during the year. Banks' holdings of bills discounted, however, actually increased by as much as 45,5 per cent during the year and by 25,6 per cent during the period from the end of August to the end of December. This was a reflection of banks' efforts to strengthen their money market paper and liquid asset portfolios. Banks' purchases of bankers' acceptances from insurance companies generally had a counterpart in these companies' increased holdings of call and overnight deposits with the banks concerned. The simultaneous increase in the banks' assets and liabilities arising from these transactions therefore amounted to a "reintermediation" phenomenon.

Reserve Bank operations in the money market

Easy conditions continued to prevail in the money market through the first ten months of 1987 and the first three weeks of November. For various reasons, however, seasonal and month-end tightening of the money market at the end of November and in early December failed to be reversed to the usual extent during the remainder of December. These reasons included downward pressure on the Reserve Bank's net gold and other foreign reserves, a high level of the note circulation, and a general strengthening of credit demand.

In addition, the Reserve Bank in early December made clear that it would not necessarily rectify shortages in the money market through its operations in the market to the same extent and with the same readiness as before. Partly as a result of these various developments, the average amount of accommodation at the Reserve Bank's discount window rose from only R75 million in September and R53 million in October 1987 to R126 million and R284 million in November and December, respectively, and to R498 million in January 1988. It then decreased, however, to R331 million in February. Accommodation at the discount window reached peaks of R1 243 million on 2 January 1988 and – after having returned to low levels in mid-February – of R911 million on 29 February and R1 017 million on 2 March in the relatively tight money market conditions that prevailed over the February month-end. It subsequently declined to less than R300 million by mid-March.

Accommodation at the discount window



Reverse buy-back agreements were employed regularly by the Reserve Bank for mopping up surplus reserves in the market up to October 1987. From the end of November, however, fairly extensive use was again being made by the Bank of buy-backs and of tender funds from the Corporation for Public Deposits for making good day-to-day shortfalls in the banking system's cash reserve holdings. During January 1988, day-to-day assistance to the market in the form of repurchase agreements varied from high points of R1 000 million to a low point of R200 million.

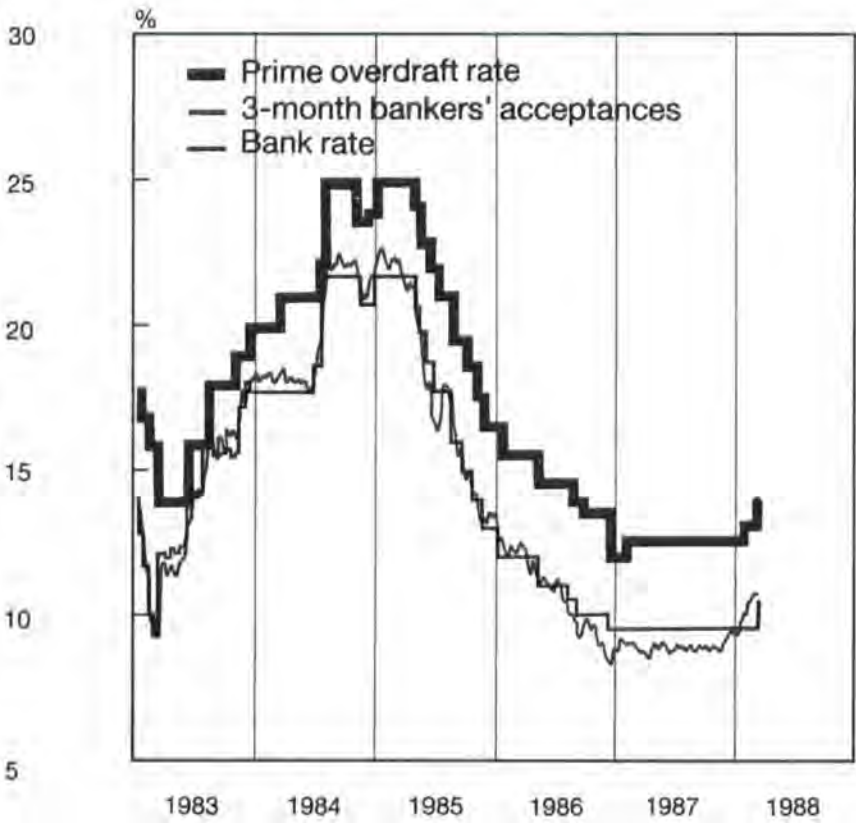
No assistance in the form of buy-backs or of CPD tender funds was extended by the Bank during February 1988 up to the last few days of the month. However, in accordance with the Bank's undertaking to continue to smooth out seasonal and month-end tightenings of money market conditions, fairly substantial amounts of buy-back assistance were made available again over the February month-end. The amount of such assistance as on 29 February ran to R200 million. In addition, R500 million of specially-dated tax Treasury bills fell due on the same day. Buy-back assistance of up to R500 million was continued throughout the first half of March, but was thereafter reduced to nil.

Short-term interest rates

Normal seasonal and intra-month developments caused the market rate on three-month liquid bankers' acceptances to advance from 8,75 per cent (1,05 per cent below the relevant Reserve Bank rediscount rate then prevailing) in mid-November 1987 to 9,00 per cent at the November month-end. This rate then continued to harden, however, to an eventual peak of 10,35 per cent in late-January 1988. It did so, firstly, on the basis of the market's less liquid condition; secondly, in the light of the Reserve Bank's stated intention of making increased use of the discount window for providing needed cash reserves to the banking system; thirdly, on the basis of a perception, as developed by the market, of a shift in the Bank's monetary policy stance generally; and fourthly, because of a shift in the market's general interest rate expectations.

The bankers' acceptance rate subsequently softened to around 10,0 per cent during the first eight days of February, as market liquidity eased and as accommodation at the discount window was held down to generally low levels. From the second week of February, however, the bankers' acceptance rate hardened to 10,50 per cent on 25 February and to 10,80 per cent on 3 March, because of seasonal tightness on either side of the February month-end, the market's interpretation of the new monetary target range announced for 1988, and an enduring perception in the market that Bank rate – in the wake of movements in market interest rates – would have to be raised eventually. Thereafter, up to the third week in March, the bankers' accept-

Short-term interest rates



ance rate kept within the narrow range of 10,75 to 10,80 per cent.

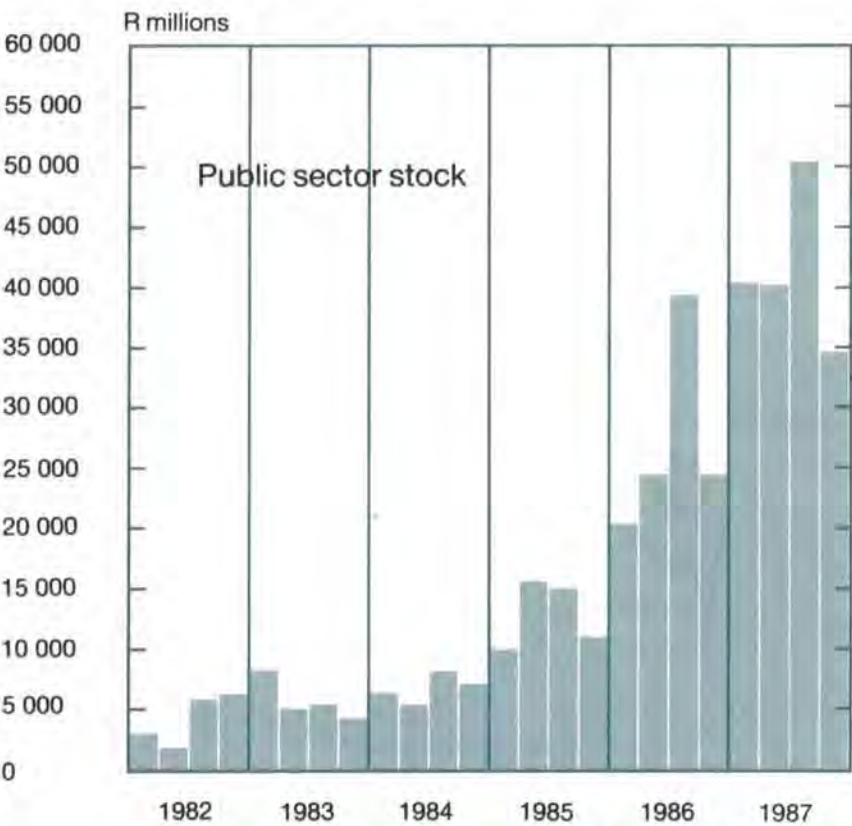
The rate on interbank call deposits rose to 10,0 per cent or more during January 1988 but subsided to a range from 9,0 to 9,25 per cent before the February month-end. The resultant upward slope of the yield curve at the short or money market end of the maturity spectrum was in accordance with the market's rising-rate expectations. On 29 February, however, the interbank call rate briefly rose to 12,5 per cent.

Higher money market rates, and the attendant narrowing of the banks' interest rate margins, caused the clearing banks to raise their prime overdraft rate from 12½ per cent to 13 per cent from 19 January. An increase in Bank rate from 9½ to 10½ per cent, which took effect from 9 March, was announced by the Reserve Bank on 8 March. This measure not only constituted a technical adjustment to recent money market developments but also signified adoption by the Bank of a less accommodative monetary policy stance. The increase in Bank rate was accompanied by an increase in the clearing banks' prime overdraft rate from 13 to 14 per cent.

Capital market activity

Major changes in capital market conditions became apparent from the start of the steep drop in share prices that commenced on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange on 20 October 1987. As a result, the market in the fourth quarter of 1987 witnessed a sharp decline in

Stock exchange transactions

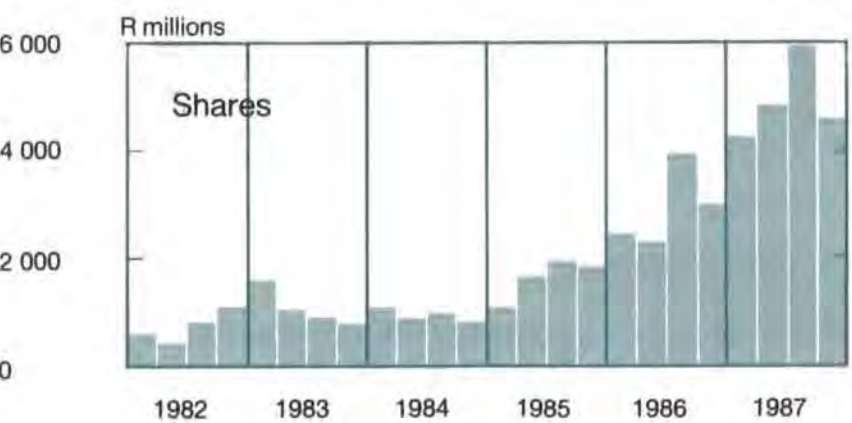


trading activity from the uncommonly high levels of preceding quarters. The value of public sector stock traded on the stock exchange fell back from its record level of R50,3 billion in the third quarter to R34,5 billion in the fourth quarter. Turnover in such stock during 1987 as a whole nevertheless still amounted to R165,2 billion, against R108,0 billion in the preceding year.

The value of shares traded on the stock exchange similarly contracted from R5,9 billion in the third quarter of 1987 to R4,6 billion in the fourth quarter. Share trading activity in the year 1987, at R19,5 billion, was, however, some 70 per cent higher than in 1986.

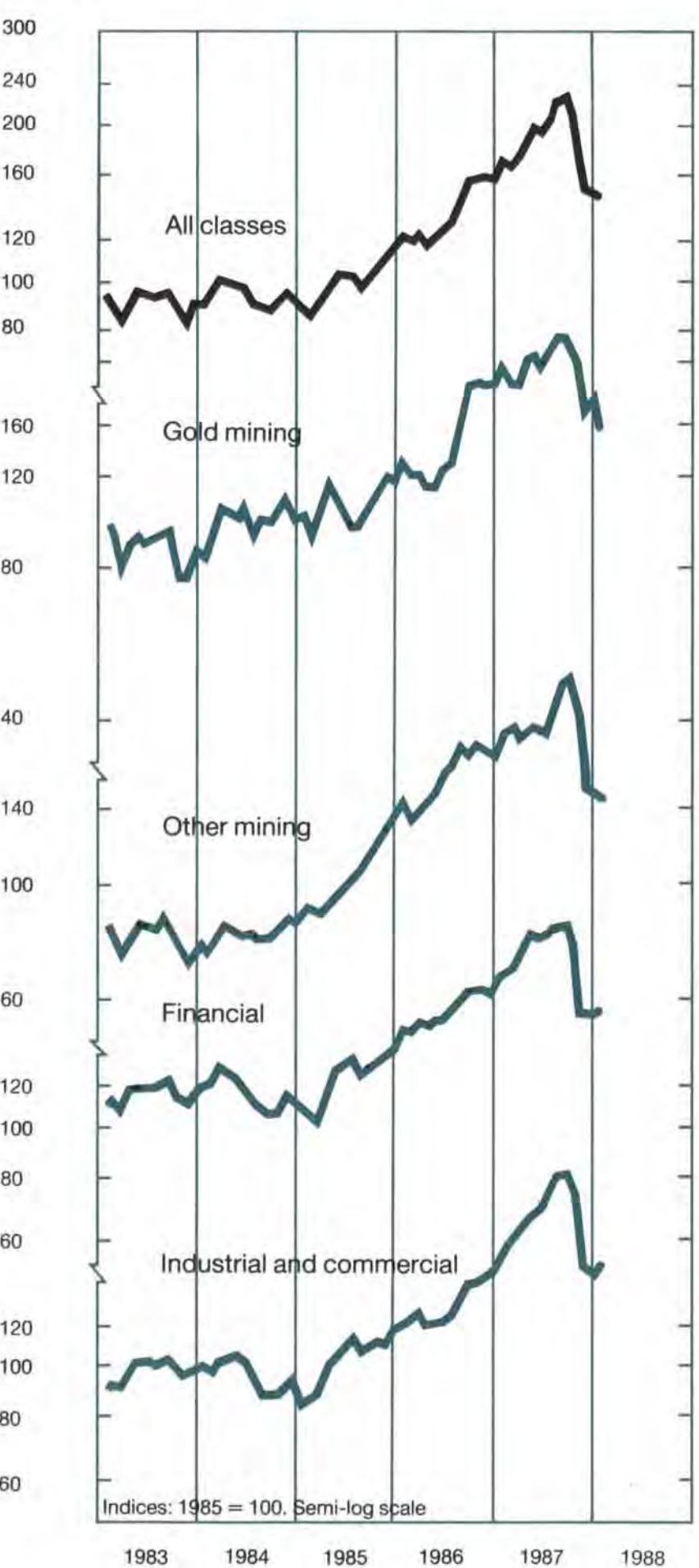
The average price level of all classes of shares advanced by 36 per cent in the first three quarters of

Stock exchange transactions



1987 but fell back by 33 per cent in the fourth quarter. As a result, the average level of these prices in the final two months of 1987 was about equal to that of the third quarter of 1986. Share prices in December 1987 nevertheless were only 9 per cent lower, on average, than in

Share prices



December of the preceding year. In January 1988 share prices declined further by an average of about 3 per cent.

The decline in share prices, in combination with the discount on the financial rand, induced foreigners to become net purchasers of South African stocks. Net sales of securities by non-residents on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange to the amount of R1 444 million in the first ten months of 1987 were transformed into net purchases to the amount of R228 million in the last two months of the year.

In the primary markets, new issues of fixed-interest-bearing securities by the public sector in the fourth quarter of 1987 amounted to only R0,3 billion, against R2,9 billion in the third quarter. This brought the total for 1987 to R4,5 billion, compared with R3,7 billion in 1986. However, new issues of fixed-interest-bearing securities and share capital by listed companies in the fourth quarter of 1987 amounted to as much as R217 million and R545 million, respectively, against R119 million and R294 million in the third quarter. The respective annual totals of these kinds of issues amounted to R0,5 billion and R2,0 billion in 1987, compared with R0,3 billion and R2,0 billion in 1986.

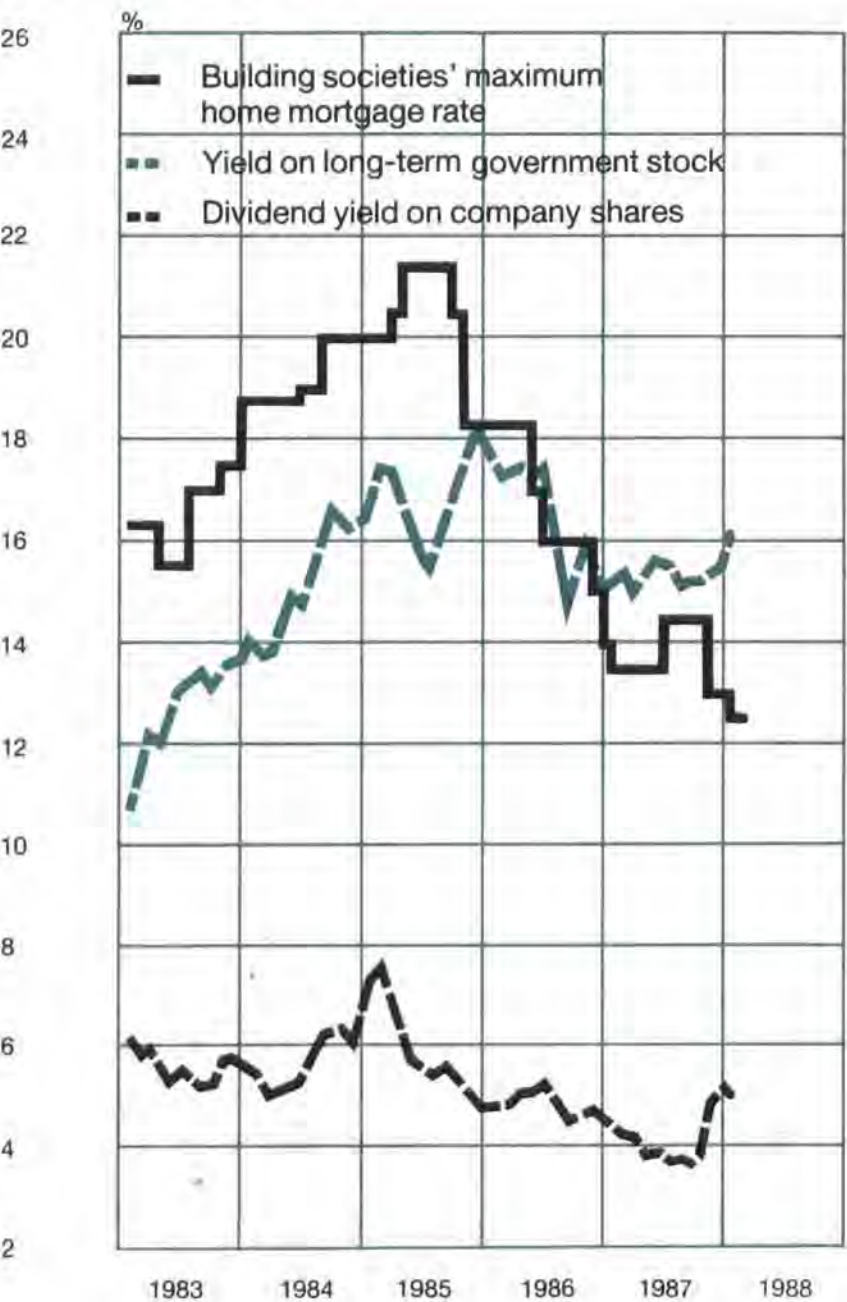
Sustained demand for mortgage finance allowed the building societies to maintain the amount of new mortgage loans paid out in the fourth quarter of 1987 at approximately its third-quarter level of R2,3 billion. The total amount of new loans paid out in 1987, at R8,9 billion, was R2,2 billion higher than in 1986. The value of real estate transactions in October, at R1,3 billion, showed little change from its monthly average level in the third quarter.

Long-term interest rates and yields

Long-term interest rates eased in the third quarter of 1987 on the basis of more favourable inflationary expectations and a more sanguine view of the Government's future borrowing needs. These rates firmed again, however, in the fourth quarter of 1987 in the wake of the slump in share prices from 20 October. The average yield on long-term government stock rose mildly from 15,2 per cent in September to 15,3 per cent in November and 15,5 per cent in December. However, continuing shifts in the general climate of expectations concerning future interest rate movements, the disappointing performance of the dollar price of gold in February, and lingering concern about the possible extent of the Government's budgetary deficits and borrowing requirements in fiscal 1987/88 and 1988/89, then caused this yield to rise further to a monthly average of 16,1 per cent in January 1988 and of 16,5 per cent in February.

Largely because of competition offered by certain major banks, the predominant mortgage rate on new loans as quoted by a major building society was reduced from 14,5 per cent to 12,95 per cent in August

Long-term interest rates



1987. This society, and others, subsequently reduced their mortgage rates to 13,5, 13,0 or, under certain conditions, 12,5 per cent from November. However, following the increase in Bank rate in early March 1988, building societies raised their mortgage rates, in certain cases, from 12,5 to 14,0 per cent on new loans, and to an overall range from 13,5 to 14,5 per cent.

The predominant interest rate on twelve-month deposits, which had been raised to 10,75 per cent by the building societies and to 10,5 per cent by the banks in July 1987, was maintained at these levels during the ensuing months. In January 1988 the banks raised their twelve-month deposit rate to 10,75 per cent. The building societies subsequently raised their rate on these deposits to 11,25 per cent in February.

Mirroring the precipitous decline in share prices from 20 October, the average dividend yield on all classes of shares rose from 3,6 per cent in September to 3,7 per

cent, 4,9 per cent and 5,1 per cent in October, November and December, respectively. Despite further share price declines, this yield then eased marginally to 5,0 per cent in January 1988.

Government finance

Outcome of Central Government Budget for fiscal 1987/1988

The deficit before borrowing for the fiscal year 1987/88, as reported by the Minister of Finance in his Budget speech of 16 March 1988, was expected to amount to R10 014 million, or to 5,8 per cent of gross domestic product. This may be compared with the deficit ratio of 4,9 per cent that had been envisaged in the Budget for 1987/88 as presented in June 1987. The eventual short-term stimulatory impact of the 1987/88 Budget therefore was significantly higher than had been anticipated in the Budget itself.

Exchequer issues to government departments in fiscal 1987/88 were estimated by the Minister to amount to R47 836 million. This would exceed the original Budget estimates by R968 million, or by 2,1 per cent. The increase in Exchequer issues in fiscal 1987/88 from actual issues in fiscal 1986/87 would amount to 18,9 per cent, representing an increase in real terms of approximately 5,0 per cent.

Total revenue receipts in fiscal 1987/88 were estimated by the Minister to amount to R37 822 million. They would, therefore, fall short of the original Budget estimates by R621 million. As shown in the accompanying table, lower-than-budgeted increases in revenues were recorded under almost all principal headings of tax revenues. Receipts from the mining sector were affected adversely by sharp cost increases, strikes and work stoppages, and a fall in coal exports. Income tax

State Revenue Fund – Revenue collections in 1987/88

	Budget ¹		Anticipated collections	
	R millions	Percentage change ²	R millions	Percentage change ²
Total collections from gold mines	3 150	–0,9	2 652	–16,6
Other income tax collections	18 850	20,0	18 340	16,8
General sales tax	9 925 ³	11,6	10 180	14,2
Customs and excise duties ⁴	3 595 ³	42,7	3 357	33,2
Other receipts ⁵	2 923	–31,8	3 293	–23,2
Total receipts	38 443	12,6	37 822	10,7

¹ Budget speech, June 1987
² Compared with actual collections during the 1986/87 fiscal year.
³ The original amounts of R10 700 million and R2 820 million were subsequently changed with the reallocation of R775 million in general sales tax to the item for the consolidated fuel levy.
⁴ Excluding transfers to neighbouring countries but including the surcharge on imports and the consolidated fuel levy introduced on 1 July 1987.
⁵ Including transfers from the Central Energy Fund.

collections from individuals also were somewhat lower than expected.

Total tax collections from non-mining companies, however, were close to the Budget estimates. Although general sales tax receipts were somewhat higher than had been foreseen in the Budget, lower-than-budgeted revenues for 1987/88 as a whole were expected from customs and excise duties because of a marked shortfall in the collections of the consolidated fuel levy relative to the adjusted Budget estimates.

The estimated deficit before borrowing and debt repayment of R10 014 million for fiscal 1987/88 was expected to be financed in the following way:

	R millions
Public Investment Commissioners (PIC)	4 103
New government stock issues	2 930
Non-marketable securities (net)	856
Foreign loans ¹ (net)	1 110
Short-term loans (net)	582
Use of available cash balances ²	433
	10 014

¹ Including funds from foreign deposits held with the PIC.

² Increase –; decrease +.

The 1988/89 Government Budget

In his presentation of the Budget for 1988/89 to Parliament on 16 March 1988, the Minister of Finance noted that the growth rate of the South African economy had improved significantly since 1986 and that prospects were good for further acceleration in overall economic activity. In these conditions, a more cautious and less expansionary approach to economic policy was indicated. It was important that a sound balance be obtained between, on the one hand, the need for securing the highest possible economic growth rate, and, on the other hand, an awareness of factors – such as the balance of payments, the limited availability of investment funds, and the rate of inflation – that were placing constraints on the capability for growth of the South African economy. Use should also be made of the special opportunity that had been created by the conjunction of more favourable economic factors for intensifying the fight against inflation. This should be made a matter, not only of the conduct of appropriate monetary and fiscal policies, but also of ending inflationary expectations and business pricing practices that caused inflationary expectations to become self-fulfilling prophecies. Further steps therefore were being considered by the Government to promote the proper functioning of the market mechanism and also to grant additional power to public “watchdog” bodies such as the Consumer Council and the Competition Board.

Apart from taking the short-term cyclical needs of the economy into account, the Budget for 1988/89 also introduced a number of profound structural adjustments to the tax system, as well as measures for the further implementation of appropriate controls over aggregate state spending. Examples of the latter included measures for the streamlining of the process of priority determination for capital expenditure as well as a move away from so-called “earmarked funds” that bypass the Exchequer, by channelling to the Exchequer parts of fuel levies that up to now had accrued to the Central Energy Fund and the National Road Fund.

As regards structural adjustments to the tax system, major changes to the present system were being made by giving effect to important tax reform proposals of the Commission of Inquiry into the Tax Structure of the Republic of South Africa (the Margo Commission). Further such reforms – including a conversion of the existing General Sales Tax into an invoice-based tax on value added that had been proposed by the Margo Commission as an alternative to the recommended introduction of a Comprehensive Business Tax – would be introduced in the Budget for fiscal 1989/90 or subsequent years.

With regard to the Government’s fiscal strategy for 1988/89, the Minister noted that the adjustment to be made in the fiscal policy area should fit in with the somewhat less accommodative stance of monetary policy that had already been adopted by the Reserve Bank. State expenditure was to be held within reasonable limits and should show a mild decline in real terms. Among various measures aimed at this result, a “standstill” had been introduced with regard to employment in the public sector, while pay increases in this sector in the new fiscal year generally were to be restricted to normal notch adjustments and limited occupation-specific increases in remuneration only. Budget deficits averaging approximately 3 per cent of gross domestic product over a period of years remained an important objective of policy, so as to ensure that the Government’s recourse to the capital market would not exert undue pressure on interest rates.

Government expenditure in fiscal 1988/89 as budgeted was to increase by 12,6 per cent and was expected to decrease mildly in real terms. Government revenue was estimated to rise by 16,3 per cent. Included in the estimate of revenue for 1988/89 were certain levies which previously had accrued to the Central Energy Fund and the National Road Fund.

Capital expenditure included in total expenditure was estimated to amount to R4 745 million, representing a slight increase of 2,4 per cent vis-a-vis the amount originally budgeted for in fiscal 1987/88. The deficit before borrowing was projected at R9 860 million, or approximately 4,9 per cent of gross domestic product. It was proposed that this deficit be financed in the following way:

	R millions
Revenue	44 005
Expenditure	53 865
Deficit (before borrowing)	9 860
Financing (net of debt repayment):	
Public Investment Commissioners (PIC)	4 600
New government stock issues	4 350
Non-marketable securities (net)	150
Debt standstill and foreign funds (net)	354
Short-term borrowing (net)	410
Available balances ¹	-4
Total	9 860

¹ Increase -; decrease +.

Budget of the South African Transport Services for 1988/89

In the Budget of the South African Transport Services for the financial year 1988/89, which was presented to Parliament on 24 February 1988, total revenue was estimated at R10 752 million. No increases were announced in domestic tariffs and fares. Including the amount of R577 million which was set aside for foreign exchange losses, operating expenditure in the 1988/89 financial year was estimated at R10 848 million. This represented an increase of R561 million, or 5,5 per cent, from the Budget for 1987/88 to the Budget for 1988/89. The resulting deficit in 1988/89 was accordingly estimated at R96 million, which may be compared with a budgeted deficit of R40 million and an anticipated actual deficit of R126 million in 1987/88. Capital expenditure in 1988/89 was estimated at R927 million, or R177 million more than had been provided for in the Budget for 1987/88.

Budget of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications for 1988/89

In the Budget of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications for the financial year 1988/89, which was presented to Parliament on 7 March 1988, operating expenditure was estimated at R4 102 million, representing an increase of some R330 million or 8,8 per cent over the preceding year. A further R333 million would be required for loan redemptions and other appropriations. Income in 1988/89 was estimated at R4 677 million, or 7,0 per cent more than in 1987/88. This would leave an operating surplus of R242 million. No increases in postal and telecommunications tariffs were therefore required. Capital expenditure was estimated at R1 595 million, or 1,5 per cent less than in 1987/88.

Kwartaalikse ekonomiese oorsig

Inleiding

Matige groei-koerse – ten spyte van die redelike krag van die onderliggende ekonomiese herstel sedert die middel van 1986 – is gedurende die tweede en die derde kwartaal van 1987 in die Suid-Afrikaanse ekonomie aangeteken. 'n Aansienlik gunstiger prentjie van 'n ekonomie in die gevorderde oplewingstadiums van 'n matige sikliese opswaai kon egter uit ontwikkelings in die vierde kwartaal waargeneem word. Die opmerklike verstewiging van die groei in die totale produksie in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 het deels 'n terugkeer na meer normale produksievlakke in die primêre sektore (landbou en mynbou) verteenwoordig. Dit is behaal ten spyte van 'n afplatting van die reële produksie in die fabriekswese op min of meer die hoë vlak van die voorafgaande kwartaal. Die meeste ander sekondêre en tersiêre bedrywighede het egter steeds stewige groei-koerse in hulle produksie getoon.

Die seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers van toename van bykans 5 persent in die reële bruto binnelandse produk gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1987 het die kwartaallike groei-koerse wat in die tweede helfte van 1986 aangeteken is, marginaal oorskry en was die hoogste sodanige koers wat sedert die laaste stadiums van die mini-opswaai van 1983-84 behaal is. Dit wil ook voorkom asof dit gepaard gegaan het met 'n klimaat van sake- en verbruikersentiment wat oor die algemeen meer positief was as wat in enige stadium gedurende die voorafgaande drie tot vier jaar in die Suid-Afrikaanse ekonomie ondervind is. Daar is aanduidings dat die vergelykenderwys sterk en stygende vlakke van sowel die binnelandse produksie as die binnelandse besteding in die eerste paar maande van 1988 voortgeduur het.

Die totale reële bruto binnelandse besteding het, nadat dit gedurende die eerste drie kwartale van 1987 sterk toegeneem het, aangehou om in die vierde kwartaal betreklik stewig te styg. Daar is steeds bestendige stygings in die reële private verbruiksbesteding aangeteken. Die totale reële bruto binnelandse vaste investering het in die derde kwartaal van 1987 slegs marginaal toegeneem maar in die vierde kwartaal indrukwekkend gestyg, hoofsaaklik as gevolg van die betreklik stewige prestasies van die vraag na vaste investering in die private sektor. Daar is gedurende sowel die derde as die vierde kwartaal van die jaar matige verdere toenames in die totale reële voorrade aangeteken.

Gedurende die kalenderjaar 1987 in sy geheel was die reële bruto binnelandse produk sowat $2\frac{1}{2}$ persent hoër as in 1986. Dit kan vergelyk word met reële groei-koerse van ongeveer 1 persent in 1986 en –1 persent in 1985. Die reële bruto nasionale produk het in 1987 met $3\frac{1}{2}$ persent gegroei, wat gelei het tot matige toenames in die reële bruto nasionale produk en in die

reële persoonlike beskikbare inkome per capita van die Suid-Afrikaanse bevolking. Dit het gunstig vergelyk met die betreklik aansienlike dalings wat gedurende die jare vanaf 1981 tot 1983 en weer gedurende 1985 en 1986 in die gemiddelde lewenspeil aangeteken is.

Die totale reële bruto binnelandse besteding in die kalenderjaar 1987 het die vlak daarvan in 1986 met bykans 5 persent oorskry en was in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 ongeveer 10 persent hoër as in die vierde kwartaal van 1986. Inbegrepe by die styging in die totale reële bruto binnelandse besteding van 1986 tot 1987 was jaar-tot-jaar toenames van onderskeidelik $3\frac{1}{2}$ persent en $5\frac{1}{2}$ persent in die reële private verbruiksbesteding en die reële owerheidsverbruiksbesteding. Die totale reële bruto binnelandse vaste investering het gedurende 1987 effens verder afgeneem nadat dit gedurende 1986 skerp gedaal het. Die reële *private* vaste investering het egter vir die eerste keer sedert 1981 'n toename in 'n volle kalenderjaar getoon.

In ooreenstemming met die bestendig stygende peil van die bruto binnelandse besteding en die hoër vlak van die reële produksiegroei in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 in die besonder, het die invoer van goedere in die vierde kwartaal aansienlik verder gestyg. 'n Opmerklike verdere verstewiging van die verdienste uit die goedere-uitvoer het egter tot gevolg gehad dat die oorskot op die lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans van 'n vlak van R5,5 miljard, teen 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers, in die derde kwartaal van 1987 tot R6,1 miljard in die vierde kwartaal toegeneem het. Die oorskot op die lopende rekening vir 1987 in sy geheel het R6,2 miljard bedra. Die afname in hierdie oorskot gedurende die jaar (vanaf R7,2 miljard in 1986) kon geheel en al aan 'n toename van 11 persent in die waarde van die goedere-invoer toegeskryf word.

Die kapitaalrekening van die betalingsbalans het gedurende 1987 dramaties verbeter. Afnames van R1,4 miljard in die uitvloeiing van langtermynkapitaal en R1,7 miljard in die uitvloeiing van korttermynkapitaal nie verwant aan reserwes nie, het meegebring dat die totale uitvloeiing van kapitaal nie verwant aan reserwes nie, gekrimp het van R6,1 miljard in 1986 tot slegs R3,1 miljard in 1987. Nie-inwoners was in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 vir die eerste keer sedert April 1985 netto aankopers van effekte wat op die Johannesburgse Effektebeurs genoteer word. Die totale netto uitvloeiing van kapitaal nie verwant aan reserwes nie het nogtans in die vierde kwartaal aansienlik gestyg.

Die netto terugbetalings op buitelandse laste verwant aan reserwes het van R2,3 miljard in 1986 tot R1,2 miljard in 1987 gekrimp. 'n Toename in hierdie soort laste is in die vierde kwartaal aangeteken.

Die totale bruto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes het, nadat dit in September en Oktober 1987 effens

afgeneem het, in November en Desember verder gedaal. Die bruto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes van die Reserwebank het vervolgens in Januarie 1988 beduidend herstel, maar in Februarie weer afgeneem.

Die effektiewe wisselkoers van die rand het van die begin tot aan die einde van die kalenderjaar 1987 per saldo met 3,1 persent geappresieer. Onder invloed van die groter sterkte van die VSA-dollar tot die middel van Februarie, die swakker verloop van die dollarprys van goud en 'n aanmerklik laer oorskot op die Suid-Afrikaanse handelsbalans in Januarie 1988, het die wisselkoers daarna tot en met 18 Maart 1988 egter met 7,2 persent gedaal.

Beduidende verdere afnames het gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1987 in die stygingskoerse van die verskillende prysindekse voorgekom en aansienlik laer inflasiekoerse is in die loop van die jaar aangeteken.

Op die gebied van monetêre en finansiële ontwikkelings is daar in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 skerp versnellings in die koerse van toename in die M3-geldvoorraad en in bank-krediet aan die private sektor aangeteken. Die koers van toename in M3 van die vierde kwartaal van 1986 tot die vierde kwartaal van 1987 het nietemin nog steeds gemaklik tussen die onderste en boonste grens van 14 en 18 persent van die mikpuntperk vir groei in M3 in die 1987-mikpuntjaar geval.

'n Nuwe mikpunt, wat van 12 tot 16 persent strek, is op 22 Februarie 1988 vir die koers van toename in M3 van die vierde kwartaal van 1987 tot die vierde kwartaal van 1988 deur die Reserwebank aangekondig. Die verlaging van die onderste en boonste grense van die 1988-mikpuntperk met 'n verdere twee persentasiepunte van wat dit in 1987 was, is deur die Bank verklaar as 'n aanduiding van "die monetêre owerhede se vasberadenheid om te voorkom dat oormatige geldskeping die duidelike afwaartse neiging in die inflasiekoers oor die afgelope twee jaar tot stilstand (sou) bring of omkeer". Die owerhede was van mening dat verwesenliking van die nuwe mikpunt sou strook met die gelyktydige bereiking van 'n versnelde groeikoers van 3 persent of hoër in die reële bruto binnelandse produk in die kalenderjaar 1988 en met 'n verdere geleidelike daling in die inflasiekoers.

Geldmarkrentekoerse het, nadat dit in die loop van die grootste deel van 1987 'n hoë mate van stabiliteit getoon het, gedurende Desember 1987 en in 1988 tot vroeg in Maart per saldo aansienlik verstewig. Die Bankkoers – dit wil sê die koers waarteen die Reserwebank skatkiswissels vir diskontohuise herdiskonteer – is met ingang van 9 Maart 1988 van 9,5 tot 10,5 persent verhoog. Dit was die eerste verandering in die Bankkoers sedert 10 Desember 1986 en die eerste verhoging daarvan sedert dit op 8 Januarie 1985 weer op 21,75 persent te staan gebring is. Dit het gepaard gegaan met 'n verhoging in die verrekeningsbanke se prima-oortrekkingskoers van 13 tot 14 persent.

In sy motivering van die verhoging van die Bankkoers

van 9 Maart het die President van die Reserwebank opgemerk dat dié verhoging beskou moes word as 'n regstreekse uitvloeisel van die opmerklke verbetering wat gedurende die afgelope aantal maande in die binnelandse ekonomiese toestand ingetree het. Die versterking van die ekonomie het aanleiding gegee tot skerp toenames in die vraag na bankkrediet, tot 'n opvallende versnelling van groei in die geldvoorraad, en tot stygings in die meeste rentekoerse. Alhoewel die verhoging van die Bankkoers deels 'n tegniese aanpassing by onlangse geldmarkontwikkelings was, het dit ook die aanvaarding van 'n minder akkommoderende monetêre beleidsingesteldheid aangedui. In die veranderde omstandighede wat nou geheers het, het die Bank se vroeëre akkommoderende beleidsingesteldheid 'n gevaar ingehou dat dit uiteindelik tot buitensporige stygings in die geldvoorraad en in binnelandse besteding aanleiding sou kon gee. Ten einde enige sodanige oorbesteding te voorkom en, meer spesifiek, om die koers van toename in M3 binne die 1988-mikpuntperk van 12 tot 16 persent te hou, het die Reserwebank besluit om die koers van sy eie kredietverlening te verlangsaam. Die verhoging van die Bankkoers was sowel 'n uitvloeisel as 'n integrale deel van hierdie minder akkommoderende strategie.

Gedurende die laaste drie maande van 1987 het die kapitaalmarkte opvallende afnames in die handelsbedrywigheid beleef vanaf die ongewoon hoe vlakke van voorafgaande kwartale. Langtermynopbrengs- en -rentekoerse het, op die hakke van die skerp daling in aandelepryse vanaf 20 Oktober op die Johannesburgse Effektebeurs en op basis van 'n verskuiwing in die algemene rentekoersverwagtings, gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1987 en in Januarie-Februarie 1988 verstewig.

Op die gebied van die staatsfinansies was die resultaat van fiskale beleid in 1987/88 selfs meer stimulerend as wat in die Begroting van Junie 1987 in die vooruitsig gestel is. Teenoor 'n begrote toename van 16,2 persent in nominale skatkisuitreikings, het hierdie uitreikings in 1987/88 met 'n geraamde 18,9 persent in nominale terme, of met 4,5 persent in reële terme, gestyg. Aan die ander kant was inkomste effens laer as die Begrotingsramings. Die tekort voor lenings as 'n verhouding van die bruto binnelandse produk het gevolglik 5,8 persent bedra, vergeleke met die Begrotingsraming van 4,7 persent.

'n Meer versigtige en 'n minder ekspansionistiese benadering is deur die Minister van Finansies vir die fiskale jaar 1988/89 in die vooruitsig gestel. In sy Begrotingsrede wat hy op 16 Maart 1988 in die Parlement gelewer het, het die Minister begroot vir 'n daling in reële owerheidsbesteding in die fiskale jaar 1988/89. In nominale terme het die Begroting voorsiening gemaak vir 'n toename van slegs 12,6 persent in besteding, 'n toename van 16,3 persent in inkomste en vir 'n tekort voor lenings van 4,9 persent van die bruto binnelandse pro-

duk. Verskeie strukturele veranderings aan die Suid-Afrikaanse belastingstelsel is, na aanleiding van aanbevelings deur die Margo-kommissie, deur die Minister in sy Begrotingsrede aangekondig. Verdere sulke veranderings sal in die volgende twee of drie fiskale jare in werking gestel word.

Die stukrag wat teen die vierde kwartaal van 1987 in die Suid-Afrikaanse ekonomie opgebou het, het in daardie stadium gelyk asof dit in staat sou wees om as basis te dien vir 'n reële groeikoers in die kalenderjaar 1988 van die orde van 2½ tot 3½ persent. Sedertdien het daar egter sekere ontwikkelings plaasgevind wat in aanmerking geneem moet word by 'n beoordeling van die groeivoorsigte vir die Suid-Afrikaanse ekonomie in 1988.

In die eerste plek het die wêreldwye skerp afwaartse aanpassing van aandelepryse vanaf die middel van Oktober 1987, alhoewel die meer onmiddellike uitwerking daarvan op die verbruiks- en investeringsgedrag en op die algemene groeiprestasies van die ekonomie van die wêreld se toonaangewende nywerheidslande beperk was, nietemin meegebring dat die meeste waarnemers hul voorspellings vir die ekonomiese groeikoerse van hierdie lande in 1988 met ongeveer ½ persentasiepunt verlaag het.

In die tweede plek sou die verswakking van die dollarprys van goud sedert die middel van Desember 1987, wat die tydelike daling tot benede \$430 per fyn ons laat in Februarie 1988 ingesluit het, byna seker 'n afwaartse hersiening vereis van die verwagte gemiddelde dollarprys van goud in 1988 vanaf die vlakke wat vroeër in die vooruitsig gestel is.

In die derde plek wil dit voorkom of die algemene opwaartse neiging in wêreldkommoditeitspryse vanaf laat in 1986 en regdeur 1987 moontlik nie die hele 1988 volgehou sal word nie.

In die vierde plek het die opeenvolging van droogtes en oorstromings, wat in onlangse maande in uitgestrekte dele van Suid-Afrika se somerreënvalgebiede voorgekom het, aanleiding gegee tot 'n verlaging van die ramings van someroeste.

Daar is nietemin tans aanduidings dat die stewiger neiging in binnelandse produksie en besteding steeds onaangepas is.

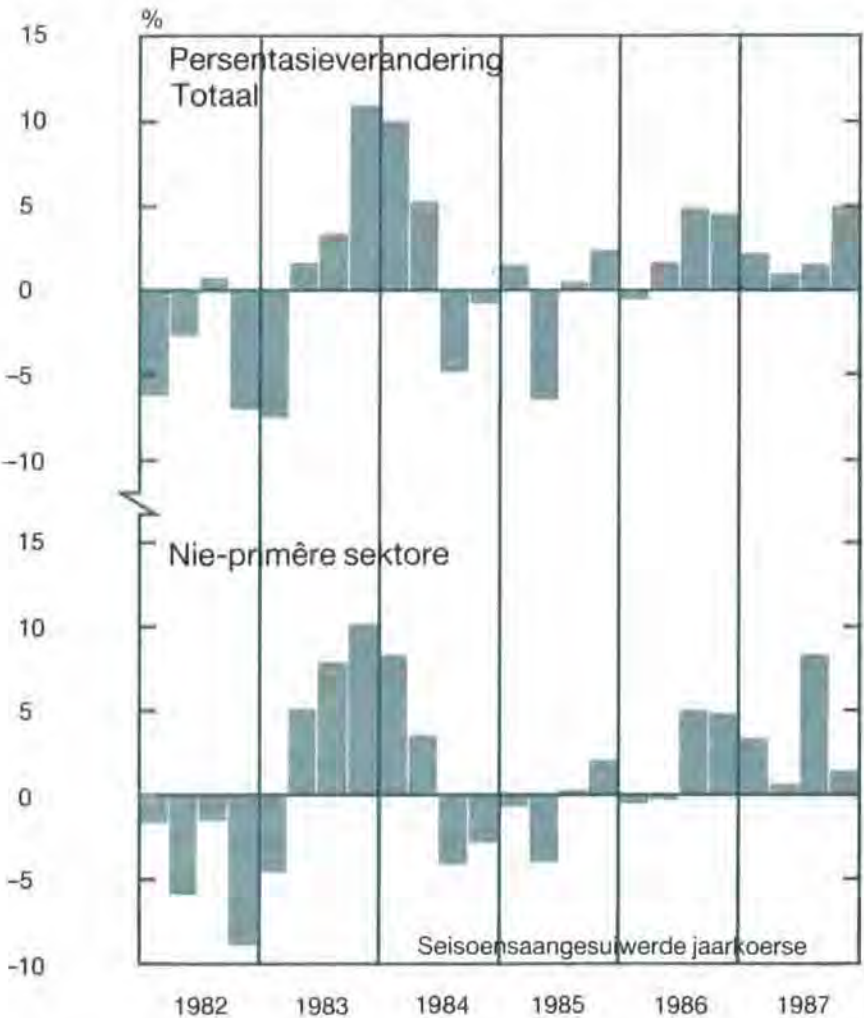
Binnelandse ekonomiese ontwikkelings

Binnelandse produksie

Teleurstellend stadige groei van die reële bruto binnelandse produk teen jaarkoerse van 1 en 1½ persent in die tweede en die derde kwartaal van 1987 was gedeeltelik aan nie-sikliese faktore toeskryfbaar. Dit het die buitengewoon groot aantal nie-werksdae in die tweede kwartaal en die terugslae in die landbou- en mynbouproduksie in die derde kwartaal ingesluit. 'n Aansienlik gunstiger prentjie van 'n ekonomie in die gevorderde-herstelfases van 'n matige sikliese opswaai kon egter uit ontwikkelings in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 waargeneem word.

Hersiene ramings, waarin 1985 as basisjaar gebruik is vir die meting van groothede teen konstante pryse, toon dat die jaarkoerse van toename in die reële bruto binnelandse produk in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 'n vlak van bykans 5 persent bereik het. Dit was die sewende opeenvolgende kwartaallikse toename in die reële bruto binnelandse produk sedert die taamlik skerp onderbreking van die herstel in reële ekonomiese bedrywigheid in die eerste kwartaal van 1986.

Reële bruto binnelandse produk



Toenames in reële produksie het in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 in al die hoofsektore van die ekonomie, met uitsondering van fabrieksproduksie, voorgekom. Die meer opvallende toenames in produksie is in die sektore landbou, mynbou en handel en in die vervoer-, opberging- en kommunikasiesektor aangeteken. Landbouproduksie is deur 'n rekordkoringoes opgestoot. Die toegevoegde waarde van die mynbousektor het in die vierde kwartaal herstel van die afname in produksie in die derde kwartaal wat meegebring is deur die staking in 'n belangrike deel van die goudmynboubedryf in Augustus.

Toenames in reële toegevoegde waarde in die handelssektor was 'n weerspieëling van die verbeterde toestand in al die hoofonderafdelings van die sektor, naamlik die groot-, klein- en motorhandel, verversing en akkommodasie. Die hoër produksievlakke in die meeste handelsbedrywighede was klaarblyklik die gevolg van 'n verdere verstewiging van die binnelandse finale vraag en die toenemende vlakke van die invoer en uitvoer. Toenames in die bedrywighede in die vervoerwese is klaarblyklik aangemoedig deur onlangse veranderings in wetgewing wat die geleenthede vir en die bewegingsvryheid van vervoerkontrakteurs in die private sektor verbreed het.

In teenstelling met die vierde kwartaal se verbetering in die produksievlakke van ander sektore, het die reële produksie in die fabriekswesesektor, wat in die derde kwartaal van 1987 skerp gestyg het, in die vierde kwartaal bykans geen verandering getoon nie. Dit was grotendeels toe te skryf aan die vloedskade in Natal laat in September 1987, wat ontwigting in sekere produksiebedrywighede in daardie gebied veroorsaak het en ook die gewone toevoer van voorrade na en van die binneland belemmer het. Uitstekende produksieprestasies deur verskeie subsektore van die vervaardigingsbedryf, soos basiese metale en masjinerie en toerusting, het

nie daarin geslaag om die dalings in die produksie in sekere ander subsektore, soos voedsel, papier en chemikalieë, ten volle te neutraliseer nie.

Met uitsondering van die primêre sektore (landbou en mynbou), is betekenisvol hoër vlakke van reële produksie in die kalenderjaar 1987 deur alle hoofsektore van die ekonomie behaal wanneer dit met kalenderjare 1985 en 1986 vergelyk word. Die totale nie-primêre produksie in reële terme was in 1987 bykans 3½ persent hoër as in die voorafgaande jaar. Die gemiddelde groei in die reële produksie van die nie-primêre sektore het in 1986 slegs 1 persent en in 1985 -1½ persent beloop.

Die totale reële bruto binnelandse produk was in 1987 sowat 2½ persent hoër as in 1986. Soos in die geval van die totale reële nie-primêre produksie, het hierdie taamlik matige jaar-tot-jaar-groeiakoers in die totale reële produksie nietemin 'n betekenisvolle verbetering op reële groeiakoerse van ongeveer 1 persent in 1986 en -1 persent in 1985 verteenwoordig.

Die reële bruto *nasionale* produk het in 1987 met 3½ persent toegeneem. Die betekenisvol hoër groeiakoers in die reële bruto nasionale produk as in die reële bruto binnelandse produk in die loop van 1987 was toe te skryf aan 'n verbetering in die ruilvoet (dit wil sê in die verhouding van uitvoerpryse tot invoerpryse) en aan 'n afname van ongeveer 10 persent in netto faktorbetalings aan die res van die wêreld. Hierdie opvallende afname in die totale faktorvergoeding wat betaal is aan die nie-inwoner eienaars van produktiewe hulpbronne wat in die Suid-Afrikaanse ekonomie aangewend word, het hoofsaaklik die dalende bedrag van die land se buitelandse skuld en die gevolglike afnames in die netto rentebetalinge aan buitelanders weerspieël.

Die toename van 3½ persent in die reële bruto nasionale produk in 1987 was aanmerklik hoër as die bevolkingsgroeiakoers. Die lewenstandaard van die gemiddelde Suid-Afrikaner het gevolglik gedurende die jaar 'n bietjie verbetering getoon. Dit vergelyk gunstig met die betreklik skerp afnames in die gemiddelde lewenstandaard in die jare 1981 tot 1983, en weer in 1985 en 1986.

Binnelandse besteding

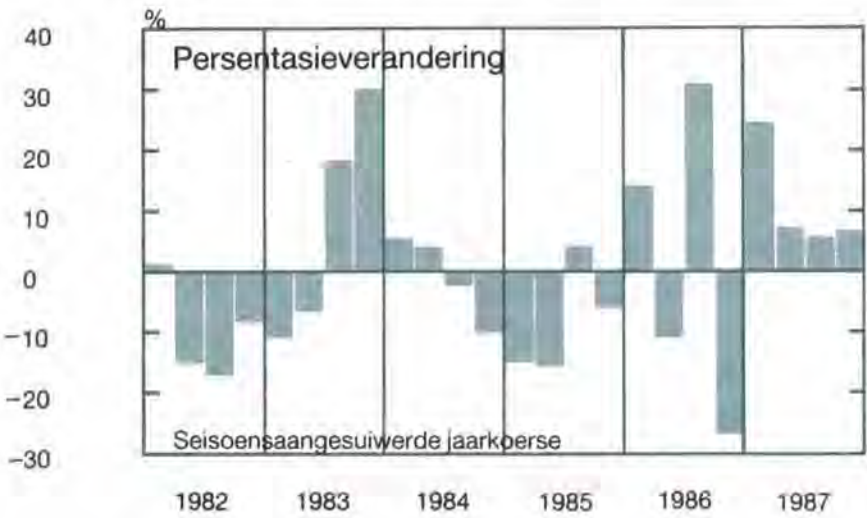
Na herhaalde veranderings in rigting in die tweede helfte van 1985 en regdeur 1986, het kwartaallikse veranderinge in die totale reële bruto binnelandse besteding in 1987 'n meer bestendige opwaartse verloop getoon. Die mees onlangse ramings toon dat die totale reële bruto binnelandse besteding in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 teen 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers van 6½ persent toegeneem het. Dit het gevolg op sterk kwartaal-tot-kwartaal-toenames teen seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoerse van meer as 24 persent en van ongeveer 7½ persent en 5½ persent in onderskeidelik die eerste, die tweede en die derde kwartaal van 1987.

Die totale reële bruto binnelandse besteding was in

Persentasieverandering in reële produksie			
	1985	1986	1987
Primêre sektore	2½	2	-1½
Landbou	8½	16	2½
Mynbou	½	-3	-3
Nie-primêre sektore	-1½	1	3½
Fabriekswese	-3½	1½	4
Konstruksie	-7	-3½	3
Elektrisiteit, gas en water	6½	2½	4½
Handel	-5	-3	4
Algemene owerheidsdienste	½	3	4
Ander dienste*	-	1½	2½
BBP teen markpryse	-1	1	2½
BNP teen markpryse	-1	1	3½

*Vervoer en kommunikasie; finansies, versekering, vaste eiendom en sakedienste; en "ander" gemeenskaps-, maatskaplike en persoonlike dienste.

Reële bruto binnelandse besteding



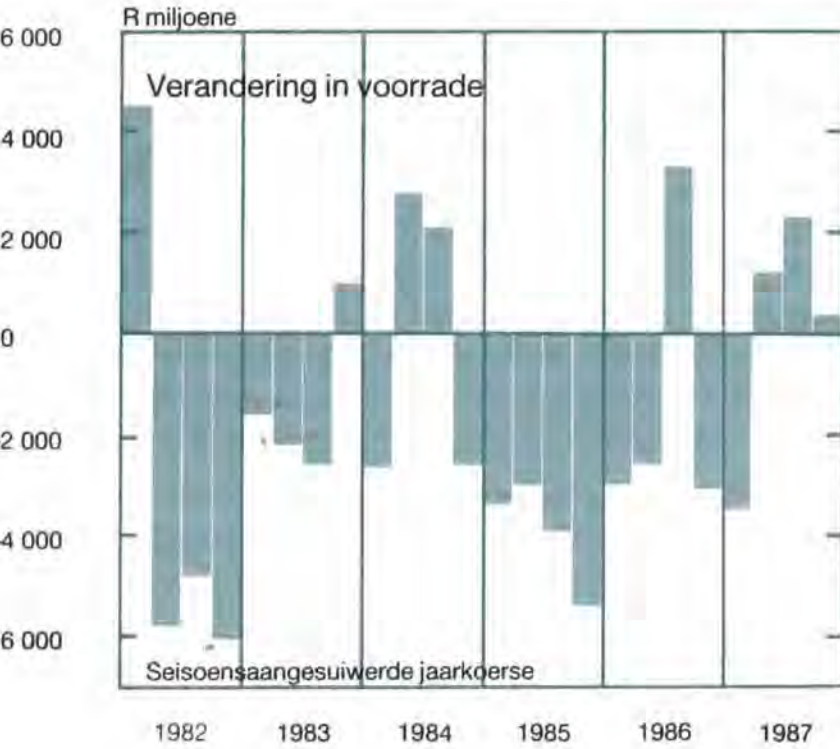
die vierde kwartaal van 1987 meer as 10 persent hoër as in die vierde kwartaal van 1986. Vanaf die kalenderjaar 1986 tot die kalenderjaar 1987 het die toename in die totale reële bruto binnelandse besteding bykans 5 persent beloop. Dit kan vergelyk word met 'n toename van slegs 1 persent in 1986 en 'n afname van soveel as 8½ persent in 1985.

Betekenisvolle toenames is in 1987 in al die hoofkomponente van reële bruto binnelandse besteding gemeet. Die reële private verbruiksbesteding was in die kalenderjaar 1987 3½ persent hoër as in die voorgaande jaar. Die seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoers van toename in die laaste kwartaal van 1987 – wat 'n voortsetting verteenwoordig het van die betreklik bestendige opwaartse neigings in sodanige besteding sedert die tweede kwartaal van 1986 – het 4 persent beloop. Opmerkbare toenames, hoofsaaklik in besteding aan persoonlike vervoertoerusting, meubels en huishoudelike toestelle, klerasie en verskeie verbruikersdienste, is in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 aangeteken.

Totale reële private verbruiksbesteding is in 1987 ondersteun deur 'n effense toename in reële persoonlike beskikbare inkome per capita nadat opmerkbare afnames in die per capita-inkome in 1985 en 1986 aangeteken is. Dit is ook aangemoedig deur 'n styging, in nominale terme, in die vermoë van huishoudings om lenings aan te gaan, 'n versterkte gevoel van sekuriteit en stabiliteit, voortgesette lae rentekoersvlakke indien die heersende inflasiekoers in berekening gebring word, en 'n afname in die weerstand teen 'n hernieude toename in die skuld van huishoudings. In die geval van duursame verbruiksbesteding het die afskaffing van invoeraksynsbelasting in Mei 1987 en die instelling van 'n bykomende televisiediens bygedra om die nuwe sowel as die vervangingsvraag na televisiestelle te versterk.

Reële verbruiksbesteding deur die algemene owerheid het in 1987 met soveel as 5½ persent toegeneem.

Hoofkomponente van reële bruto binnelandse besteding



Toenames het in 1985 en 1986 onderskeidelik slegs 1 en 1½ persent bedra. 'n Opmerkbare koers van toename in die reële arbeidsvergoeding van die algemene owerheid in 1987 – hoofsaaklik as gevolg van hoër indiensnemingsvlakke in die openbare sektor – is in werklikheid oortref deur die koers van toename in besteding aan goedere en nie-arbeidsdienste. Nadat dit in die derde kwartaal van 1987 skerp gedaal het, was die totale reële owerheidsverbruiksbesteding in die tweede helfte van 1987 nietemin nog steeds ongeveer 8 persent hoër as in die ooreenstemmende tydperk van 1986.

Reële bruto binnelandse vaste investering het in die eerste helfte van 1987 gedaal en in die derde kwartaal slegs marginaal toegeneem. Daarná het dit egter in die vierde kwartaal indrukwekkend gestyg teen 'n jaar-koers van ongeveer 18 persent. Gedurende die jaar 1987 in sy geheel het totale reële vaste investering slegs effens verder gekrimp met 1½ persent, na 'n skerp daling van 17½ persent in die kalenderjaar 1986.

Die opvallende herstel van totale reële vaste investering in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 was gegrond op 'n groter vastekapitaalbesteding deur die private sektor, openbare owerhede en openbare korporasies. Opmerkbare stygings is in die private sektor se vastekapitaalvorming in die landbou, mynbou, handel en finansies aangeteken. Die toenames in reële vaste investering wat gedurende die eerste drie kwartale van 1987 in die private fabriekswese waargeneem is, het in die vierde kwartaal verlangsaam. Reële vaste investering deur die private fabriekswese het nietemin van 1986 tot 1987 met 9 persent toegeneem, ná 'n skerp daling van ongeveer 30 persent in 1986.

Die styging in die vaste investering in die private fabriekswese, tesame met 'n laer koers van afname in reële konstruksie van private woongeboue en 'n toename in kapitaalbesteding gefinansier deur huurkontrakte, was die belangrikste faktor wat meegebring het dat die totale reële bruto vaste investering deur die private sektor in 1987 sy eerste jaarlikse toename sedert 1981 getoon het. Die verhoogde vlak van reële bruto vaste investering in die fabriekswese het egter nog nie 'n werklike verhoging in die fabriekswese se produksiekapasiteit tot gevolg gehad nie. Die reële vastekapitaalvoorraad in die fabriekswese het in werklikheid in 1987 verder gedaal met ongeveer 3 persent.

Toenames in reële vaste investering deur die openbare sektor in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 is aangeteken deur departemente van die algemene owerheid, die Suid-Afrikaanse Vervoerdienste en openbare korporasies. Vir 1987 in sy geheel het die vastekapitaalvorming deur openbare sake-ondernemings en openbare korporasies egter steeds aansienlik gedaal. Reële vaste investering deur die algemene owerheid het in 1987 opmerklik gestyg vanaf sy 1986-vlak.

Totale reële voorrade wat in die tweede kwartaal van 1987, vir slegs die tweede keer sedert die middel-1984 toegeneem het, het in die derde en die vierde kwartaal verder gestyg. Per saldo het dit gedurende 1987 in sy geheel ook effens gestyg. Die toename in die totale reële voorrade in die vierde kwartaal was hoofsaaklik toe te skryf aan die opbouing van voorrade deur mynbou, fabriekswese en die groot- en kleinhandel. Die verhouding van nywerheids- en handelsvoorrade tot die bruto binnelandse produk in die nie-landbousektore van die ekonomie het egter in die derde en die vierde kwartaal van 1987 nog nie beduidend bo die historiese vlak van ongeveer 19 persent gestyg nie.

Faktorinkome

Die koers van toename in totale produksie teen faktorkoste het van 16 persent in 1986 slegs effens tot 18 persent in die kalenderjaar 1987 gestyg. Die groei in totale nominale faktorinkome het egter skerp versnel van 'n jaarkoers van 13½ persent in die derde kwartaal van 1987 tot 'n koers van 24½ persent in die vierde kwartaal. Dit was, soos reeds aangedui, in 'n groot

mate 'n weerspieëling van die terugkeer na meer normale toestande in die primêre sektore van die ekonomie ná die terugslae wat in die derde kwartaal ondervind is.

Die versnelde toename in totale faktorvergoeding in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 is hoofsaaklik deur skerp toenames in die bruto bedryfsurplusse, dit wil sê in nie-arbeidsvergoeding verklaar. Beter maatskappyresultate is in bykans alle sektore van die ekonomie aangeteken. Die totale bedryfsurplus het in die vierde kwartaal met ongeveer 22½ persent toegeneem, teenoor 'n toename van 4½ persent in die voorafgaande drie maande.

Die koers van toename van 18 persent in die totale bruto bedryfsurplus in die kalenderjaar 1987 was naastenby gelyk aan die koers van toename in die bedryfsurplus in 1986. 'n Afplating in die koers van toename in die pryse van kapitaalgoedere en die skerp besnoeiing in reële kapitaalbesteding gedurende die afgelope aantal jare het hulself egter laat geld in 'n merkbare verlangsaaming in die koers van toename in die voorsiening vir waardevermindering. As gevolg van hierdie verlangsaaming het die koers van toename in die totale *netto* bedryfsurplus in werklikheid skerp gestyg tot ongeveer 23 persent in 1987, vanaf 12½ persent in 1985 en 13½ persent in 1986.

Die koers van toename in die totale nominale arbeidsvergoeding het ook van die derde tot die vierde kwartaal van 1987 beduidend gestyg. Van die vierde kwartaal van 1986 tot die vierde kwartaal van 1987 het die aandeel van arbeidsvergoeding in totale toegevoegde waarde slegs effens van 56½ tot 57 persent toegeneem. In die huidige stand van die konjunktueursiklus moet hierdie baie geringe toename in die verhouding van arbeidsvergoeding tot totale faktorinkome in 'n sekere mate as buitengewoon beskou word. 'n Meer opmerkbare toename in die aandeel van arbeidsvergoeding in die totale faktorinkome was 'n gereelde kenmerk van die meer gevorderde stadium van 'n sikliese opswaai in die Suid-Afrikaanse ekonomie in die na-oorlogse tydperk.

Binnelandse besparing

Die verhouding van die bruto binnelandse besparing tot die bruto binnelandse produk het in 1987 ietwat verder na 23½ persent gedaal van 25 persent in 1986. Die effense verdere verswakking van die ekonomie se spaarprestasie was hoofsaaklik toe te skryf aan 'n groter tekort van die lopende inkome van die algemene owerheid teenoor lopende owerheidsbesteding. Die saldo van lopende owerheidsinkome bó lopende owerheidsbesteding het oor die laaste aantal jare geleidelik van 'n oorskot van R2 miljard in 1980 na 'n tekort van R3,6 miljard in 1987 verander.

Persoonlike besparing (of besparing deur private huishoudings) het in 1987 min of meer proporsioneel met die toename in persoonlike beskikbare inkome ge-

durende die jaar in sy geheel gestyg. Die gemiddelde persoonlike besparingsverhouding van 3 persent in 1987 het derhalwe bykans geen verandering van die vlak van hierdie verhouding in 1986 getoon nie. In die derde en die vierde kwartaal van 1987 het die huishoudings se gebruik van lenings vir die finansiering van verbruiksbesteding egter meegebring dat die gemiddelde persoonlike besparingsverhouding verder tot so laag as 2½ persent gedaal het.

Netto maatskappybesparing het in 1987 sterk gestyg. Dit was 'n aanduiding van die opmerklieke styging in die bruto bedryfsurplus van sake-ondernemings en die verlaagde koers van toename in die voorsiening vir waardevermindering, vanwee die redes hierbo genoem. Voorsiening vir waardevermindering het in 1987 met 12 persent toegeneem, teenoor toenames van 21 persent in 1985 en 26 persent in 1986.

Werkverskaffing

Die totale werkverskaffing in die nie-landbousektore van die ekonomie het in 1986 slegs effens met 0,3 persent toegeneem maar in die eerste drie kwartale van 1987 ietwat sterker, met 1,2 persent, vergeleke met die ooreenstemmende tydperk in 1986. Gedurende die tweede en die derde kwartaal van 1987 het dit teen seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoerse van onderskeidelik 3,2 en 1,2 persent toegeneem. Inligting vir die vierde kwartaal toon 'n matige verdere toename van indiensname in die fabriekswese en die konstruksiebedryf teen seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoerse van onderskeidelik 2,2 en 2,5 persent.

Die matige verdere verstewiging in die vraag na arbeid in die fabriekswese en die konstruksiebedryf is deur 'n styging in die verhouding van oortyd tot gewone ure gewerk in hierdie sektore bevestig. Dié verhouding het vanaf die derde tot die vierde kwartaal van 1987 toegeneem van 7,6 tot 8,7 persent in die geval van die konstruksiebedryf en van 11,1 tot 11,8 persent in die geval van die fabriekswese.

Die totale aantal geregistreerde werkloses, wat vanselfsprekend naas die huidige verstewiging van ekonomiese bedrywigheid ook die uitwerking van ander faktore weerspieël, het gedurende 1987 in die breë voortgegaan om te skommel rondom die vlakke wat laat in 1985 en 1986 behaal is. Dié aantal het in Mei 1987 tot 121 400 gedaal maar daarna in September tot 139 400 toegeneem. Na 'n afname tot 129 700 in November het dit weer gestyg tot 133 800 in Desember. Die geregistreerde werkloosheid onder die nie-Swart werkers het egter betekenisvol verminder van 83 400 in September 1986 tot 64 800 in Desember 1987. Die Lopende Bevolkingsopname het getoon dat die Swart werkloosheid van Julie 1986 tot September 1987 van 1 181 000 tot 922 000, of van 19,9 tot 14,5 persent van die Swart arbeidsmag, gedaal het.

Arbeidskoste en produktiwiteit

Hersiene ramings toon dat die gemiddelde nominale bedrag van salarisse en lone per werker in die nie-landbousektore van die ekonomie in 1986 en in die eerste drie kwartale van 1987 (vergeleke met die eerste drie kwartale van 1986) met ongeveer dieselfde koerse, naamlik 14,3 en 14,1 persent onderskeidelik, toegeneem het. Die gemiddelde reële loon per werker het in 1986 met 3,8 persent afgeneem en in die eerste drie kwartale van 1987 met 'n verdere 2,0 persent.

Arbeidsproduktiwiteit in die nie-landbousektore van die ekonomie het in 1986 met 0,7 persent gedaal maar in die eerste drie kwartale van 1987 met 0,9 persent gestyg. Die verbetering in die arbeidsproduktiwiteit in 1987 het voorgekom nieteenstaande 'n skerp toename in verlore man-dae as gevolg van die verhoogde vakunie-bedrywigheide. Die getal man-dae wat as gevolg van nywerheidsgeskille verloor is, het van 1,3 miljoen in die kalenderjaar 1986 tot 5,8 miljoen in die kalenderjaar 1987 toegeneem.

Die effense verbetering in die arbeidsproduktiwiteit was ook die belangrikste faktor in die verklaring van die verlangsamings in die koers van toename in die arbeids-eenheidskoste van 15,0 persent in 1986 tot 13,1 persent in die eerste nege maande van 1987.

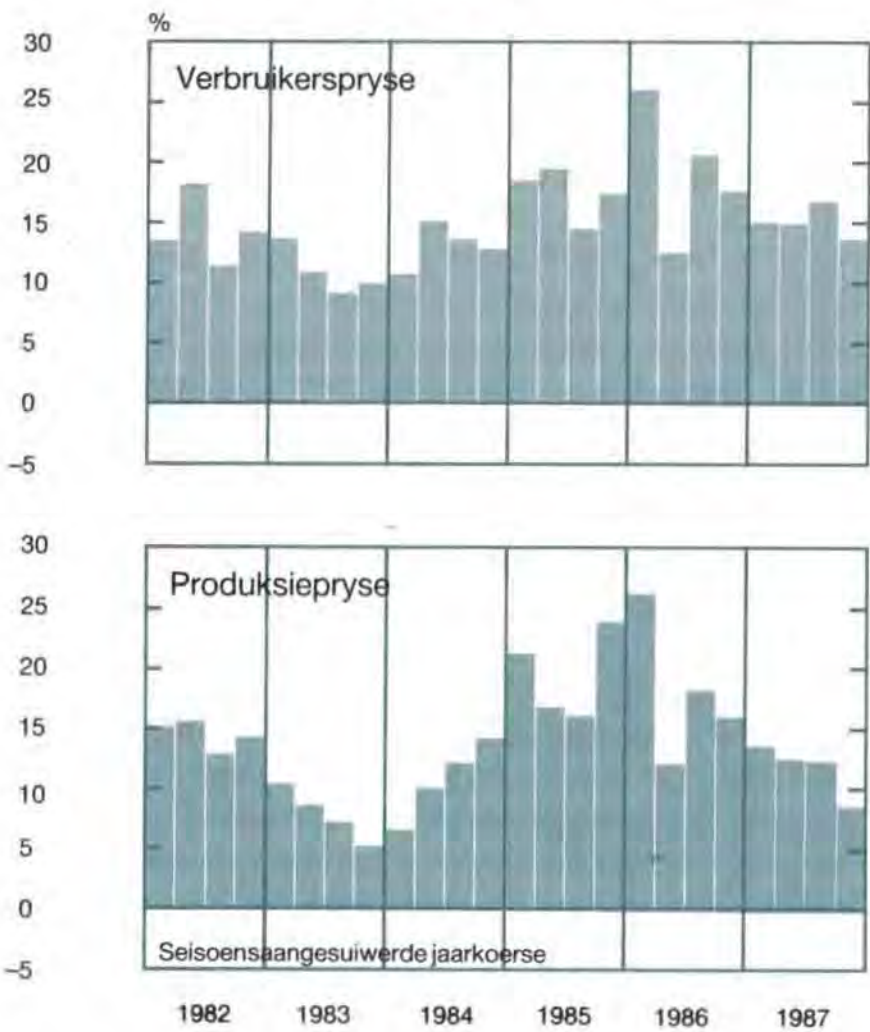
Pryse

Groot vordering is gedurende die kalenderjaar 1987 gemaak om die inflasiekoers te verlaag. Die jaar-tot-jaar styging in die gemiddelde vlak van die verbruikersprysindeks het van 18,6 persent in 1986 tot 16,1 persent in 1987 verlangsaam. Op dieselfde wyse gemeet het die koers van toename in die produksieprysindeks van 19,6 persent in 1986 tot 13,9 persent in 1987 verminder.

Die kwartaal-tot-kwartaal verandering in die gemiddelde vlak van die verbruikersprysindeks het, teen seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoerse, opmerklik verlangsaam van 'n piek van 26,0 persent in die eerste kwartaal van 1986 tot onderskeidelik 15,1, 15,0 en 16,9 persent in die eerste drie kwartale van 1987, en verder tot 13,7 persent in die vierde kwartaal. Die twaalfmaandekoers van toename in verbruikerspryse het verminder van 15,5 persent in Oktober 1987 tot 15,0 en 14,7 persent in November en Desember onderskeidelik, waarna dit in Januarie 1988 verder tot slegs 14,2 persent gedaal het.

Die kwartaal-tot-kwartaal verandering in die produksieprysindeks teen seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoerse, het selfs vinniger gedaal van sy piek van 26,3 persent in die eerste kwartaal van 1986 tot 12,5 persent in die derde kwartaal van 1987 en tot slegs 8,7 persent in die vierde kwartaal. Die twaalfmaandekoers van toename in hierdie indeks het van sy hoogtepunt van 16,1 persent in April 1987 tot 'n laagtepunt van 11,3 persent in Desember gedaal. Dit was die laagste vlak wat in hier-

Persentasieverandering in pryse



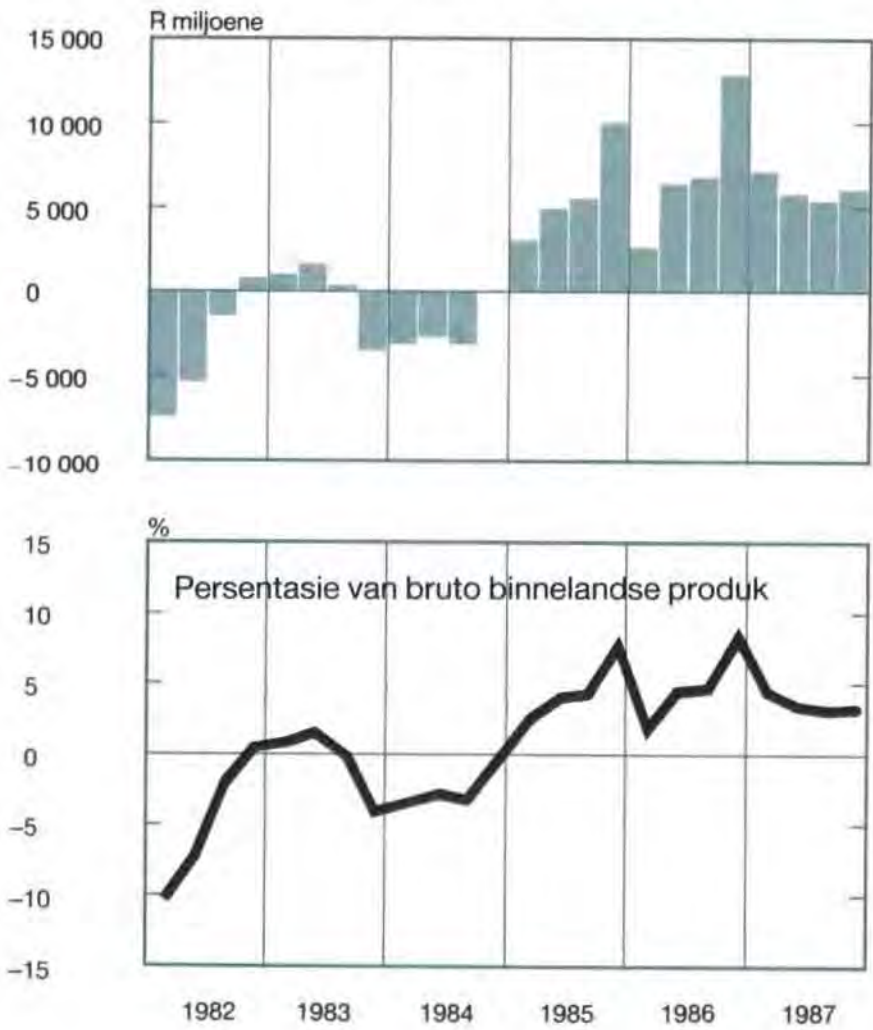
die groeikoers aangeteken is sedert die koers van 11,0 persent wat in November 1984 waargeneem is. In Januarie 1988 het dit egter weer tot 11,8 persent toegeneem.

Betalingsbalans

Lopende rekening

'n Oorskot op lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans is in 1987 vir die derde opeenvolgende kalenderjaar aangeteken. Hierdie oorskot is behaal ten spyte van die algemeen stygende vlak van binnelandse ekonomiese bedrywigheid en die verstewiging van die totale binnelandse monetêre vraag in die loop van die jaar, en ten spyte van die toepassing van internasionale

Betalingsbalans: Saldo op lopende rekening



Lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans
Seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoerse
R miljoene

	1986	1987				
		1e kw	2e kw	3e kw	4e kw	Jaar
Goedere-uitvoer	25 048	23 882	24 468	24 810	27 424	25 146
Netto gouduitvoer	16 719	18 390	17 043	17 911	17 824	17 792
Goedere-invoer	-25 514	-26 409	-27 370	-28 817	-30 684	-28 320
Netto dienste- en oordragbetalings	-9 057	-8 631	-8 305	-8 424	-8 504	-8 466
Saldo op lopende rekening	7 196	7 232	5 836	5 480	6 060	6 152

sanksies op uitgesoekte Suid-Afrikaanse uitvoergoedere. Die oorskot het boonop steeds soveel as R6,2 miljard, of 3,7 persent van die bruto binnelandse produk bedra, vergeleke met oorskotte van R5,9 miljard (4,9 persent van die bruto binnelandse produk) in 1985 en van R7,2 miljard (5,2 persent van die bruto binnelandse produk) in 1986.

Die daling in die oorskot op lopende rekening vanaf die kalenderjaar 1986 tot die kalenderjaar 1987 is hoofsaaklik deur 'n aansienlike styging in die waarde van die goedere-invoer teweeggebring. Die waarde van die goedere-uitvoer het van 1986 tot 1987 min verandering getoon. Die netto gouduitvoer het slegs matig toegeneem. 'n Betekenisvolle daling is egter in netto dienste- en oordragbetalings aan buitelanders aangeteken.

Die waarde van die goedere-invoer was in 1987 11 persent hoër as in 1986. By hierdie styging was ingesluit toenames van sowat 4½ persent in die invoervolume en van omtrent 6½ persent in die gemiddelde vlak van invoerpryse. Aansienlike toenames is in die invoer van tekstiele, vervoertoerusting, mineraalprodukte, plastiese materiaal en masjinerie en elektriese toerusting aangeteken.

Die netto gouduitvoer was in 1987 sowat 6½ persent hoër as in 1986. Hierdie toename is meer as ten volle verklaar deur 'n hoër gemiddelde randprys van goud in

die loop van die jaar. Die volume van die gouduitvoer het in werklikheid vir die derde opeenvolgende jaar gedaal, wat 'n weerspieëling was van 'n verdere verlaging in die gemiddelde graad van erts gemyn sowel as 'n verlies van produksie vanweë werkstakinge. Die volume van die netto gouduitvoer in 1987 was, teen 597 ton of 19,2 miljoen fyn onse, sowat 14 persent laer as in die vorige hoogtepuntjaar 1984, en het waarskynlik effens minder as die helfte van die totale volume van goudproduksie in die nie-kommunistiese wêreld bedra.

Die gemiddelde vasstellingsprys van goud het gestyg van VSA \$368 per fyn ons in 1986 tot VSA \$447 in 1987, of met 21½ persent. Die hoër gemiddelde waarde van die rand in terme van die VSA-dollar in die loop van 1987 het egter tot gevolg gehad dat die gemiddelde randprys van goud slegs van R840 per fyn ons in 1986 tot R909 in 1987, of met 8 persent, gestyg het.

Netto dienste- en oordragbetalings aan nie-inwoners wat vir negentien jaar ononderbroke toegeneem het tot 'n vlak van R9,1 miljard in die kalenderjaar 1986, het tot R8,5 miljard, of met 6½ persent, in die kalenderjaar 1987 gedaal. Dit was hoofsaaklik die gevolg van 'n daling in rentebetalings aan buitelanders in ooreenstemming met voortgesette verminderinge van die uitstaande bedrag van Suid-Afrika se buitelandse skuld.

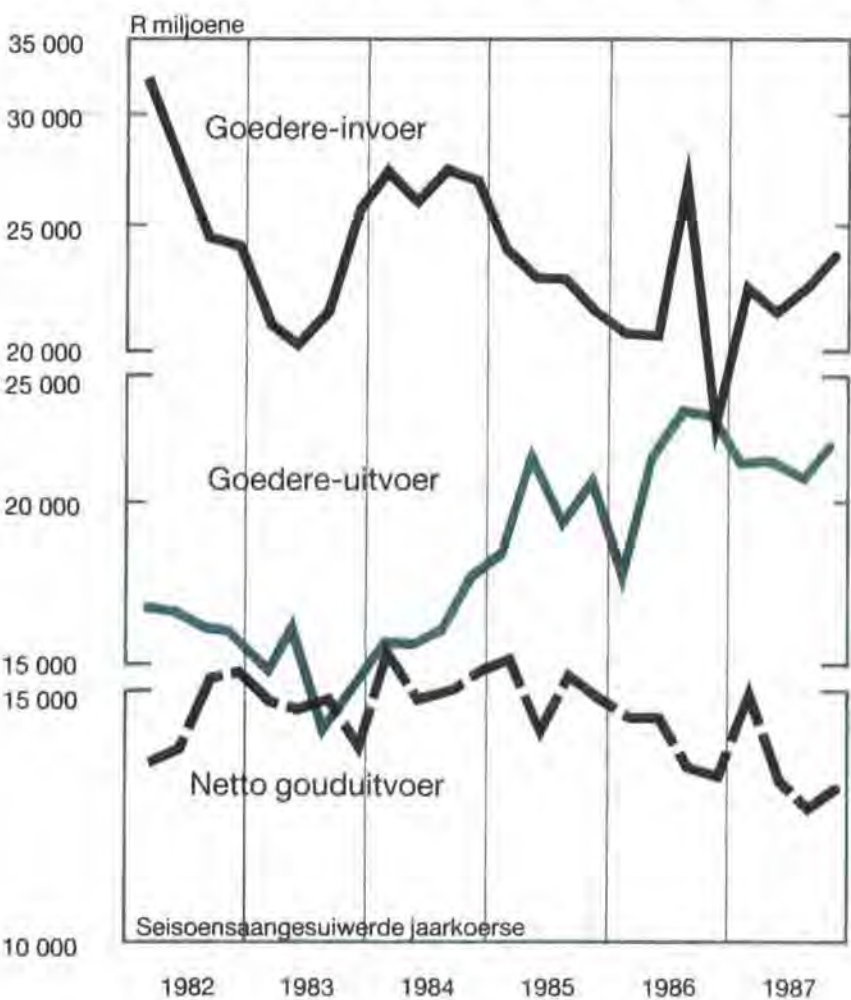
Kwartaallikse oorskotte op die lopende rekening van die betalingsbalans het, teen seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoerse, in die loop van 1987 van R7,2 miljard in die eerste kwartaal tot R5,8 miljard en R5,5 miljard in die tweede en die derde kwartaal ingekrimp, maar nogal opmerklik tot R6,1 miljard in die vierde kwartaal herstel. Die herstel van die oorskot op lopende rekening in die vierde kwartaal was geheel en al toe te skryf aan 'n verstewiging van goedere-uitvoer. Teen 'n seisoensaangesuiwerde en jaarkoersvlak van R27,4 miljard, was die waarde van hierdie uitvoer in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 binne trefafstand van die kwartaallikse gemiddelde van R27,8 miljard van die baie sterk uitvoervertoning wat in die tweede helfte van 1986 aangeteken is.

Die volume van die goedere-uitvoer het van die derde kwartaal van 1987 tot die vierde kwartaal met omtrent 6½ persent gestyg, hoofsaaklik vanweë verhoogde uitvoer van mynbouprodukte, voorbereide voedsel en drank en chemiese produkte. Uitvoerpryse was in die vierde kwartaal sowat 4 persent hoër as in die derde kwartaal wat 'n weerspieëling was van die volgehoue algemene opwaartse neiging van pryse in die internasionale kommoditeitsmarkte.

Die waarde van die goedere-invoer het van die derde tot die vierde kwartaal van 1987 ook verder skerp met ongeveer 6½ persent gestyg. Teen 'n jaarkoersvlak van R30,7 miljard, was die waarde van hierdie invoer in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 sowat 20 persent hoër as die kwartaallikse gemiddelde gedurende 1986.

Die styging in die waarde van die goedere-invoer in

Reële goedere-invoer, -uitvoer en netto gouduitvoer



die vierde kwartaal was bykans geheel en al aan verdere toenames in die invoervolume toe te skryf en het klaarblyklik met die verdere verstewiging van binnelandse ekonomiese bedrywigheid en van reële bruto binnelandse besteding in die derde en die vierde kwartaal van die jaar verband gehou. Invoerpryse is gunstig beïnvloed deur die stabiele vlak van pryse in die internasionale oliemark, volgehoue lae inflasiekoerse in handelsvennootlande, en die betreklike stabiliteit van die effektiewe wisselkoers van die rand. Die styging in invoerpryse tussen die derde en die vierde kwartaal het gevolglik 'n marginale 1½ persent bedra.

Die volume van die netto gouduitvoer het, alhoewel dit in 1987 'n dalende neiging in vergelyking met voorafgaande jare getoon het, in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 betekenisvol herstel vanaf 'n betreklik lae vlak in die derde kwartaal. Hierbenewens het die gemiddelde *dollarprys* van goud op die Londense vasstellings van \$457 in die derde kwartaal tot \$473 in die vierde kwartaal toegeneem. Die *randwaarde* van die netto gouduitvoer het nietemin effens van die derde tot die vierde kwartaal gedaal as gevolg van 'n daling in die gemiddelde prys van goud wat op die internasionale goudmark behaal is en vanweë die appresiasie van die rand teenoor die VSA-dollar.

Die dollar-vasstellingsprys van goud het momentaan in middel-Desember 1987 \$500 per fyn ons oorskry, maar vervolgens tot 'n vlak rondom \$480 teruggesak. Dit het in die eerste week van Februarie 1988 tydelik tot \$440 teruggeval vanweë verswakkende internasionale oliepryse, verwagtings van dalende wêreldin-

flasie en minder gunstige verwagtings aangaande die veerkragtigheid van die wêreld ekonomie in 1988, en 'n verswakking van nie-beleggingsvraag na goud in die lig van 'n toenemende aanbod. Nadat dit 'n tyd lank tussen \$440 en \$445 per fyn ons geskommel het, het die goudprys vervolgens aan die einde van Februarie tot \$426 gedaal maar tot \$443 op 18 Maart herstel.

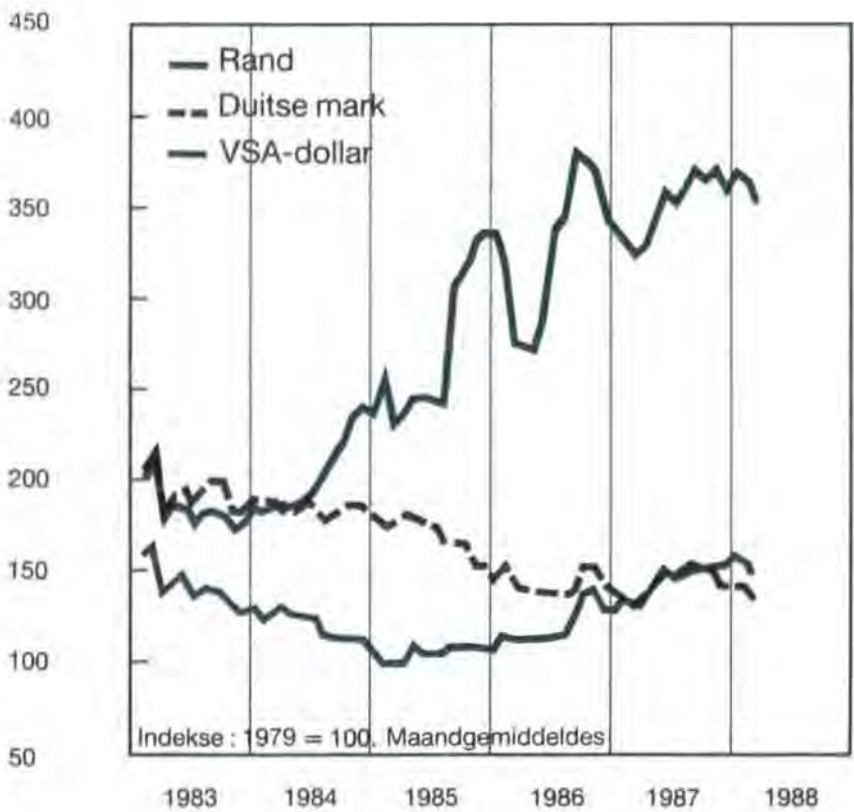
Netto dienste- en oordragbetalings het in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 effens toegeneem vanweë verhoogde vrag- en versekeringbetalings wat met die hoër vlak van die invoer verband gehou het.

Kapitaalrekening

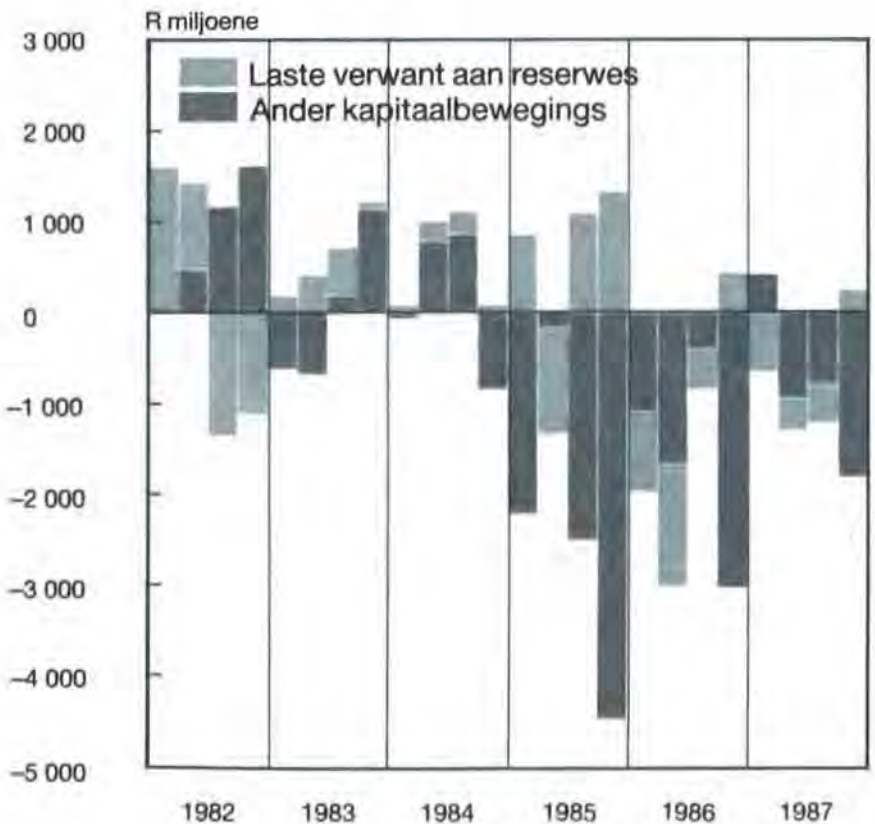
Die kapitaalrekening van die betalingsbalans het gedurende 1987 dramaties verbeter. Die totale netto uitvloeiing van kapitaal nie verwant aan reserwes nie het gekrimp van R9,2 miljard in 1985 en R6,1 miljard in 1986 tot slegs R3,1 miljard in 1987. Hierdie afname het voorgekom in sowel korttermynkapitaal as langtermynkapitaal nie verwant aan reserwes nie.

Die uitvloeiing van langtermynkapitaal het gedaal van R3,1 miljard in 1986 tot R1,7 miljard in 1987. Alhoewel al die sektore, uitgesonderd die openbare owerhede tot hierdie afname bygedra het, is 'n belangrike ommeswaai tussen 1986 en 1987 deur die openbare korporasies aangeteken. Betreklik aansienlike netto nuwe trekkings ten bedrae van R817 miljoen is in 1987 deur die openbare korporasies gemaak op nuwe en bestaande leningsfasiliteite vir projekfinansiering, vergeleke met netto terugbetalings van R75 miljoen in

Goudprys



Totale kapitaalbewegings



Netto kapitaalebewegings
R miljoene

	1986	1987				
		1e kw	2e kw	3e kw	4e kw	Jaar
Langtermynkapitaal						
Openbare owerhede	-305	-9	-217	-60	-243	-529
Openbare korporasies	-75	347	348	107	15	817
Banksektor	-103	38	-60	94	18	90
Private sektor:						
Netto aankope van genoteerde aandele deur nie-inwoners	-1 365	-209	-546	-531	73	-1 213
Ander kapitaal	-1 212	18	-278	-19	-584	-863
Totale langtermynkapitaal	-3 060	185	-753	-409	-721	-1 698
Korttermynkapitaal insluitende onaangetekende transaksies maar uitsluitende laste verwant aan reserwes	-3 037	222	-173	-370	-1 050	-1 371
Totale kapitaalebewegings uitsluitende laste verwant aan reserwes	-6 097	407	-926	-779	-1 771	-3 069
Verandering in laste verwant aan reserwes	-2 283	-627	-362	-426	248	-1 167

1986. Die uitvloeiing van ander langtermynkapitaal nie verwant aan reserwes nie het hoofsaaklik verband gehou met terugbetalings in ooreenstemming met die Eerste en Tweede Tussentydse Reëlings met buitelandse krediteurbanke.

Die uitvloeiing van korttermynkapitaal nie verwant aan reserwes nie het gedaal van R3,0 miljard in 1986 tot R1,4 miljard in 1987. Hierdie daling in die uitvloeiing van korttermynkapitaal het grootliks voorgekom vanweë 'n kleiner toename in die buitelandse bates (wat hoofsaaklik uit handelskrediete bestaan) wat deur Suid-Afrikaanse inwoners gehou word. Dit het derhalwe verband gehou met die baie beperkte omvang van die toename in die goedere-uitvoer gedurende die jaar. 'n Daling in die netto negatiewe saldo van "onaangetekende transaksies" het ook tot 'n laer vlak van die netto korttermynkapitaaluitvloeiings in 1987 as in 1986 bygedra. Hierdie faktore is egter in 'n sekere mate geneutraliseer deur die uitwerking van betreklik lae rentekoerse en die geredelike beskikbaarheid van bankkrediet in Suid-Afrika wat die binnelandse finansiering van die stygende vlak van die goedere-invoer aangemoedig het en ook die vervanging van buitelandse bronne van handelsfinansiering met binnelandse bronne aangewakker het.

Die totale uitvloeiing van kapitaal nie verwant aan reserwes nie het toegeneem van R0,8 miljard in die derde kwartaal van 1987 tot R1,8 miljard in die vierde kwartaal. Hierdie toename is onder andere meegebring deur groter terugbetalings op buitelandse skuld kragtens die Tweede Tussentydse Reëlings met buitelandse krediteurbanke en deur die groter aflossings van toonder-effekte wat in die buiteland gehou word. Buitelandse handelskrediete het egter ook in die vierde kwartaal

gedaal as gevolg van die omskakeling deur Suid-Afrikaanse sakeondernemings van buitelandse na binnelandse bronne van handelskrediet vir die redes waarna hierbo verwys is.

Nie-inwoners was in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 vir die eerste keer sedert April 1985 netto *aankopers* van effekte wat op die Johannesburgse Effektebeurs genoteer word. Die bedrag van hierdie aankope het in daardie kwartaal R73 miljoen beloop. In die derde kwartaal is netto *verkope* ten bedrae van R531 miljoen nog aangeteken.

Die finale paaiement, ten bedrae van R260 miljoen, op die lening wat Suid-Afrika in 1982 by die Internasionale Monetêre Fonds aangegaan het, is in November 1987 betaal. Laste verwant aan reserwes het nietemin in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 'n netto invloeiing van R248 miljoen getoon. In die voorafgaande nege maande is netto uitvloeiings nog aangeteken.

Buitelandse reserwes

Die totale goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes, wat toegeneem het van R3,9 miljard aan die einde van April 1986 tot R8,7 miljard aan die einde van Augustus 1987, het in September en Oktober effens gedaal. Daarna het dit met aansienlik groter bedrae van R504 miljoen in November en R115 miljoen in Desember tot R7,9 miljard aan die einde van die jaar afgeneem.

Gedurende 1987 in sy geheel het die toename in die totale bruto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes R2,2 miljard beloop. Dit was 'n weerspieëling van die volgehoue groot oorskotte op die lopende rekening en die grootliks verbeterde stand van die kapitaalrekening.

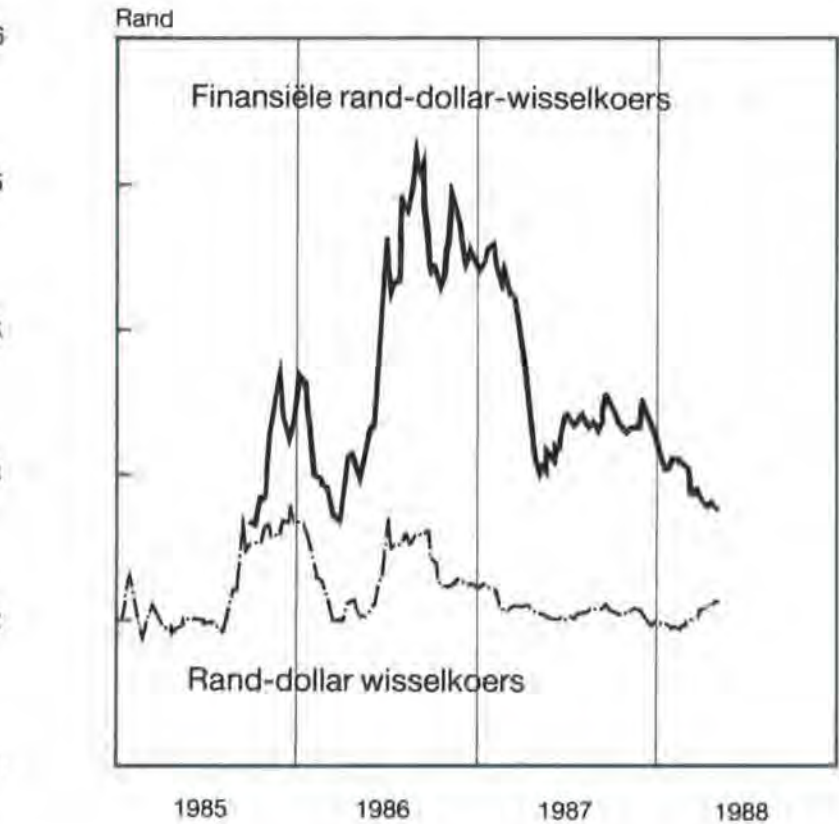
In Januarie 1988 het die bruto goud- en ander buite-landse reserwes van die Reserwebank weer met R293 miljoen gestyg. Die Bank se goudbesit het gestyg van 5,83 miljoen fyn onse aan die einde van Desember tot 6,12 miljoen fyn onse aan die einde van Januarie. 'n Hernieuwe daling ten bedrae van R253 miljoen is egter in Februarie in die Bank se bruto goud- en ander buite-landse reserwes aangeteken. Ongeveer die helfte van hierdie daling was toe te skryf aan 'n laer waardasie van die goudreserwes.

Wisselkoerse

Ná 'n toename van 3,0 persent in die eerste nege maande van 1987, het die effektiewe wisselkoers van die rand, d.w.s. die geweegde gemiddelde waarde van die rand teenoor die geldeenhede van Suid-Afrika se belangrikste handelsvennootlande, in die vierde kwartaal 'n geringe verdere styging van 0,1 persent getoon. Die appresiasie daarvan het gevolglik in 1987 3,1 persent beloop. Dit kan vergelyk word met 'n appresiasie van byna 10 persent, per saldo, vanaf 31 Desember 1985 tot 31 Desember 1986, en met depresiasies van onderskeidelik 30 persent en 27,5 persent in die kalenderjare 1984 en 1985.

Die hoë mate van stabiliteit in die effektiewe wisselkoers van die rand in 1987 was die netto resultaat van 'n aansienlike appresiasie van die rand teenoor die VSA-dollar wat ietwat minder as ten volle geneutraliseer is deur depresiasies teenoor ander belangrike geldeenhede.

Wisselkoerse van die rand



Verandering in die wisselkoerse van die rand
%

	31 Des 1986 tot 30 Sept 1987	30 Sept 1987 tot 31 Des 1987	31 Des 1986 tot 31 Des 1987	31 Des 1987 tot 18 Mrt 1988
Geweegde ge- middelde	3,0	0,1	3,1	-7,2
VSA-dollar	5,7	7,6	13,7	-10,5
Britse pond	-4,6	-6,4	-10,8	-8,8
Duitse mark	-0,3	-7,3	-7,5	-4,6
Switserse frank..	-0,9	-9,8	-10,6	-2,0
Japanse jen..	-3,4	-9,9	-13,1	-6,1
Franse frank	0,4	-5,8	-5,4	-4,4
Finansiële rand	39,5	7,1	49,4	15,5

'n Algemene verstewiging van die VSA-dollar, as gevolg van 'n gesamentlike optrede deur 'n aantal van die belangrikste sentrale banke en vanweë beter-as-verwagte handelstatistiek van die Verenigde State vir November en Desember, het bygedra tot 'n depresiasie van 10,5 persent van die rand teenoor die dollar in die eerste elf weke van 1988. Die effektiewe wisselkoers van die rand het egter gedurende hierdie tydperk met slegs 7,2 persent gedaal.

Die wisselkoers van die finansiële rand het in die eerste nege maande van 1987 met 39,5 persent en gedurende die res van die jaar met 'n verdere 7,1 persent verstewig. Dit het daarna verder verbeter van 'n gemiddelde vlak van R3,0628 in Desember 1987 tot R2,7778 op 3 Februarie 1988, en vervolgens – ná 'n kortstondige verswakking tot R2,9851 op 8 Februarie – tot R2,6950 op 18 Maart. Die diskonto van 20,2 persent van die finansiële rand teenoor die kommersiële rand op 18 Maart was die laagste vlak van hierdie diskonto sedert Januarie 1986.

Finansiële markte

Geldvoorraad

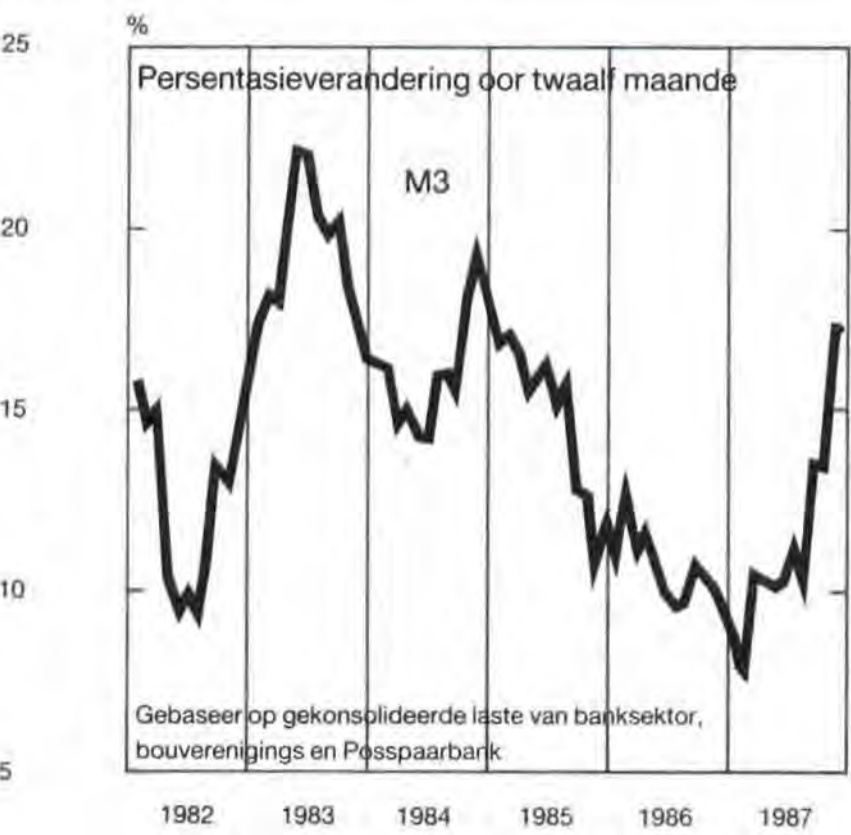
Die kwartaal-tot-kwartaal-toename in M3, teen seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoerse, het skerp versnel van 5,0 persent in die eerste kwartaal van 1987 tot onderskeidelik 16,1 en 15,8 persent in die tweede en die derde kwartaal en tot nie minder nie as 26,1 persent in die vierde kwartaal. As gevolg van hierdie versnelling in geld se groeikoers in opeenvolgende kwartale het die koers van toename in M3 oor tydperke van twaalf maande vanaf 'n onderste draaipunt van 7,7 persent in Februarie 1987 tot 17,4 persent in Desember gestyg. Die voorlopig geraamde toenamekoers oor twaalf maande van M3 vanaf sy lae waarde aan die einde van Januarie 1987 tot die einde van Januarie 1988, bedra 20,2 persent.

Die maandeindewaardes van M3 was gedurende die eerste tien maande van die 1987-mikpuntjaar (wat in die middel van November 1986 begin het) laer as die onderste perk van die "mikpuntkegel". Vanaf Januarie tot Augustus 1987 was dit ook laer as die onderste perk van die "mikpunttonnel". 'n Toename van R2,7 miljard in M3 gedurende September het egter meegebring dat M3 aan die einde van daardie maand vir die eerste keer gedurende die 1987-mikpuntjaar binne die mikpuntkegel geval het. Op soortgelyke wyse was M3 aan die einde van November en Desember gerieflik binne die 1987-mikpuntkegel, indien die kegel verder as die einde van die 1987-mikpuntjaar in die middel van November 1987 verleng sou word.

Die gemiddelde vlak van M3 in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 was 15,5 persent hoër as in die vierde kwartaal van 1986. Sy toename gedurende die 1987-mikpuntjaar, soos gemeet vir doeleindes van mikpuntstelling, was derhalwe gerieflik binne die onderste en die boonste perk van 14 en 18 persent van die mikpuntgrens.

Die inkome-omloopsnelheid van M3 het gedurende die eerste kwartaal van 1987 effens (met 1,6 persent, tot 1,961) toegeneem. Gedurende die res van 1987

Geldvoorraad



het dit egter ietwat ingekrimp tot 'n uiteindelijke vlak van 1,939 in die vierde kwartaal. Sy *netto* toename vanaf die vierde kwartaal van 1986 tot die vierde kwartaal van 1987, dit wil sê gedurende die loop van die 1987-mikpuntjaar, het dienooreenkomstig 'n betreklik onbeduidende 0,5 persent bedra. Die omloopsnelheid van M3 in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 was nogtans sowat 13 persent hoër as die laagtepunt van die omloopsnelheid in die vierde kwartaal van 1984.

Gedurende 1987 is toenamekoerse wat dié van M3 aansienlik oortref het deur die "ander" onmiddellik-op-eisbare-depositokomponent (dit wil sê die nie-M1A-komponent) van M1, deur M1 self en deur M2 aange-teken. Hierdie verskillende toenamekoerse het boonop gedurende die tweede helfte van die jaar opmerklik of skerp versnel. Vergelykenderwys lae groeikoerse is

Komponente van M3: Persentasieverandering oor twaalf maande

	Munt en banknote	Tjek- en trans- missie- deposito's	M1A	Ander onmid- dellik op- eisbare deposito's	M1	Ander kort- en middel termyn- deposito's	M2	Langter- mynde- posito's	M3
1986: Des	18,0	21,5	20,5	3,5	12,8	-1,6	4,3	24,6	9,3
1987: Mrt	8,9	17,5	14,8	27,5	20,5	-3,8	6,2	22,4	10,5
: Jun	14,5	8,1	9,8	28,7	18,0	1,4	8,7	15,5	10,6
: Sept ..	17,8	4,1	7,8	46,8	24,0	5,1	13,4	14,8	13,8
: Des	17,9	11,5	13,3	64,3	34,5	11,5	21,7	6,5	17,4

daarenteen in M1A en in die langtermyndepositokomponent van M3 aangeteken.

Die toename in M1A, wat bestaan uit banknote en munte in omloop buite die monetêre stelsel plus tjek- en transmissie-deposito's van die private sektor, is gedurende 1987 deels teruggehou deur die progressiewe uitbreiding van banke se kontantbestuurskemas ten behoeve van hulle kliënte. Hierdie skemas behels dat die krediet- en debetsaldo's van maatskappye of groepe van maatskappye in die boeke van bankinstellings teen mekaar "verreken" word. Die kreditsaldo's wat só verreken word, is dié op klientmaatskappye se lopende rekeninge. Gevolglik het die instelling of meer wydverspreide gebruik van verrekeningskemas hoofsaaklik 'n remmende uitwerking op M1A en op die groeiakoers van M1A wat gedurende enige spesifieke tydperk waargeneem kan word.

Soos in die Reserwebank se onlangse publikasie *Geldvoorraadmikpunte vir 1988* verduidelik is, word die netto deposito's wat oorbly ná die daaglikse verrekening van die kliënte se debet- en kreditsaldo's, normaalweg op 'n daggeld- of oornagbasis gehou. Die verrekeningsprosedures soos wat dit gedurende 1987 toegepas is, het derhalwe die relatiewe groeiakoers van die nie-M1A- of "ander" onmiddellik-oopisbare-depositokomponent van M1 effens verhoog. Die betreklik vinnige en versnellende groei in die nie-M1A-komponent van M1 is teen die einde van 1987 egter grotendeels verantwoord deur 'n verandering in beleggers se rentekoersverwagtings. Verwagtings aangaande 'n styging in rentekoerse het die verhoogde besit aan daggeld- en oornagdeposito's, dit wil sê deposito's op die baie kort end van die looptydspektrum, sterk aangemoedig. Toenames in daggeld- en oornagdeposito's het nie minder nie as R6,8 miljard van die toename van R13,8 miljard in M3 vanaf Desember 1986 tot Desember 1987 uitgemaak.

Die opmerklike versnelling in die toenameakoers van M2 gedurende 1987 het in hoofsaak die skerp stygende koerse van toename in die nie-M1A-komponent van M1 en in M1 self weerspieël. Verder kon 'n redelik aanmerklike herstel in die groeiakoers van die "ander" kort- en middeltermyndepositokomponent van M2 egter ook waargeneem word. Dit kon hoofsaaklik verklaar word deur die relatiewe verskuiwing van beleggers uit langertermyn- na kortertermyndeposito's, wat normaalweg gepaard gaan met deposante se verwagtings aangaande toekomstige stygings in rentekoerse. Die teenhanger van hierdie verskuiwing na kortertermyndeposito's was 'n verlangsamings in die groei van die langtermyndepositokomponent van M3 in die loop van die jaar.

Die vernaamste "oorsaak" – in die statistiese of rekeningkundige sin – van die toename van R13,8 miljard in M3 gedurende die kalenderjaar 1987 was 'n toename van R12,6 miljard in binnelandse kredietverlening deur monetêre instellings. Die netto goud- en ander buite-

landse reserwes van die monetêre sektor het gedurende die eerste nege maande van 1987 per saldo met R4,0 miljard gestyg. Gedurende die vierde kwartaal het hierdie besit aan buitelandse reserwes egter met R0,9 miljard gedaal.

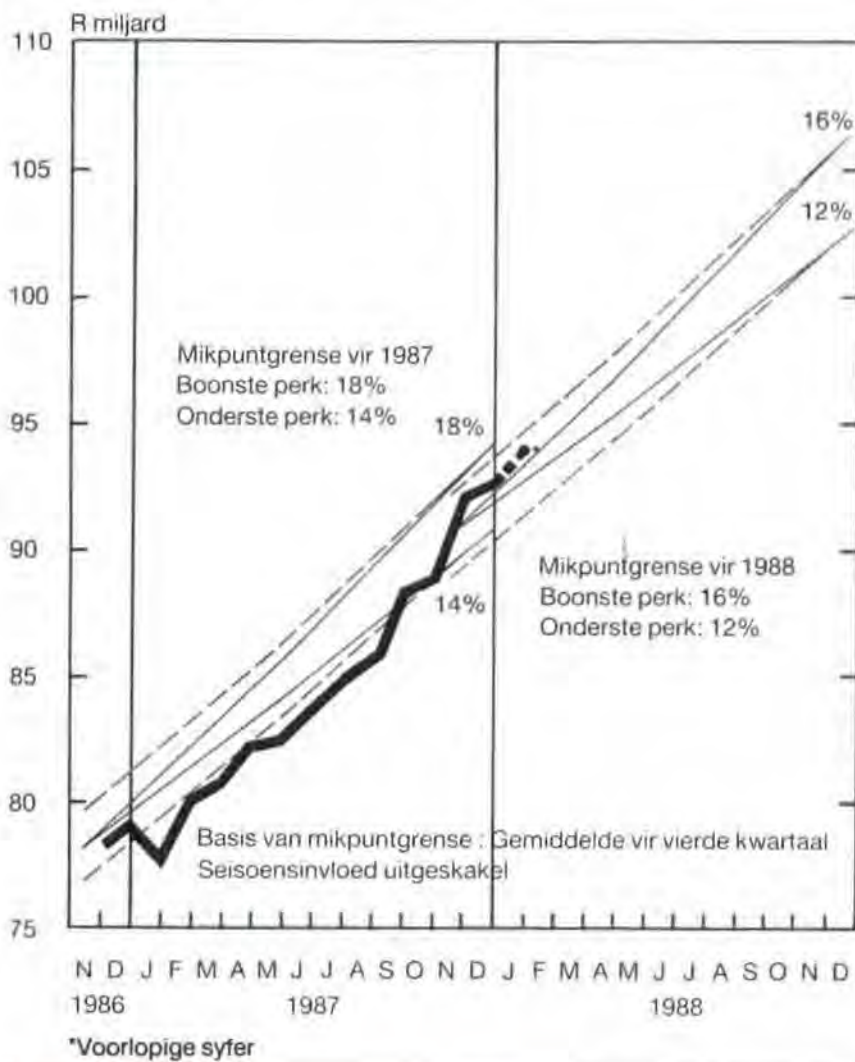
Van die toename van R12,6 miljard in binnelandse kredietverlening deur die monetêre sektor in die loop van 1987, het R12,2 miljard uit 'n toename in kredietverlening aan die private sektor bestaan; monetêre instellings se netto eise teen die regeringsektor het dienoooreenkomstig gedurende die jaar met 'n betreklik beskeie bedrag van slegs R0,4 miljard gestyg. Monetêre instellings se eise teen die private sektor het in die derde kwartaal van 1987 met R3,7 miljard en in die vierde kwartaal met nie minder nie as R6,0 miljard toegeneem. 'n Ongewoon groot deel (35 persent) van die toename van R9,7 miljard in monetêre instellings se eise teen die private sektor gedurende die tweede helfte van 1987 het uit verbandvoorskotte bestaan. Gedurende hierdie tydperk het bouverenigings se verbandvoorskotte met R2,1 miljard, of 8,7 persent, gestyg, terwyl bankinstellings se verbandvoorskotte met R1,3 miljard, of soveel as 16,4 persent, toegeneem het.

Nuwe geldvoorraadmikpunt

'n Nuwe mikpunt, met grense van 12 tot 16 persent, vir die groei in M3 vanaf die vierde kwartaal van 1987 tot die vierde kwartaal van 1988 is op 22 Februarie 1988 deur die Reserwebank aangekondig. In sy verduideliking van die verdere verlaging van twee persentasiepunte in hierdie koerse vergeleke met hulle waardes in 1987, het die Bank verklaar dat dit dien "om die monetêre owerhede se vasberadenheid aan te dui om te voorkom dat oormatige geldskepping die duidelike afwaartse neiging in die inflasiekoers oor die afgelope twee jaar tot stilstand bring of omkeer". Die owerhede glo dat die nuwe mikpunt versoenbaar is met 'n groeiakoers in die reële bruto binnelandse produk van drie persent of meer in die 1988-kalenderjaar, en met 'n gelyktydige verdere geleidelike afname in die inflasiekoers.

Tydens die oorweging van die monetêre mikpunte vir 1988 het die owerhede kennis geneem van onlangse voorstelle te dien effekte dat 'n meer bruikbare of toepaslike mikpunt as dié vir M3 gestel behoort te word vir M0, dit wil sê die sogenaamde "high-powered money supply". M0, ook bekend as die "monetêre basis", bestaan in Suid-Afrika uit banknote en munte in omloop buite die Reserwebank, plus die deposito's van banke en bouverenigings by die Reserwebank. Gevolglik is M0 'n besonder eng monetêre grootheid. Dit verskil ook van die ander monetêre groothede deurdat dit, naas die geldbesit van binnelandse private huishoudings en "nie-monetêre" sakeondernemings, ook munte, note en saldo's gehou deur instellings wat self in die sogenaamde monetêre sektor is, insluit. M0 se

Mikpunte vir groei in M3



gedrag oor tyd sal vanselfsprekend deur veranderinge in betaalgewoontes en -geriewe beïnvloed word.

In sekere monetêre beheerstelsels wat van dié in Suid-Afrika verskil, kan die sentrale bank se skepping van slegs beperkte bedrae aan "kerngeld" beskou word as die stel van perke aan – of meer algemeen, om "beheer" uit te oefen oor – die uitbreiding van die breër monetêre totale (en die banke se kredietverlening). In die Suid-Afrikaanse monetêre beheerstelsel kan bewegings in M0 egter eerder as *weerspieëlings* van veranderinge in die banke en bouverenigings se minimum vereiste besit aan kontantreserwes en van veranderinge in die algemene publiek se behoeftes aan geld wat van hand tot hand gaan, beskou word. Die eersgenoemde soort veranderinge is gekoppel aan veranderinge in banke en bouverenigings se kort- en middeltermynverpligtings teenoor die publiek (dit wil sê in hierdie instellings se "reserwedraende" laste). Die laasgenoemde soort veranderinge is hoofsaaklik gekoppel aan veranderinge in die volume van die algemene publiek se aankope van huishoudelike verbruiksgoedere met 'n laer aankoopwaarde.

Oor langer tydperke sal M0 se koers van toename breedweg gekoppel wees aan die groeikoerse van die breër monetêre totale en aan die waarde van die bruto binnelandse produk en bruto binnelandse besteding teen heersende pryse. Dit sal ook 'n langtermynver-

wantskap met inflasie toon. Vir *korttermyn*-mikpuntdoeleindes is M0 egter minder geskik as die breër monetêre totale. 'n Klaarblyklike rede hiervoor is dat M0 deur veranderinge in die persentasieverhoudings van die banke en/of die bouverenigings se kontantreserwe-*vereistes* beïnvloed sal word. 'n Verhoging van hierdie vereistes sal boonop neig om M0 te *verlaag*, terwyl dit terselfdertyd sal neig om die gewilligheid en vermoë van banke en bouverenigings om krediet te verleen en die breër monetêre totale uit te brei, te *verhoog*.

Tweedens, weens die verskillende kontantreserwe-verhoudings wat geld teen die banke en bouverenigings se verpligtings teenoor die publiek in die verskillende looptyd-kategorieë, kan verskuiwings deur deposante tussen verskillende soorte deposito's – byvoorbeeld weens veranderde rentekoersverwagtings – M0 beïnvloed op maniere wat weinig verband hou met onderliggende neigings in die ekonomie. Sulke verskuiwings kan M0 *verhoog* onder omstandighede wat minder bevorderlik vir algemene monetêre uitbreiding is, of M0 *verlaag* onder omstandighede wat meer bevorderlik vir sodanige uitbreiding is.

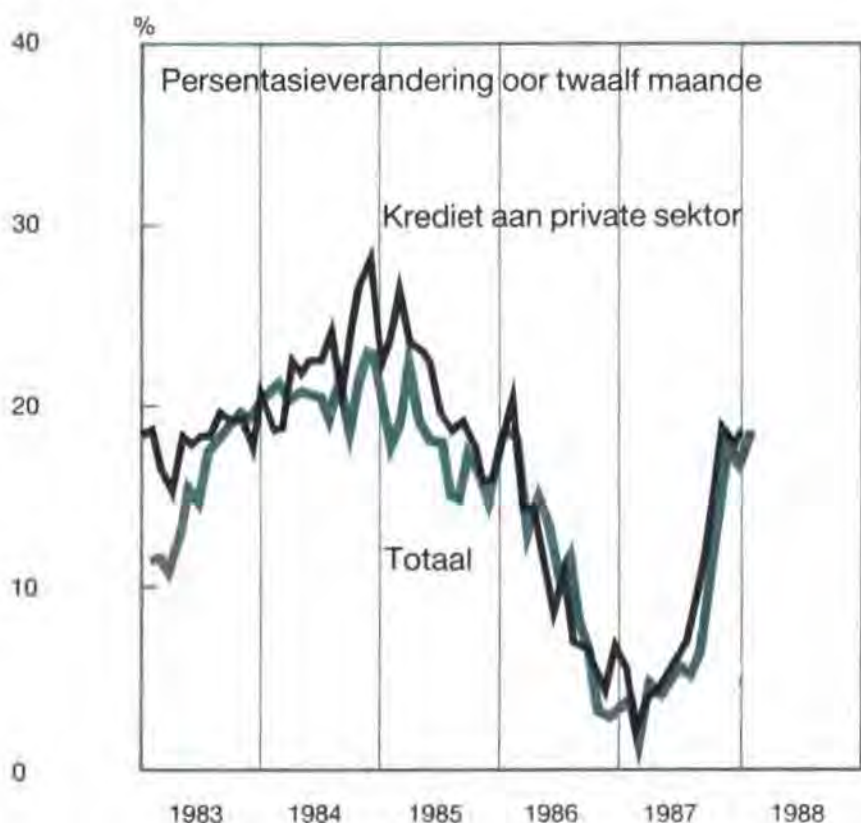
Meer prakties gesproke is bevind dat bewegings in M0 die afgelope aantal jare betreklik swak (in vergelyking met ander monetêre groothede) met bewegings in makro-ekonomiese sleutelveranderlikes, soos die nominale bruto binnelandse produk of die algemene pryspeil, gekorreleer het. Die samestelling van M0 maak dit ook potensieel minder bruikbaar as sekere ander groothede (of komponente van hierdie groothede) om 'n vroeë aanduiding van toekomstige veranderinge in binnelandse besteding of produksie te gee.

Bankkrediet

Die kwartaal-tot-kwartaal veranderinge in bankkrediet aan die private sektor, in terme van seisoensaangesuiwerde jaarkoerse, het gedurende die eerste drie kwartale van 1987 op onderskeidelik 13,7, 2,5 en 13,1 persent te staan gekom, maar het daarna in die vierde kwartaal skerp versnel tot nie minder nie as 36,2 persent. Hierdie ontwikkelings het die twaalfmaandegroeiakoerse in bankkrediet aan die private sektor van slegs 1,7 persent in Februarie 1987 tot 11,2 persent in September en tot 17,2 persent in Desember laat toeneem.

Onder die faktore wat 'n rol gespeel het in die verklaring van die private sektor se skerp verhoogde gebruik van bankkrediet gedurende die laaste paar maande van 1987, tel eerstens die uitwerking van die bestendige uitbreiding in produksiebedrywigheid en binnelandse besteding, stygende invoer en die matige ommeswaai in vaste en voorraadinvestering; tweedens, 'n groter bereidwilligheid by huishoudings om van bankkrediet vir die finansiering van aankope van in die besonder duursame goedere gebruik te maak, sowel as 'n sterker vraag na verbandvoorskotte; derdens, die uitskakeling of ommekeer van verskillende faktore wat gedurende 'n groot deel van 1986 en vroeg in 1987 "disinterme-

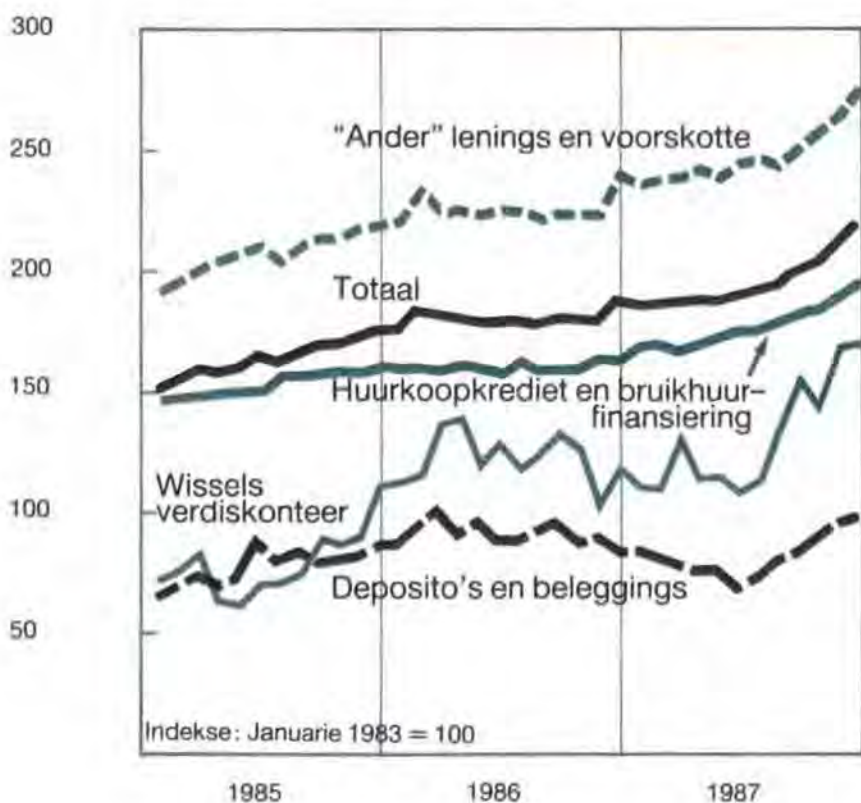
Bankkrediet



diasie" bevorder het; en vierdens, dalings in die netto buitelandse reserwes en klaarblyklik 'n mate van vervanging van buitelandse deur binnelandse finansiering gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1987.

Die styging in die twaalfmaandegroeiakoers van totale bankkrediet aan die private sektor tot 17,2 persent in

Bankkrediet aan die private sektor



Desember 1987, is gedeeltelik verklaar deur die versnelde uitbreiding van huurkoopkrediet en bruikhuurfinsiering, wat gedurende die jaar met 20 persent gestyg het. Die banke se besit aan verdiskonteerde wissels het egter in werklikheid gedurende die jaar met soveel as 45,5 persent gestyg, en met 25,6 persent gedurende die tydperk einde-Augustus tot einde-Desember. Dit was 'n weerspieëling van banke se pogings om hulle geldmarkpapier- en likwiede-bateportefeuljes te versterk. Die banke se aankope van bankaksepte by versekeringsmaatskappye het oor die algemeen gepaard gegaan met 'n toename in hierdie maatskappye se besit aan daggeld- en oornagdeposito's by die betrokke banke. Die gelyktydige toename in die banke se bates en laste wat uit hierdie transaksies voortgespruit het, het gevolglik neergekom op 'n "herintermediasie"-verskynsel.

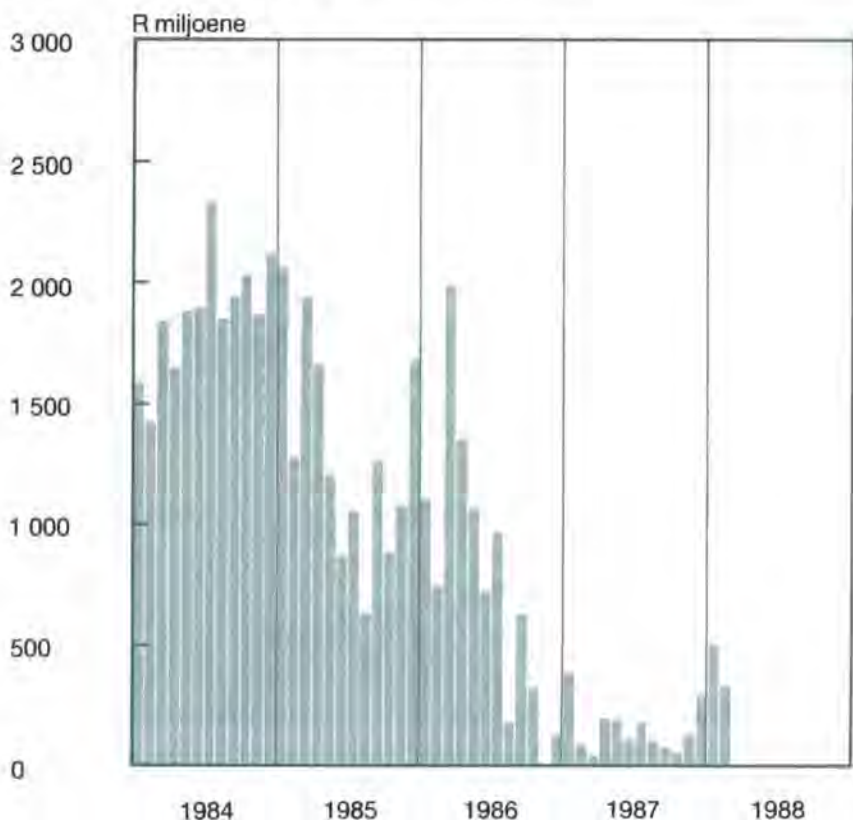
Reserwebankoptrede in die geldmark

Ruim toestande het gedurende die eerste tien maande van 1987 en die eerste drie weke van November in die geldmark bly heers. Om verskeie redes het die seisoenale sowel as die maandeindevernuiging in die geldmark aan die einde van November en begin-Desember egter nie daarin geslaag om in die gewone mate gedurende die res van Desember om te swaai nie. Hierdie redes het afwaartse druk op die Reserwebank se netto goud- en ander buitelandse reserwes, 'n hoë vlak van note in omloop en 'n algemene verstewiging in die vraag na krediet ingesluit.

Hierbenewens het die Reserwebank dit vroeg in Desember duidelik uitgespel dat die Bank nie noodwendig tekorte in die geldmark deur sy optredes in die mark in dieselfde mate en met dieselfde bereidwilligheid as vantevore, sou regstel nie. Deels as gevolg van hierdie verskillende ontwikkelings het die gemiddelde bedrag aan akkommodasie by die Reserwebank se diskontovenster van slegs R75 miljoen in September en R53 miljoen in Oktober gestyg tot R126 miljoen en R284 miljoen in onderskeidelik November en Desember en tot R498 miljoen in Januarie 1988. Dit het daarna egter afgeneem tot R331 miljoen in Februarie. Akkommodasie by die diskontovenster het hoogtepunte van R1 243 miljoen op 2 Januarie 1988 en – nadat dit tot lae vlakke in die middel van Februarie teruggekeer het – R911 miljoen op 29 Februarie en R1 017 miljoen op 2 Maart in die betreklik stram geldmarktoestand wat oor die maandeinde van Februarie geheers het, bereik. Daarna het dit teen die middel van Maart tot minder as R300 miljoen gedaal.

Die Reserwebank het tot Oktober 1987 op 'n gereelde grondslag van omgekeerde terugkoopvooreenkomste gebruik gemaak ten einde oorskotreserwes in die mark op te ruim. Vanaf die einde van November het die Bank egter ook weer op 'n betreklik uitgebreide skaal van terugkoopvooreenkomste en tenderfondse van die Korporasie vir Openbare Deposito's gebruik gemaak

Akkommodasie by die diskontovenster



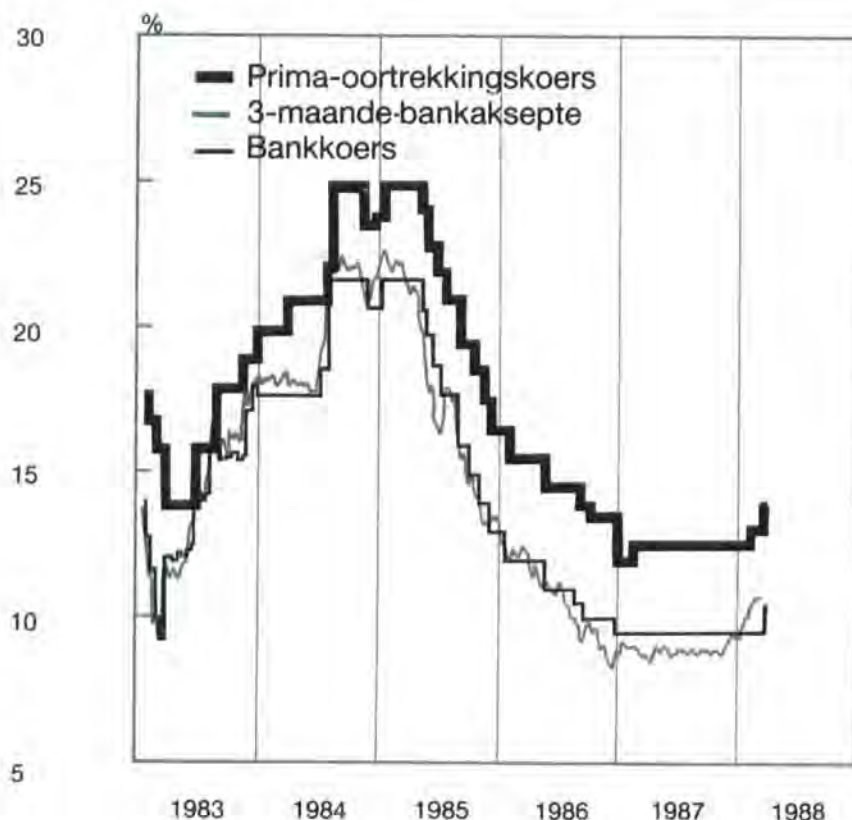
ten einde dag-tot-dag tekorte in die bankstelsel se besit aan kontantreserwes aan te vul. Gedurende Januarie 1988 het die dag-tot-dag bystand aan die mark in die vorm van terugkoop-ooreenkomste gewissel van hoogtepunte van R1 000 miljoen tot 'n laagtepunt van R200 miljoen.

Geen bystand in die vorm van terugkoop-ooreenkomste of KOD-tenderfondse is gedurende Februarie 1988 tot en met die laaste paar dae van die maand deur die Reserwebank verleen nie. In ooreenstemming met die Bank se onderneming om seisoenale en maandeinde-vernouings in geldmarktoestande uit te stryk, is betreklik groot bedrae aan terugkoopbystand weer oor die Februarie-maandeinde beskikbaar gestel. Die bedrag aan sodanige bystand wat op 29 Februarie deur die Bank verleen is, het R200 miljoen bedra. Hierbenewens het R500 miljoen aan spesiaal gedateerde belastingskatkisswissels ook op dieselfde dag hulle vervaldatum bereik. Terugkoopbystand van tot R500 miljoen is regdeur die eerste helfte van Maart verleen maar is daarna tot nul verminder.

Korttermynrentekoerse

Normale patrone binne die maand en seisoenale ontwikkelings het die markkoers op likwiede bankaksepte van drie maande laat verstewig van 8,75 persent (1,05 persent onder die tersaaklike herdiskonteringskoers van die Reserwebank wat op daardie tydstip van krag was) in die middel van November 1987 tot 9,00 persent op die November-maandeinde. Daarna het hierdie koers

Korttermynrentekoerse



egter bly styg tot 'n eventuele hoogtepunt van 10,35 persent laat in Januarie 1988. Dit het eerstens plaasgevind op grond van die verminderde likwiditeit in die mark, tweedens, in die lig van die Reserwebank se uitgesproke voorneme om toenemend van die diskontovenster gebruik te maak om benodigde kontantreserwes aan die bankstelsel te voorsien; derdens, op grond van 'n persepsie wat deur die mark ontwikkel is, van 'n verskuiwing in die Bank se breër monetêre beleidsingesteldheid; en vierdens, weens 'n verskuiwing in die mark se algemene rentekoersverwagtings.

Die bankaksepkoers het daarna gedurende die eerste agt dae van Februarie tot vlakke rondom 10,0 persent gedaal namate likwiditeit in die mark verruim en akkommodasie by die diskontovenster op algemeen lae vlakke gehou is. Vanaf die tweede week in Februarie het die bankaksepkoers egter weer begin styg tot 10,50 persent op 25 Februarie en 10,80 persent op 3 Maart, weens seisoenale stramheid aan weerskante van die Februarie-maandeinde, die mark se interpretasie van die nuwe monetêre mikpuntgrense wat vir 1988 aangekondig is, asook 'n blywende persepsie in die mark dat die Bankkoers uiteindelik, in reaksie op bewegings in die markrentekoerse, verhoog sal moet word. Daarna het die bankaksepkoers tot en met die derde week van Maart binne 'n nou band van 10,75 tot 10,80 persent beweeg.

Die koers op interbankdaggeld het gedurende Januarie 1988 tot 10,0 persent en hoër gestyg, maar daarna teruggesak tot vlakke tussen 9,0 en 9,25 persent voor die Februarimaandeinde. Die gevolglike po-

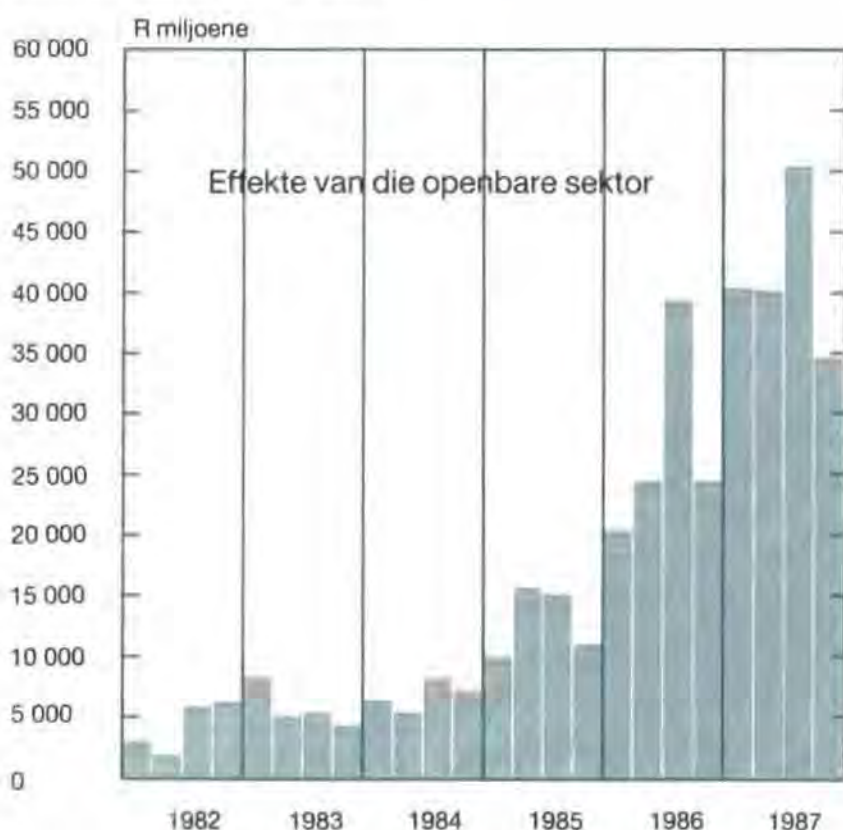
sitiewe helling van die opbrengskromme aan die kort of geldmarkkant van die looptydspektrum was in ooreenstemming met die mark se verwagtings van stygende koerse. Op 29 Februarie het die interbankdaggeldkoers egter kortstondig tot 12,5 persent verstewig.

Hoër geldmarkkoerse en die gepaardgaande vernouing van die banke se rentekoersmarges het daartoe gelei dat die verrekeningsbanke met ingang van 19 Januarie 1988 hulle prima-uitleenkoers van 12,50 tot 13 persent verhoog het. Die Reserwebank het op 8 Maart aangekondig dat hy die Bankkoers met ingang van 9 Maart van 9,50 tot 10,50 persent verhoog. Dit het nie alleen 'n tegniese regstelling in reaksie op onlangse geldmarkontwikkelings behels nie, maar het ook die aanvaarding van 'n minder akkommoderende monetêre beleidsrigting deur die Bank aangedui. Die verhoging in die Bankkoers het gepaard gegaan met 'n styging van 13 tot 14 persent in die prima-uitleenkoers van die verrekeningsbanke.

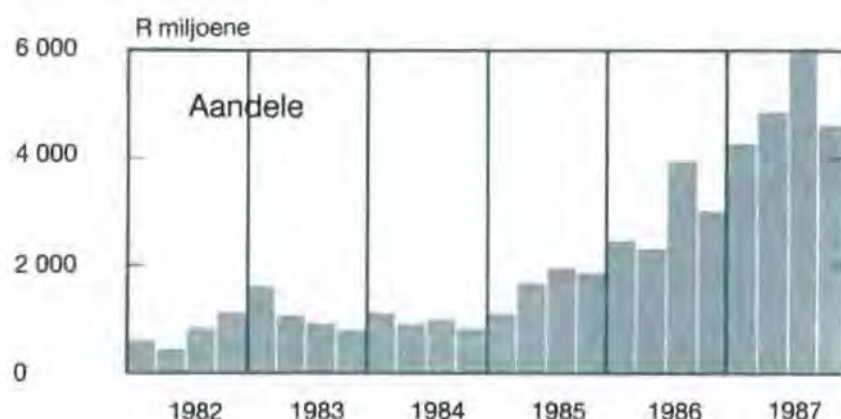
Kapitaalmarkbedrywigheid

Aansienlike veranderings het in die kapitaalmarktoestand na vore getree ná die kwaai daling in aandelepryse wat vanaf 20 Oktober 1987 op die Johannesburgse Effektebeurs voorgekom het. Gevolglik het die mark gedurende die vierde kwartaal van 1987 'n skerp afname in handelsbedrywigheid ondervind vergeleke met die buitengewoon hoë vlakke van voorafgaande kwartale. Die waarde van effekte van die openbare sektor wat op die effektebeurs verhandel is, het teruggesak

Effektebeurstransaksies



Effektebeurstransaksies



van die rekordvlak van R50,3 miljard in die derde kwartaal tot R34,5 miljard in die vierde kwartaal. Die omset van hierdie effekte gedurende 1987 in sy geheel het nietemin nog R165,2 miljard beloop, teenoor R108,0 miljard in die voorafgaande jaar.

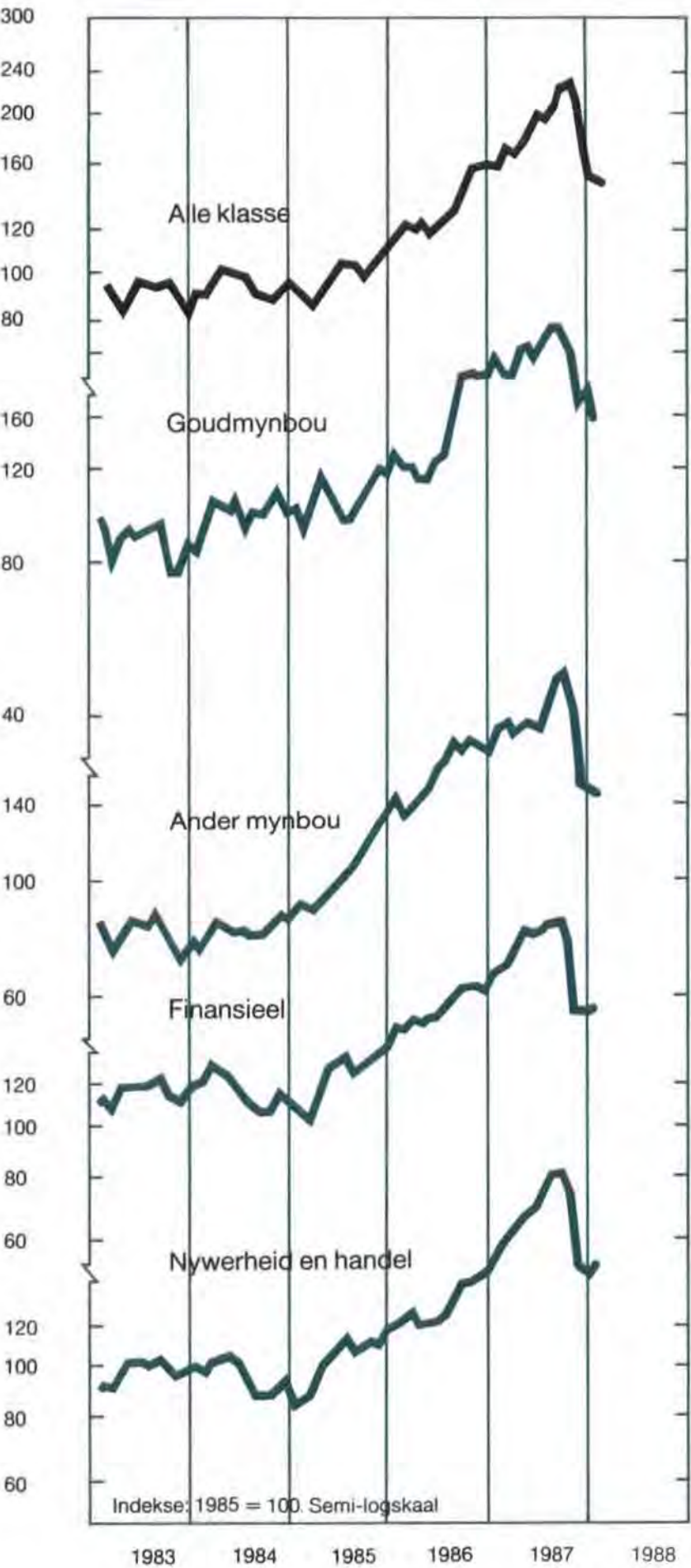
Die waarde van aandele wat op die effektebeurs verhandel is, het eweneens van R5,9 miljard in die derde kwartaal van 1987 tot R4,6 miljard in die vierde kwartaal gekrimp. Die omset in aandele vir die jaar 1987 was teen R19,5 miljard egter sowat 70 persent hoër as in 1986.

Die gemiddelde prysvlak van alle klasse aandele het in die eerste drie kwartale van 1987 met 36 persent gestyg, maar het in die vierde kwartaal met 33 persent teruggesak. Gevolglik was die gemiddelde vlak van hierdie pryse in die laaste twee maande van 1987 ongeveer dieselfde as in die derde kwartaal van 1986. Aandelepryse in Desember 1987 was nietemin gemiddeld slegs 9 persent laer as in Desember 1986. In Januarie 1988 het aandelepryse verder met gemiddeld 3 persent gedaal.

Die daling in aandelepryse het in samehang met die diskonto op die finansiële rand, buitelanders genoop om netto aankopers van Suid-Afrikaanse effekte te word. Die netto verkope van effekte deur nie-inwoners op die Johannesburgse Effektebeurs, wat in die eerste tien maande van 1987 R1 444 miljoen bedra het, het in die laaste twee maande van die jaar omgeswaai na netto aankope van effekte ten bedrae van R228 miljoen.

In die primêre markte het nuwe uitgiftes van vastentredende effekte deur die openbare sektor in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 slegs R0,3 miljard bedra teenoor R2,9 miljard in die derde kwartaal. Dit het die totaal vir 1987 op R4,5 miljard te staan gebring, vergeleke met R3,7 miljard in 1986. Nuwe uitgiftes van vastentredende effekte en aandelekapitaal deur genoteerde maatskappye het in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 soveel as R217 miljoen en R545 miljoen onderskeidelik bedra teenoor R119 miljoen en R294 miljoen

Aandelepryse



in die derde kwartaal. Die onderskeie jaartotale vir hierdie soort uitgafes het in 1987 R0,5 miljard en R2,0 miljard beloop, vergeleke met R0,3 miljard en R2,0 miljard in 1986.

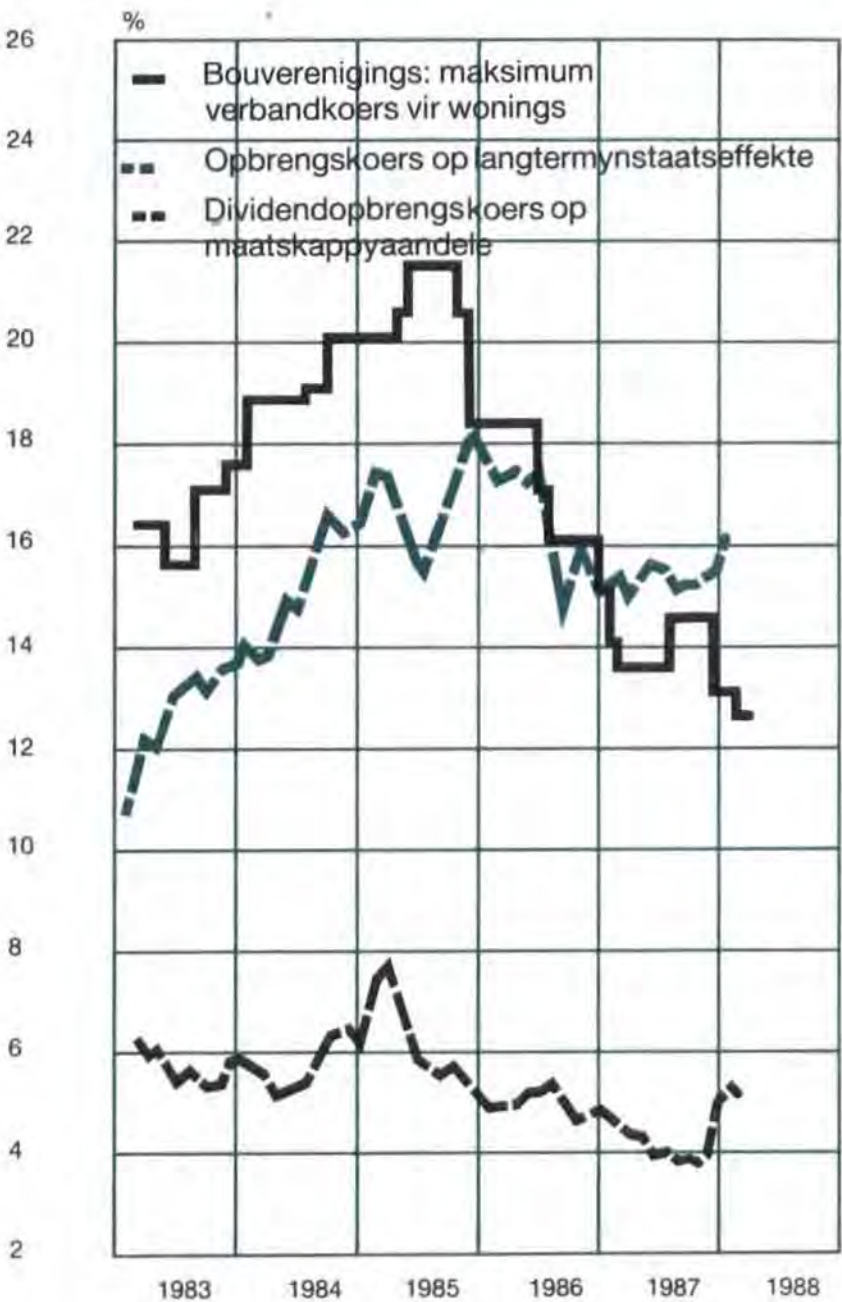
Die volgehoue vraag na verbandfinansiering het die bouverenigings in staat gestel om die bedrag aan nuwe

verbandlenings uitbetaal in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 op ongeveer die vlak van R2,3 miljard in die derde kwartaal, te handhaaf. Die totale bedrag aan nuwe lenings in 1987 uitbetaal, het R8,9 miljard bedra wat R2,2 miljard hoër is as in 1986. Die waarde van vaste-eiendomstransaksies in Oktober, naamlik R1,3 miljard, het min verskil van sy maandelikse gemiddelde vlak in die derde kwartaal.

Langtermynrente- en opbrengskoerse

Langtermynrentekoerse het in die derde kwartaal van 1987 teruggesak vanweë die gunstiger verwagtings aangaande inflasie en 'n meer optimistiese siening van die Regering se toekomstige leningsbehoefte. Hierdie koerse het egter in die vierde kwartaal van 1987 weer verstewig ná die terugsakking van aandelepryse vanaf 20 Oktober. Die gemiddelde opbrengskoers op langtermynstaatseffekte het matig toegeneem van 15,2 persent in September tot 15,3 persent in Novem-

Langtermynrentekoerse



ber en 15,5 persent in Desember. Volgehoue verskuiwings in die algemene klimaat van verwagtings aangaande toekomstige rentekoers-bewegings, die teleurstellende vertoning van die dollarprys van goud in Februarie en die dralende onsekerheid oor die moontlike omvang van die Regering se begrotingstekorte en leningsbehoefte in die fiskale jare 1987/88 en 1988/89, het egter daarna veroorsaak dat hierdie opbrengskoers verder tot 'n maandelikse gemiddeld van 16,1 persent in Januarie 1988 en 16,5 persent in Februarie gestyg het.

Hoofsaaklik vanweë die mededinging deur sekere groot banke, het 'n groot bouvereniging sy verbandkoers op nuwe lenings in Augustus 1987 vanaf 14,5 persent tot 12,95 persent verlaag. Hierdie vereniging, en andere, het daarna vanaf November verbandkoerse tot 13,5, 13,0 en, onder sekere voorwaardes, tot 12,5 persent verlaag. Ná die verhoging in die Bankkoers vroeg in Maart 1988 het die bouverenigings egter in sekere gevalle hul verbandkoerse op nuwe lenings vanaf 12,5 na 14,0 persent, en in die algemeen hul verbandkoerse tot 'n vlak van tussen 13,5 en 14,5 persent verhoog.

Die oorheersende rentekoers op deposito's van twaalf maande, wat in Junie 1987 deur bouverenigings tot 10,75 persent en deur banke tot 10,5 persent verhoog is, is gedurende die daaropvolgende maande op hierdie vlakke gehandhaaf. In Januarie 1988 het die banke hul koers op deposito's van twaalf maande tot 10,75 persent verhoog. Die bouverenigings het vervolgens in Februarie hul koers op hierdie deposito's tot 11,25 persent verhoog.

As 'n weerspieëling van die skerp afname in aandelepryse vanaf 20 Oktober, het die gemiddelde dividend-opbrengskoers op alle klasse aandele van 3,6 persent in September tot onderskeidelik 3,7 persent, 4,9 persent en 5,1 persent in Oktober, November en Desember, toegeneem. Nieteenstaande 'n verdere daling in aandelepryse het hierdie opbrengskoers in Januarie 1988 effens gedaal tot 5,0 persent.

Staatsfinansies

Resultaat van die Sentrale Regering se Begroting vir die fiskale jaar 1987/88

Die tekort voor lenings vir die fiskale jaar 1987/88 sal, soos op 16 Maart 1988 deur die Minister van Finansies in sy Begrotingsrede aangekondig is, na verwagting R10 014 miljoen, of 5,8 persent van die bruto binne-landse produk, bedra. Dit kan vergelyk word met die verhouding van 4,9 persent wat ten tyde van die indiening van die Begroting vir 1987/88 in Junie 1987 in die vooruitsig gestel is. Die eventuele korttermyn- stimulerende uitwerking van die 1987/88-Begroting was dus aansienlik groter as wat in die Begroting self in die vooruitsig gestel is.

Skatkisuitreikings aan staatsdepartemente in die fiskale jaar 1987/88 is deur die Minister op R47 836 miljoen geraam. Dit sou die oorspronklike Begrotingsramings met R968 miljoen, of 2,1 persent, oorskry. Die toename in Skatkisuitreikings gedurende die fiskale jaar 1987/88 teenoor die werklike uitreikings in die fiskale jaar 1986/87 sou 18,9 persent beloop, wat in reële terme 'n toename van ongeveer 5,0 persent verteenwoordig.

Die totale inkomste-invorderings in die fiskale jaar 1987/88 is deur die Minister op R37 822 miljoen geraam. Dit sou dus R621 miljoen laer wees as die bedrag wat in die oorspronklike Begrotingsramings voorsien is. Soos in die bygaande tabel aangetoon word, is laer toenames in ontvangste as waarvoor begroot is in bykans alle hoofposte van belastingontvangste aange-teken. Die ontvangste vanaf die mynbousektor is nadelig beïnvloed deur skerp kostestygings, stakings en werk-oponthoude en 'n daling in die steenkooluitvoer. Inkomstebelastinginvorderings vanaf individue was ook ietwat laer as wat verwag is.

Staatsinkomstefonds – Inkomste-invorderings in 1987/88

	Begroting ¹		Verwagte invorderings	
	R miljoene	Persentasie- verandering ²	R miljoene	Persentasie- verandering ²
Totale invorderings vanaf goudmyne	3 150	-0,9	2 652	-16,6
Ander inkomstebelastinginvorderings	18 850	20,0	18 340	16,8
Algemene verkoopbelasting	9 925 ³	11,6	10 180	14,2
Doeane- en aksynsregte ⁴	3 595 ³	42,7	3 357	33,2
Ander ontvangste ⁵	2 923	-31,8	3 293	-23,2
Totale ontvangste	38 443	12,6	37 822	10,7

¹ Begrotingsrede, Junie 1987. ² In vergelyking met werklike invorderings gedurende die fiskale jaar 1986/87. ³ Die oorspronklike bedrae van R10 700 miljoen en R2 820 miljoen is agterna verander met die hertoewysing van R775 miljoen se algemene verkoopbelasting na die pos vir die gekonsolideerde brandstofheffing. ⁴ Uitgesonderd die oordragte na aangrensende lande, maar insluitende die bobelasting op invoergoedere en die gekonsolideerde brandstofheffing wat op 1 Julie 1987 ingestel is. ⁵ Insluitende oordragte na die Sentrale Energiefonds.

Die totale belastinginvorderings vanaf nie-mynboumaatskappye was egter baie naby aan die Begrotingsramings. Alhoewel die ontvangste uit algemene verkoopbelasting effens hoër was as waarvoor daar begroot is, is laer-as-begrote inkomste uit doeane- en aksynsreg vir 1987/88 in sy geheel verwag aangesien die invorderings van die gekonsolideerde brandstofheffing aanmerklik tekortgeskiet het vergeleke met die aangepaste Begrotingsramings.

Die geraamde tekort voor lenings en skuldaflossing van R10 014 miljoen vir die fiskale jaar 1987/88 sal na verwagting soos volg gefinansier word:

	R miljoene
Openbare Beleggingskommissaris (OBK)	4 103
Nuwe uitgiftes van staatseffekte	2 930
Nie-bemerkbare effekte (netto)	856
Buitelandse lenings ¹ (netto)	1 110
Korttermynlenings (netto)	582
Gebruik van beskikbare kontantsaldo's ²	433
	10 014

¹ Insluitende fondse aan buitelandse deposito's gehou by die OBK.
² Toename –; afname +.

Die 1988/89-Staatsbegroting

In sy voorlegging van die Begroting vir 1988/89 aan die Parlement op 16 Maart 1988, het die Minister van Finansies daarop gewys dat die groeikoers van die Suid-Afrikaanse ekonomie sedert 1986 aansienlik verbeter het en dat vooruitsigte vir 'n verdere versnelling in die ekonomiese bedrywigheid goed was. In hierdie omstandighede is 'n versigtiger en minder ekspansionistiese benadering van ekonomiese beleid die aangewese weg. Dit was belangrik dat 'n gesonde ewewig gehandhaaf word tussen, enersyds, die noodsaaklikheid om die hoogste moontlike groeikoers te behaal en, andersyds, die bewustheid aangaande faktore – soos die betalingsbalans, die beperkte beskikbaarheid van kapitaalfondse en die inflasiekoers – wat beperkings op die groeivermoë van die Suid-Afrikaanse ekonomie plaas. Daar moet ook gebruik gemaak word van die besondere geleentheid wat geskep is deur die same-loop van gunstiger ekonomiese faktore om die stryd teen inflasie te verskerp. Dit moet gebruik word, nie slegs vir die aanwending van toepaslike monetêre en fiskale beleidsmaatreëls nie, maar ook om inflasionistiese verwagtings en sakepraktyke wat meebring dat inflasionistiese verwagtings selfvervullende profesieë word, te beëindig. Verdere stappe word derhalwe deur die Regering oorweeg om die werking van die markmeganisme te bevorder, asook om openbare “wag-hond”-liggame soos die Verbruikersraad en die Raad op Mededinging met bykomende magte te beklee.

Afgesien daarvan dat dit die korttermyn-sikliese behoeftes van die ekonomie in aanmerking neem, het die Begroting vir 1988/89 ook 'n aantal belangrike struk-

turele aanpassings in die belastingstelsel, sowel as maatreëls vir die verdere inwerkingstelling van toepaslike beheer oor die totale owerheidsbesteding, bekend gestel. Voorbeelde van laasgenoemde sluit in die stroombelyning van die proses waardeur prioriteite bepaal word by kapitaalbesteding, sowel as die uitskakeling van die sogenaamde “geoomerkte” fondse wat buite-om die Skatkis beweeg, deur gedeeltes van die brandstofheffings wat tot nog toe aan die Sentrale Energiefonds en die Nasionale Padfonds toegeval het, na die Skatkis te kanaliseer.

Betreffende die strukturele veranderings van die belastingstelsel is groot veranderings aan die huidige stelsel aangebring deur uitvoering te gee aan belangrike belastinghervormingsvoorstelle van die Kommissie van Onderzoek na die Belastingstruktuur van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika (die Margo-kommissie). Verdere sodanige hervormings – insluitende die omskakeling van die bestaande algemene verkoopbelasting na 'n fakturgebaseerde toegevoegde-waardebelasting wat deur die Margo-kommissie voorgestel is as 'n alternatief vir die instelling van 'n omvattende besigheidsbelasting – sal in die Begroting vir die fiskale jaar 1989/90 of daaropvolgende jare ingestel word.

Met betrekking tot die Regering se fiskale strategie vir 1988/89 het die Minister gesê dat die aanpassing wat op die gebied van die fiskale beleid gemaak sou word, moes inpas by die minder akkommoderende ingesteldheid van die monetêre beleid wat reeds deur die Reserwebank aanvaar is. Owerheidsbesteding sou binne redelike perke gehou word en sou in reële terme 'n matige afname toon. Onder die verskillende maatreëls wat op hierdie resultaat gemik is, was die instelling van 'n “stilstand” met betrekking tot indiensneming in die openbare sektor, terwyl salaris- en loonverhogings in hierdie sektor in die nuwe jaar oor die algemeen beperk sou word tot slegs normale skaalverhogings en beperkte beroepsgerigte verhogings in terme van besoldiging. Begrotingstekorte van gemiddeld ongeveer 3 persent van die bruto binnelandse produk oor 'n aantal jare het steeds 'n belangrike doelwit van die beleid gebly ten einde te verseker dat die Regering se beroep op die kapitaalmark nie onnodige druk op die rentekoerse uitoefen nie.

Die besteding deur die owerheid in die fiskale jaar 1988/89 is begroot om met 12,6 persent toe te neem en sal na verwagting in reële terme ietwat daal. Daar word geraam dat owerheidsinkomste met 16,3 persent sal toeneem. By hierdie raming van inkomste vir 1988/89 is ingesluit sekere heffings wat voorheen aan die Sentrale Energiefonds en die Nasionale Padfonds toegeval het.

Die kapitaalbesteding wat by die totale besteding ingesluit is, is geraam om R4 745 miljoen te bedra, wat 'n effense toename van 2,4 persent verteenwoordig in vergelyking met die bedrag wat oorspronklik vir die fiskale jaar 1987/88 begroot is. Die tekort voor lenings

word op R9 860 miljoen, of ongeveer 4,9 persent van die bruto binnelandse produk, geraam. Daar is voorgestel dat hierdie tekort op die volgende wyse gefinansier word:

	R miljoene
Inkomste	44 005
Uitgawes	53 865
Tekort voor lenings	9 860
Finansiering (uitgesonderd skuldaflissing):	
Openbare Beleggingskommissarisse (OBK)	4 600
Nuwe uitgiftes van staatseffekte	4 350
Nie-bemerkbare effekte (netto)	150
Skuldtilstand en buitelandse fondse (netto)	354
Korttermynlenings (netto)	410
Beskikbare saldo's ¹	-4
Totaal	9 860

¹ Toename -; afname +.

Begroting van die Suid-Afrikaanse Vervoerdienste vir 1988/89

In die Begroting van die Suid-Afrikaanse Vervoerdienste vir die finansiële jaar 1988/89, wat op 24 Februarie 1988 aan die Parlement voorgelê is, is die totale inkomste op R10 752 miljoen geraam. Geen styging in binnelandse tariewe en reisgelde is aangekondig nie. Met inbegrip van die bedrag van R577 miljoen wat vir valutaverliese geoormerk is, is bedryfsuitgawes in die finansiële jaar 1988/89 op R10 848 miljoen geraam. Dit verteenwoordig 'n toename van R561 miljoen, of 5,5 persent, op die Begroting van 1987/88. Die tekort wat in 1988/89 hieruit voortspruit, word dienooreenkomstig op R96 miljoen geraam, vergeleke met 'n begrote tekort van R40 miljoen en 'n verwagte werklike tekort van R126 miljoen in 1987/88. Kapitaalbesteding in 1988/89 word op R927 miljoen geraam, of R177 miljoen meer as wat in die Begroting vir 1987/88 voorsien is.

Begroting van die Departement van Pos- en Telekommunikasiewese vir 1988/89

In die Begroting van die Departement van Pos- en Telekommunikasiewese vir die finansiële jaar 1988/89, wat op 7 Maart 1988 in die Parlement ter tafel gelê is, word bedryfsuitgawes op R4 102 miljoen geraam, wat 'n toename van sowat R330 miljoen of 8,8 persent op die voorafgaande jaar verteenwoordig. 'n Verdere R333 miljoen sal benodig word vir leningsaflossings en ander bewilligings. Inkomste in 1988/89 word op R4 677 miljoen, of 7,0 persent meer as in 1987/88, geraam. Dit sal 'n bedryfsurplus van R242 miljoen laat. Gevolglik word geen verhoging in pos- en telekommunikasietariewe benodig nie. Kapitaalbesteding word op R1 595 miljoen, of 1,5 persent minder as in 1987/88, geraam.