National Agricultural Marketing Council

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Markets and Economic Research Centre

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FOOD PRICE MONITOR:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The July 2013 Consumer Price Index (CPI) released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) showed that the headline CPI was 6.3 % between July 2012 and July 2013. The previous Food Price Monitor (FPM) of May 2013 reported that the food and non-alcoholic beverage index increased by 6.2 % between April 2012 and April 2013. Since the last report, the food and non-alcoholic beverage inflation has almost stabilised on a year-on-year basis, increasing by 6.4 % in May 2013 and 6.8 % in June 2013. The inflation rate for food and non-alcoholic beverages increased to 6.8 % in July 2013.

The price of white sugar (2.5 kg) and rice (2 kg) were respectively R 1.94 and R 1.57 more expensive in the rural areas compared to the urban areas. Consumers in rural areas paid R 1.04 more than urban consumers for 1 L full-cream long-life milk. Rural consumers paid R 1.77 less for sunflower oil (750 ml) than urban consumers in July 2013. For a loaf of white bread (700 g), consumers in the rural areas paid R 0.87 less than urban consumers

From July 2012 to July 2013 the cost of a food basket expressed as a share of the average monthly income of the poorest 30 % of the population increased from 39.7 % in July 2012 to 41.9 % in July 2013. The cost of a food basket expressed as a share of the average monthly income of the wealthiest 30 % of the population increased from 1.6 % to 1.7 % during the same period.

When comparing July 2012 to July 2013, a significant price inflation (8 % or more) was experienced for many products within the food basket: onions, brown bread, white bread, canned fish, tea, apples and fresh chicken portions. This could have a negative impact on household food security in South Africa, affecting the affordability of one important staple food (bread) as well as food items making a major contribution to dietary diversity. When comparing the inflation rates for July 2012 versus July 2013, with April 2012 versus April 2013 (i.e. the previous Food Price Monitor analysis period), inflation increased for bread and cereals, fruit, dairy, bean products and coffee/tea.

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1. Foreword

The April 2013 Consumer Price Index (CPI) released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) showed that the headline CPI was 6.3 % between July 2012 and July 2013. Monthly data show that the year-on-year food and non-alcoholic beverage index increased by 6.2 % in April 2013, by 6.4 % in May 2013 and by 6.8 % in June 2013. July 2013 figures show stabilisation of the food and beverage index at 6.8 % year-on-year. Figure 1 shows trends in year-on-year headline and the food and non-alcoholic beverage inflation rates from July 2012 to July 2013.

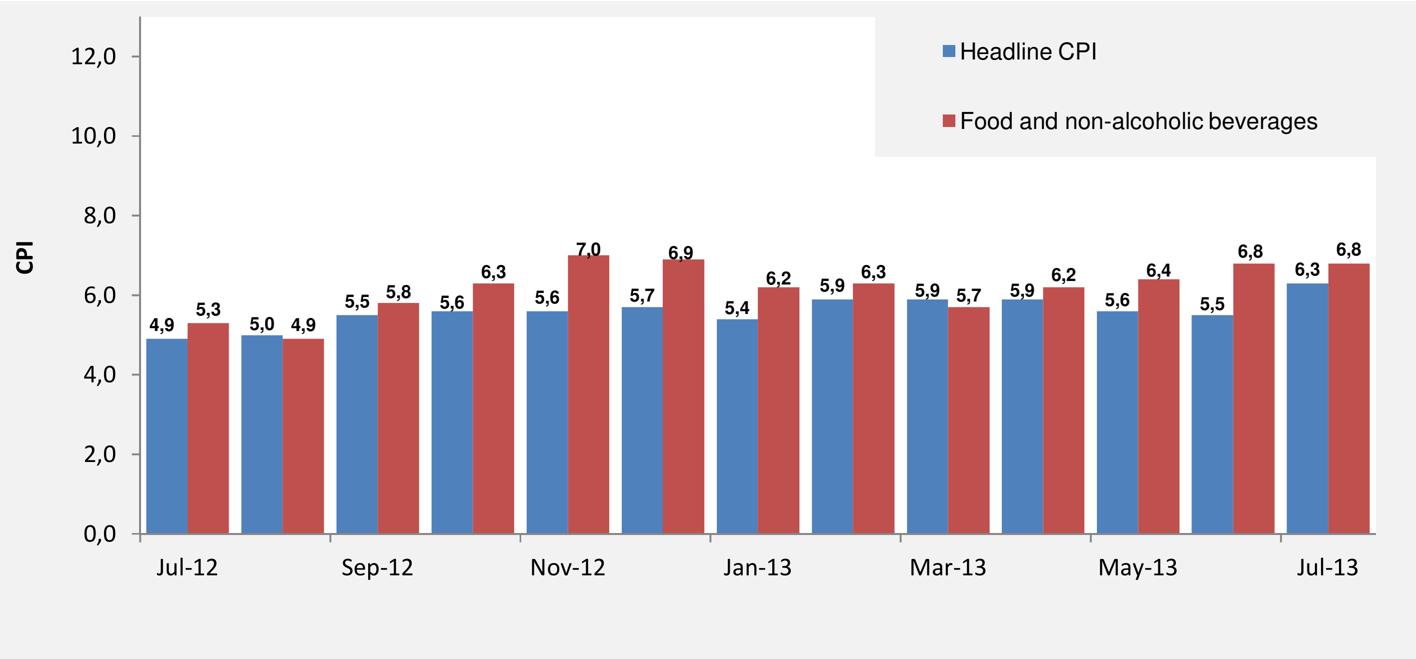

Figure 1: Headline CPI and food and non-alcoholic beverage CPI for 2012–2013 (year-on-year)
Source: Stats SA, 2013

Presented in Figure 2 are the components of the food and non-alcoholic beverage inflation**.** The following components in the food and non-alcoholic beverages increased: vegetables (13.3 %), processed food products (7.5 %), bread and cereals (7.3 %), meat (7.3 %), milk, eggs and cheese (6.7 %) unprocessed food products (6.6 %), other food (5.9 %), sugar and sweets (5,9 %), fish (5.8 %), fruits (4.6 %) and oils and fats (3.5 %). On an annual basis, no food and non-alcoholic beverages components showed a decrease.

On a month-to-month basis, the food component which showed the largest increase was bread and cereals (0.7 %) and vegetables (0.6 %).

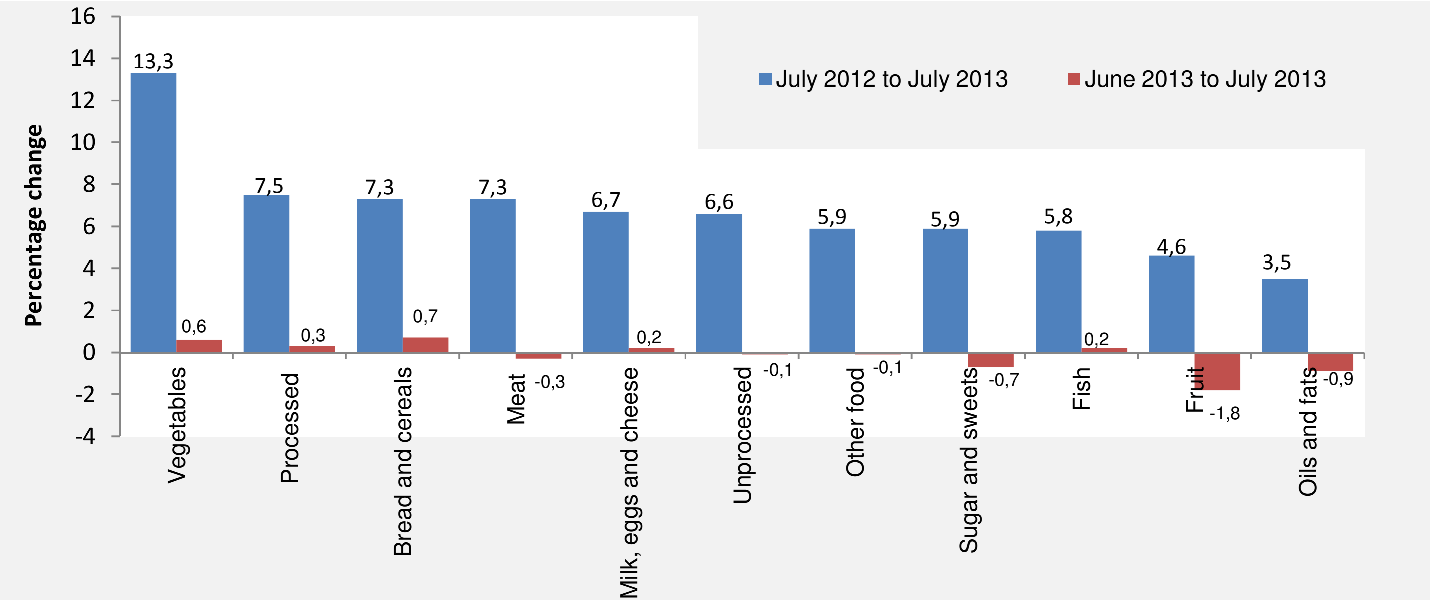

Figure 2: Year-on-year percentage change for different food categories (July 2012 – July 2013)
Source: Stats SA, 2013

2. Overall inflation and food inflation: South Africa and selected countries

Table 1 shows the overall inflation and food inflation rates for South Africa and selected countries for the year-on-year percentage change in July 2013. Turkey, Zambia and Russia experienced the highest overall inflation, while Turkey, India and Brazil have the highest inflation on food and non-alcoholic beverages. The overall inflation rate for China increased from 2.4 % in April 2013 to 2.6 % in July 2013. Food inflation for July 2013 was 5.0 %

Amongst the BRICS countries, Russia has the highest overall inflation rate, while India has the highest food inflation rate of 11.9 %. The United States, China and the United Kingdom are the countries listed in the table with the lowest overall inflation, while the United States, the United Kingdom and Botswana have the lowest food and non-alcoholic beverages inflation rates respectively.

Table 1: Overall inflation and food inflation during July 2013

Country	Overall inflation (%)	Inflation on food and non-alcoholic beverages (%)
South Africa	6.4	6.8
Botswana	5.7	4.7
Zambia	7.3	7.1
Turkey	8.8	12.7
Namibia	5.8	6.3
United States	1.9	1.4
United Kingdom	2.8	3.9
Brazil	6.3	11.4
Russia	6.5	4.9
India	5.8	11.9
China	2.6	5.0

Source: Central banks and statistics reporting institutions of these countries, as well as the press

3. Urban and rural food price trends: July 2012–July 2013

Appendix C ranks the food items included in this report in the urban and rural areas, according to the inflation experienced. The food products highlighted in Table C.1 are those with annual inflation rates that exceeded the South African Reserve Bank's (SARB) inflation upper band of 6 %. Food items in urban areas with an annual inflation rate of higher than 6 % were the following: Ceylon black tea 62.5 g (6.13 %), eggs 1.5 dozen (6.21 %), beef rump steak (6.24 %), pork chops, fresh per kg (6.49 %), Ricoffy regular 750 g (6.72 %), spaghetti 500 g (6.91 %), fresh milk full-cream 2 L (7.06 %), potatoes 10 kg bag (7.37 %), chopped peeled tomato 410 g (7.45 %), beef T-bone, fresh per kg (7.48 %), cabbage, fresh per kg (7.64 %), apples, fresh per kg (7.69 %), chicken portions, fresh per kg (7.71 %), fresh milk low fat 2 L (7.78 %), chicken-frozen per kg (8.67 %), macaroni plain 500g (9.19 %),white sugar 2.5 kg (9.47 %), fish (excl tuna) tinned 155 g (9.61 %), loaf of white bread 700 g (9.74 %), cheese cheddar per kg (9.91 %), bananas-fresh per kg (10.68 %), fish (excl tuna) tinned 425 g (10.73 %), loaf of brown bread 700g (11.03 %), sweet potatoes per kg (11.14 %), whole chicken, fresh per kg (11.99 %), Enterprise picnic ham 300 g (13.09 %), cake flour 2.5 kg (13.13 %), carrots fresh per kg (14.19 %), tuna tinned 170g (17.66 %), cauliflower fresh per kg (20.86 %) and onions fresh per kg (28.69 %). Table C2 shows the items in rural areas whose inflation rate is above 6 %: tagless tea bags 62.5 g (7.69 %), sunflower oil 2 L (8.02 %), full-cream long-life milk1 L (10.63 %), loaf of brown bread 700 g (11.65 %) and tagless teabags 250 g (18.16 %).

A closer look at food price trends:

The international price of wheat (US No.2, Hard Red Winter ord. Prot, US Fob Gulf) increased by 9.66 % while domestic wheat prices increased by 18.27 % in the period of a year (July 2012–July 2013). Urban consumers paid 12.09 % more for a loaf of brown bread (700 g) and 11.59 % more for a loaf of white (700 g) bread between July 2012 and July 2013.

Domestic yellow maize prices had a positive growth rate of 9.36 % from July 2012 to July 2013. International yellow maize prices also increased by 9.66 % during the same period. Super maize meal decreased by 1.16 % and special maize meal increased by 1.04 % between July 2012 and July 2013.

Retail prices of sunflower oil (750 ml) increased by 4.32 % from July 2012 to July 2013. On the other hand, the price of sunflower seeds traded at R 5171.35/ton and this price rose by 9.42 % between July 2012 and July 2013.

Beef T-bone had the highest price increase of all beef cuts, increasing by 6.69 % between July 2012 and July 2013. Retail prices of beef mince and rump steak increased by 5.35 % and 4.76 % respectively between July 2012 and July 2013. The price of fresh lamb per kilogram increased by 4.84 %, between July 2012 and July 2013. The price of fresh chicken portions increased by 7.66 % between July 2012 and July 2013. The price of frozen chicken portions increased by 9.24 % during the same period.

4. Comparison between urban and rural prices

This section compares prices of selected food items in the rural and urban areas for April 2013 and July 2013. Table 2 shows that in April 2013, rural consumers paid R 11.46 more than urban consumers for the same food basket.

Food items showing the largest price difference in July 2013 were maize meal (5 kg) and margarine (500 g). The price of white sugar (2.5 kg) and rice (2 kg) were respectively R 1.94 and R 1.57 more expensive in the rural areas compared to the urban areas. Consumers in rural areas paid R 1.04 more for full-cream-long life milk 1 L than urban consumers. Rural consumers paid R 1.77 less for sunflower oil (750 ml) than urban consumers in July 2013. For a loaf of white bread (700 g), consumers in the rural areas paid R 0.87 less than urban consumers. The reasons for the higher food prices in the rural areas are discussed in detail in the South African Food Cost Review: 2008, which is available at http://www.namc.co.za.

Table 2: Comparison between urban and rural food prices (selected food items)

Product	Rural food prices (R)		Urban food prices (R)		Price difference (April-13)	Price difference (July-13)
	April-13	July-13	April-13	July-13	R/unit	R/unit
Full Cream Long Life Milk 1L	10,61	11,74	10,93	10,7	–0,32	1,04
Loaf Of Brown Bread 700 g	8,02	8,46	9,04	9,16	–1,02	–0,70
Loaf Of White Bread 700 g	9,28	9,38	10,11	10,25	–0,83	–0,87
Maize Meal 5 kg	31,13	31,46	29,76	23,73	1,37	7,73
Margarine 500 g	25,54	20,27	16,49	16,11	9,05	4,16
Rice 2 kg	23,62	23,08	21,01	21,51	2,61	1,57
Sunflower Oil 750 ml	15,60	15,43	17,02	17,2	–1,42	–1,77
Ceylon/Black Tea 62.5 g	6,50	6,50	8,00	8,14	–1,50	–1,64
White Sugar 2.5 kg	26,40	27,36	24,65	25,42	1,75	1,94
Average					**9,69**	**11,46**

Source: Stats SA, 2013

5. Price trends (week 4 of each month)

Prices normally cited in the FPM are obtained from Stats SA and AC Nielsen (see Appendix G for more details on how the prices are collected). An important issue to note is that Stats SA and AC Nielsen do their price collection during the first three weeks of the month. During the fourth week of each month, retailers usually have specials on various items they sell, which is the reason why prices are not collected during that week. In an effort to include food price trends during week 4 for five retail chains, data was obtained from Adcheck.

Table 3 shows the percentage change in prices of selected food items during week 4 at the different retailers. The average price changes for all the retailers show that the largest increase was in the price of white sugar 2 kg. On average, the price of white sugar 2 kg increased by 16.73 %. The price of long life milk full cream 1 L increased by 4.60 % between April 2013 and July 2013. The price of rice 2 kg increased by 3.79 % during the same period.

Table 3: January 2013 to April 2013 inflation of selected food items for various retailers (in %).

Products	Retailer A	Retailer B	Retailer C	Retailer D	Retailers Average
Cheapest Chicken Braaicuts 2 kg	0,68	–5,76	3,64	–4,50	–1,48
Cheapest Maize Meal 5 kg	–0,07	13,74	–0,46	0,00	3,30
Long Life Milk Full Cream 1 L	4,67	3,22	8,32	2,19	4,60
White Sugar 2 kg	12,86	12,53	29,71	11,83	16,73
Ceylon Teabags Tagless 100 ea	2,50	6,84	1,74	–9,17	0,48
Sunflower Oil 2 L	–1,16	–0,43	–2,30	3,72	–0,04
Margarine Brick 500 g	0,98	28,35	–17,53	2,78	3,65
Rice 2 kg	6,32	11,79	–7,90	4,96	3,79

Source: Adcheck, 2013

6. International food prices

The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations publishes its food price index on a monthly basis. The food price index consists of five commodity group price indices, namely, the meat price index, the dairy price index, the cereals price index, the oils price index and the sugar price index. These indices are weighted with the average export shares of each of the groups for 2002 to 2004. In total, 55 commodity quotations, considered by FAO commodity specialists as representing the international prices of the noted food commodities, are included in the overall index. Figure 3 shows the overall food price index and the price indices for five food categories in real terms.

On an annual basis, the FAO Food Price Index averaged 136.8 points in July 2013; 5.7 points (4.0 %) lower than the 142.5 points of July 2012. The decline in July, which marked the third consecutive monthly drop, was largely driven by lower international prices for grains, soy and palm oil, while sugar, meat and dairy quotations were also down from the previous month.

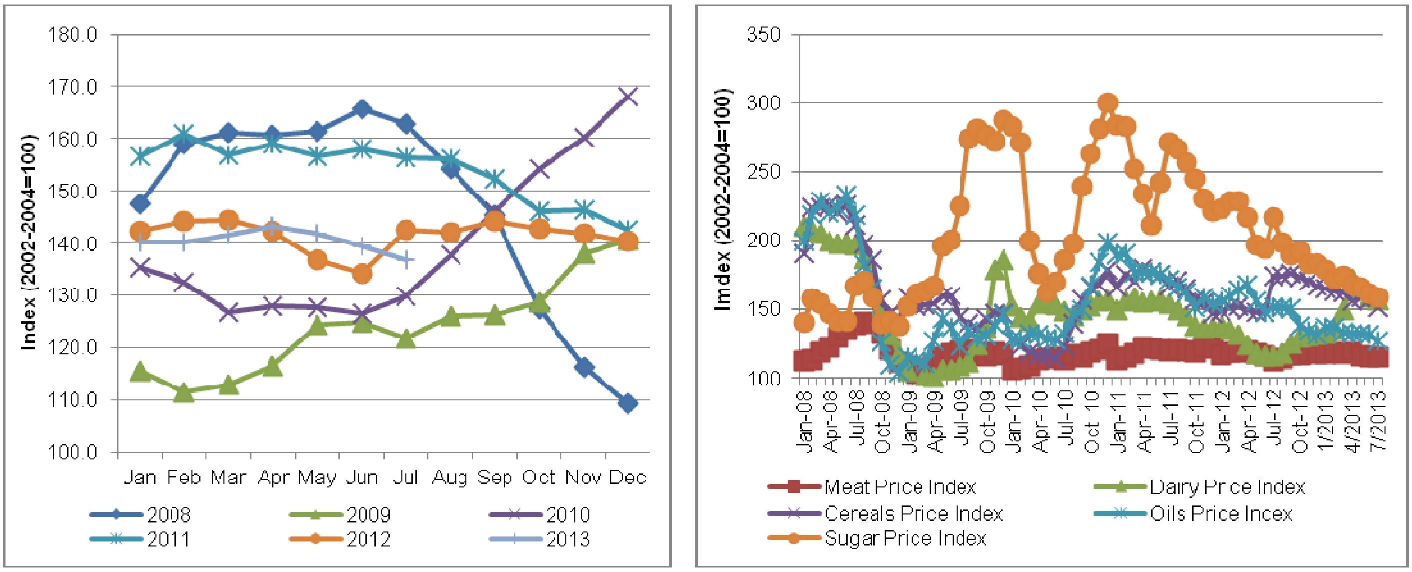

Figure 3: Price indices for five food categories and international real food price index
Source: FAO, 2013

The oils/fats price index averaged 127.0 points in July, down 24.1 points (16.0 %) from April 2013 and was the lowest level in three years. The slide in the index mainly reflects easing quotations for both soy and palm oil. Soy oil values have fallen in response to ample export availabilities, especially in Argentina, combined with weak demand (including from the biodiesel sector), as well as good soybean crop prospects in the United States. The palm oil price weakness mainly resulted from the combination of ample production and lower than expected import demands, most notably by China. Prices for rape and sunflower seed oil also fell, reflecting improved 2013/14 crop prospects.

The dairy price index averaged 157.0 points in July, an increase of 41.4 points (35.8 %) from July 2012. The main cause of the price increase was the tightening of availabilities in Oceania and stagnating milk production amongst other exporters, principally in Europe, South America and the United States.

The meat price index averaged 115.1 points in July 2013, a level which it has maintained since the latter part of 2012. However, this level was 3.1 points (2.7 %) higher than the one for July 2012. The sugar price index averaged 158.7 points in July 2013, down 58.1 points (26.8 %) from July 2012. Sugar prices declined for the fourth consecutive month in July, on the back of anticipated large surplus production in major producing areas, notably in Brazil, the world's largest sugar producer and exporter. Declining ethanol prices in Brazil also provided an incentive to convert more sugarcane into sugar instead of ethanol, which put additional downward pressure on international sugar prices.

The cereals price index averaged 127.0 points in July; down 22.5 points (12.9 %) from July 2012. The decline mostly reflected falling maize prices as favourable weather boosted hopes of a significant production increase in several leading maize producing countries. Wheat prices also fell but the strong pace of exports limited the decline. Rice price changes varied according to origins, with a decrease in Thai prices contrasting with higher Vietnamese quotations.

7. Estimated impact of food inflation on consumers

The purpose of this section is to illustrate the impact of food inflation on consumers. The analysis presented in the first part of this section is based on the cost of a basic food basket[1] (as compiled by the Food Price Monitoring Committee in 2003), based on monthly average food price data for the period July 2012 to July 2013. From July 2012 to July 2013 the cost of this basic food basket increased by about R25 (+5.8 %) in nominal terms from R424 to R449 (compared to a lower increase of 3.9 % from April 2012 to April 2013 (the previous Food Price Monitor analysis period).

The cost of this food basket expressed as a share of the average monthly income[2] of the poorest 30 % of the population increased from 39.7 % in July 2012 to 41.9 % in July 2013 during this analysis period. The cost of the food basket expressed as a share of the average monthly income of the wealthiest 30 % of the population increased from 1.6 % to 1.7 %.

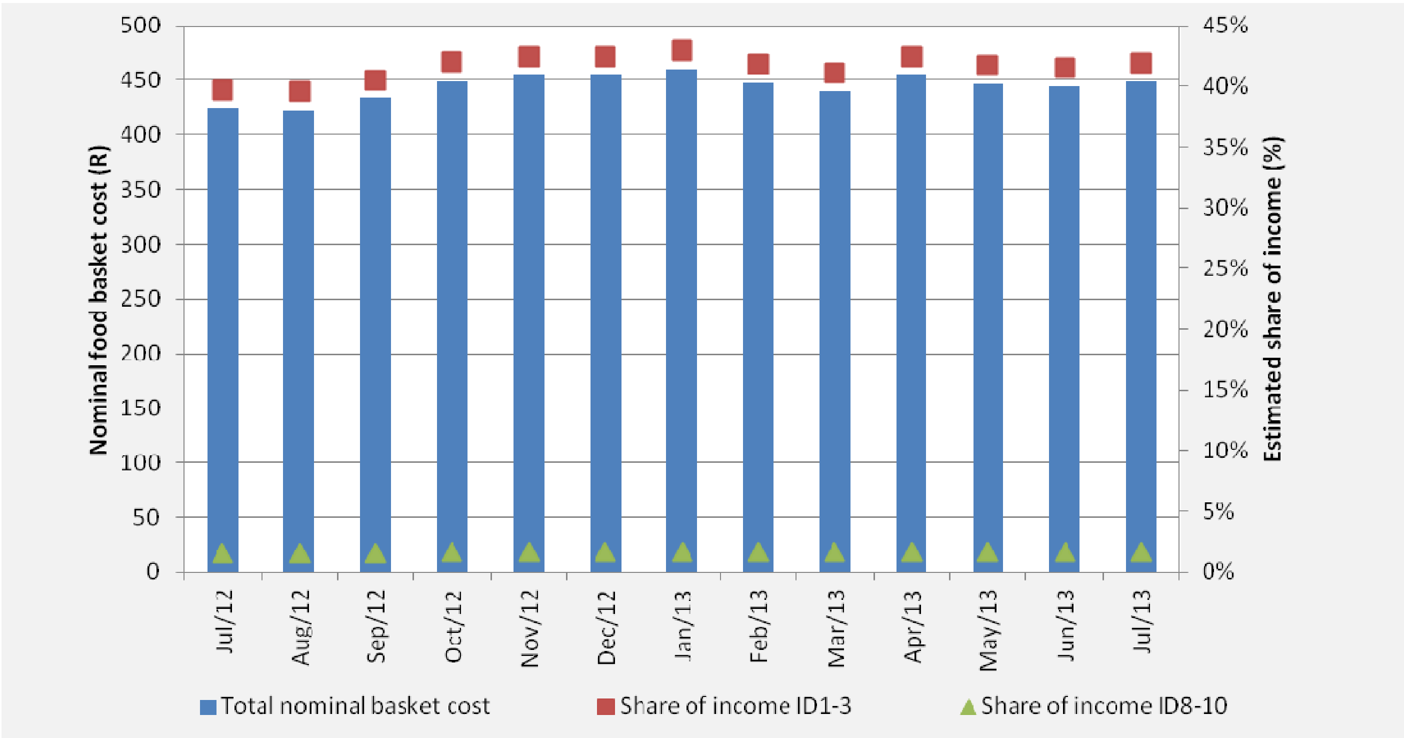

Figure 4: The monthly cost of a typical consumer food basket for the period April 2012 to April 2013, expressed in nominal terms and as share of the average income of the poorest 30 % of households (Income Deciles [ID] 1 to 3) and the wealthiest 30 % of households (ID 8 to 10).

To further explore the impact of inflation on consumers, Figure 5 presents an illustration of the average annual nominal cost of specific food groups within the basic food basket, for the period July 2012 to July 2013. As could be expected Figure 2 illustrates the

[1] Composition of food basket: Apples (1 kg), Bananas (1 kg), Beef chuck (1 kg), Brick margarine (500 g), Butter beans – tinned (410 g), Cabbage (1 kg), Ceylon/black tea (62.5 g), Chicken portions fresh (1 kg), Chicken portions frozen (1 kg), Eggs (1.5 dozen), Canned fish (excl tuna) (425 g), Full cream milk long life (1 ℓ), Instant coffee (750 g), Loaf of brown bread (700 g), Loaf of white bread (700 g), Maize meal super (5 kg), Onions (1 kg), Oranges (1 kg), Peanut butter (400 g), Potatoes (1 kg), Rice (2 kg), Sunflower oil (750 mℓ), Tomatoes (1 kg). *Due to data limitations butter beans was temporarily omitted from this analysis for the period July 2012 to July 2013.*

[2] The cost of the typical food basket was expressed as a share of estimated average monthly income of Income Deciles 1 to 3, the poorest 30 % of the population, as calculated from the STATSSA survey: 'Income & Expenditure of households 2010/2011' *(calculations excludes imputed rent on owned dwelling).*

dominance of animal protein foods, as well as breads and cereals within the cost of the basic food basket. Comparing July 2012 to July 2013 prices, all of the food groups within this particular food basket experienced inflation, with the highest inflation within the following categories: vegetables, dairy and eggs, bean products, coffee and tea, animal protein foods. The various food groups within this food basket are discussed in more detail in Table 4 below

Thus, when comparing July 2012 to July 2013, the significant price inflation (8 % or more) experienced for many products within the food basket: Onions, brown bread, white bread, canned fish, tea, apples and fresh chicken portions. This could have a negative impact on household food security in South Africa affecting the affordability of one important staple food (bread) as well as food items making a major contribution to dietary diversity. When comparing the inflation rates for July 2012 versus July 2013, with April 2012 versus April 2013 (i.e. the previous Food Price Monitor analysis period) inflation increased for bread & cereals, fruit, dairy, bean products and coffee/tea.

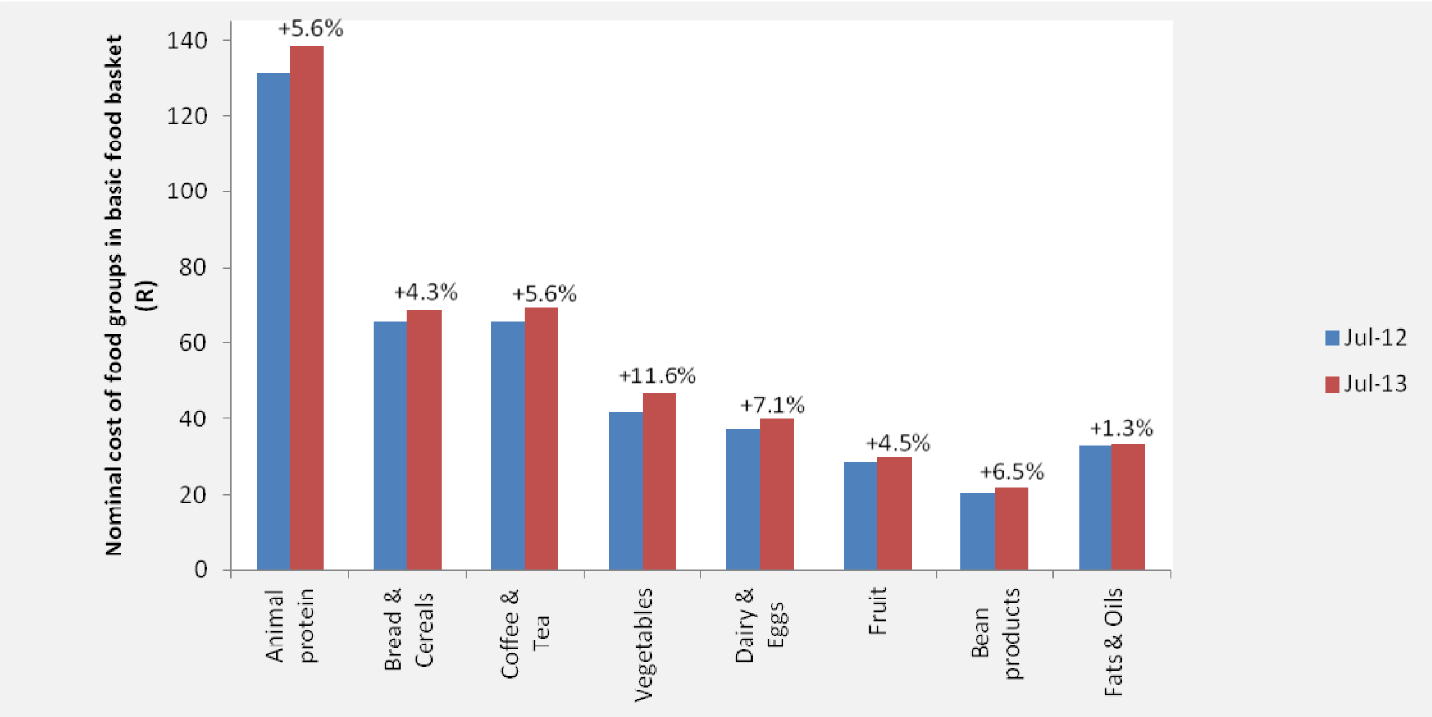

Figure 5: Nominal monthly cost of specific groups in the basic food basket, comparing July 2012 with July 2013

Table 4: Overview of inflation contributing foods in the basic food basket, April 2012 to April 2013

Food group:	Overall inflation rate:		Major contributors to inflation in this category:	Minor contributors to inflation in this category:	Non-contributors to inflation in this category:	Comments:
	July 2012 to July 2013	April 2012 to April 2013				
Animal protein	+5.6 %	+5.9 %	Canned fish (+11.1 %) Chicken portions fresh (+8.0) Chicken portions frozen (+7.8 %)	Beef chuck (+1.7 %)	None	Animal protein

Bread and cereals	+4.3 %	−7.0 %	Brown bread (+12.4 %) White bread (+11.2 %)	Rice (+2.4 %) Maize meal (+1.0 %)	None	Bread and cereals
Vegetables	+11.6 %	+14.4 %	Onions (+33.9 %) Potatoes (+7.4 %) Tomatoes (+6.3 %)	Cabbage (+4.6 %)	None	Vegetables
Fruit	+4.5 %	+2.2 %	Apples (+8.1 %)	Bananas (+4.5 %)	Oranges (−3.8 %)	Fruit
Dairy	+5.6 %	+5.3 %	Full-cream long-life milk (+5.6 %)	None	None	Dairy Eggs
Eggs	+7.6 %	+9.9 %	Eggs (+7.6 %)	None	None	
Fats and oils	+1.3 %	+2.4 %	None	Sunflower oil (+2.8 %)	Margarine (−0.2 %)	Fats and oils
Bean products	+6.5 %	+6.3 %	Peanut butter (+6.5 %)	None	None	Bean products
Coffee and tea	+5.6 %	+3.0 %	Ceylon/black tea (+8.3 %)	Coffee (+5.3 %)	None	Coffee and tea

Source: Stats SA, 2013 and own calculations

The impact of inflation on very poor consumers is further explored below, based on the typical portion sizes of very poor consumers of the five most widely consumed food items in South Africa represented by maize porridge, brown bread, sugar, tea and full-cream milk (National Food Consumption Survey – Steyn & Labadarios, 2000[3]; Oldewage-Theron *et al*., 2005[4]). Figure 6 illustrates the estimated portion costs for these foods, calculated from monthly food price data for July 2012 and July 2013. Similar to other Food Price Monitor analysis periods, the significant cost contribution of maize meal and bread to the typical basic daily food selection for poor consumers is emphasised by the figures in Figure 6. Furthermore, despite the relatively low actual food weight contribution of bread to this 'food plate', the bread component costs significantly more than the maize porridge component (about 69 % more in this case for July 2013). When comparing the costs associated with the typical portion sizes of very poor consumers for the five most widely consumed food items in South Africa, based on July 2013 versus July 2012 prices the results in Figure 3 indicated inflation of about 7.6 % (from R4.05 to R4.35 for the selection of portions). Significant inflation on brown bread, white sugar, tea and milk contributed most to the inflation observed on this 'food plate'.

[3] Steyn NP, Labadarios D. *National Food Consumption Survey: Children aged 1–9 years, South Africa, 1999.* Cape Town: The Department of Health Directorate Nutrition, 2000

[4] Oldewage-Theron W, Dicks E, Napier C, *et al.* Situation analysis of an informal settlement in the Vaal Triangle. *Development Southern Africa 2005*, 22 (1): 13–26

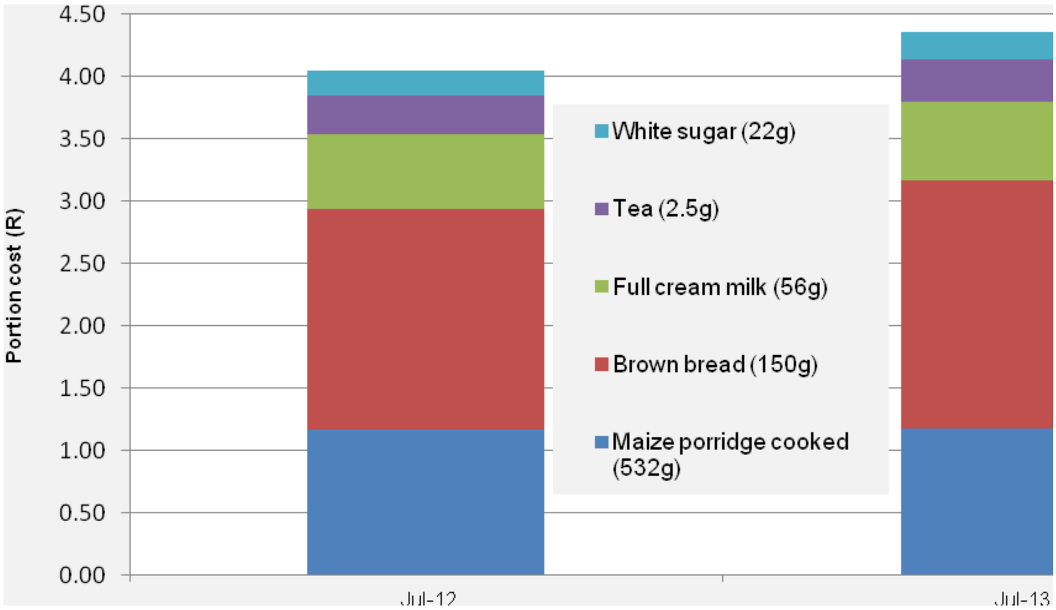

Figure 6: Average nominal cost for the typical portions of the five food items most widely consumed by very poor consumers in South Africa, for April 2012 and April 2013

8. September 2013 – November 2013 outlook

The annual rate of inflation of food and non-alcoholic beverages was unchanged at 6.8 % in July 2013. Within the calculation of the inflation rate, however, there are meaningful differences amongst the various categories, with cereals, vegetables and dairy product prices increasing and fruit, sugars and meat prices trading slightly weaker. The key drivers of food inflation were a mixed bag of local supply-and-demand dynamics as well as the depreciation of the exchange rate. The typical drop in vegetable and milk production during the winter season provided support to the prices of these commodities. On the other side, weaker demand in the meat market as well as increased supplies of meat due to the drought has led to weaker meat prices. Local maize and wheat prices clearly benefitted from the weaker exchange rate that offset significant declines in world commodity markets and maize meal and bread prices increased not only on the back of higher raw commodity prices but also due to higher costs of energy, transport and packaging in the value chain.

International commodity prices are trading softer as stocks levels are anticipated to be replenished. Soybean prices are trading almost $200/ton (28 %) below the levels achieved in 2012 and world maize and rice prices are trading $100/ton (26 %) lower. Wheat prices have declined by 15 % from 2012 levels, since the change in stock levels is not expected to be so dramatic. For the outlook period, no further significant declines in world prices are anticipated as there is relative certainty around the size of the summer crop in the northern hemisphere. In fact, it seems as if prices have found support and the first indications of a weather market are developing in the southern hemisphere with exceptionally dry conditions anticipated to delay the first soybean and maize plantings in Brazil.

Apart from the weaker exchange rate, which will remain a key driver of inflationary pressure on food prices, typical seasonal cycles can be anticipated for the outlook period. For example, meat prices will likely increase as the summer progresses and the market prepares for the festive season. The production of vegetables is anticipated to increase, which will likely curb sharp increases in vegetable prices. The first indications of weather patterns for the upcoming summer season will be factored into summer grain prices. The maize carryout stock levels could be a cause of concern with ending stocks projected to decline from 1.3 million tons for the previous season to levels possibly below 900 000 tons by the end of the 2013/14 season. Lastly, the ever-increasing fuel price remains a concern for the economy and the recent turmoil in Egypt has fuelled Brent oil prices to increase by almost 5 % during the past few weeks.

APPENDIX A: DATA ON URBAN FOOD PRICE TRENDS

Table A.1: Wheat products

Wheat products	Price level			Percentage change	
	Jul-12	Apr-13	Jul-13	April-13 to July-13	July-12 to July-13
Loaf of brown bread 700 g	8,25	9,04	9,16	1,33 %	11,03 %
Loaf of white bread 700 g	9,34	10,11	10,25	1,38 %	9,74 %
Cake flour 2.5 kg	18,20	20,43	20,59	0,78 %	13,13 %
Spaghetti 500 g	9,12	9,92	9,75	−1,71 %	6,91 %
Macaroni plain 500 g*	8,32	8,43	9,08	7,76 %	9,19 %
Average				**1,91 %**	**10,00 %**
Wheat (R/ton)	**3396,00**	**3367,75**	**3447,30**	**2,36 %**	**1,51 %**

*Data from AC Nielsen

Table A.2: Maize products

Maize products	Price level			Percentage change	
	Jul-12	Apr-13	Jul-13	April-13 to July-13	July-12 to July-13
Maize special 5 kg*	25,93	26,95	26,14	−3,02 %	0,79 %
Maize super 5 kg*	28,75	29,76	28,73	−3,47 %	−0,08 %
Average				**−3,25 %**	**0,36 %**
White Maize (R/ton)	**2539,55**	**2165,81**	**2263,22**	**4,50 %**	**−10,88 %**

*Data from AC Nielsen

Table A.3: Sunflower products

Sunflower products	Price level			Percentage change	
	Jul-12	Apr-13	Jul-13	April-13 to July-13	July-12 to July-13
Sunflower oil 750 ml	16,67	17,02	17,20	1,06 %	3,18 %
Medium fat spread 1 kg tub*	24,00	23,24	23,83	2,54 %	−0,70 %
Brick margarine 500 g	16,30	16,49	16,11	−2,30 %	−1,17 %
Average				**0,43 %**	**0,44 %**
Sunflower (R/ton)	**5059,82**	**5223,94**	**5171,35**	**−1,01 %**	**2,20 %**

*Data from AC Nielsen

Table A.4: Processed vegetables

Processed vegetables	Price level			Percentage change	
	Jul-12	Apr-13	Jul-13	April-13 to July-13	July-12 to July-13
Chopped peeled tomato 410 g*	11,70	12,58	12,57	−0,08 %	7,45 %
Tomato & onion mix 410 g*	9,33	10,19	9,89	−2,90 %	5,97 %
Canned peas 410 g*	9,04	9,46	8,63	−8,77 %	−4,50 %
Baby carrots 1 kg*	34,15	35,59	35,59	−0,02 %	4,21 %
Average				**−2,94 %**	**3,28 %**

*Data from AC Nielsen

Table A.5: Fresh vegetables

Fresh vegetables	Price level			Percentage change	
	Jul-12	Apr-13	Jul-13	April-13 to July-13	July-12 to July-13
Carrots – fresh per kg	11,98	13,39	13,68	2,17 %	14,19 %
Onions – fresh per kg	8,47	9,52	10,90	14,50 %	28,69 %
Potatoes – fresh per kg	8,82	9,61	9,47	−1,46 %	7,37 %
Tomatoes – fresh per kg	14,23	17,81	14,98	−15,89 %	5,27 %
Sweet potatoes – fresh per kg	11,04	17,07	12,27	−28,12 %	11,14 %
Cabbages – fresh per kg	10,47	12,38	11,27	−8,97 %	7,64 %
Lettuces – fresh per kg	39,86	32,98	23,62	−28,38 %	−40,74 %
Pumpkins – fresh per kg	13,51	14,61	13,49	−7,67 %	−0,15 %
Cauliflowers – fresh per kg	27,32	36,48	33,02	−9,48 %	20,86 %
Average				**−9,26 %**	**6,03 %**

Table A.6: Processed meat

Processed meat	Price level			Percentage change	
	Jul-12	Apr-13	Jul-13	April-13 to July-13	July-12 to July-13
Meatballs in gravy 400 g*	16,51	16,68	16,05	−3,76 %	−2,76 %
Picnic ham 300 g*	27,72	31,53	31,35	−0,55 %	13,09 %
Polony per kg	28,59	30,06	29,78	−0,93 %	4,16 %
Average				**−1,75 %**	**4,83 %**

*Data from AC Nielsen

Table A.7: Unprocessed meat

Unprocessed meat	Price level			Percentage change	
	Jul-12	Apr-13	Jul-13	April-13 to July-13	July-12 to July-13
Pork Chops – Fresh per kg	53,95	58,50	57,45	−1,79 %	6,49 %
Lamb – Fresh per kg	91,53	97,63	96,88	−0,77 %	5,85 %
Beef Brisket – Fresh per kg	54,24	55,82	54,77	−1,88 %	0,98 %
Beef Chuck – Fresh per kg	55,20	57,36	56,34	−1,78 %	2,07 %
Beef Mince – Fresh per kg	57,32	61,37	60,36	−1,65 %	5,30 %
Beef Rump Steak – Fresh per kg	87,28	96,38	92,73	−3,79 %	6,24 %
Beef T-Bone – Fresh per kg	72,07	78,60	77,46	−1,45 %	7,48 %
Whole Chicken – Fresh per kg	30,85	34,53	34,55	0,06 %	11,99 %
Chicken Portions – Fresh per kg	41,24	44,75	44,42	−0,74 %	7,71 %
Average				**−1,53 %**	**6,01 %**

Table A.8: Dairy products

Dairy product	Price level			Percentage change	
	Jul-12	Apr-13	Jul-13	April-13 to July-13	July-12 to July-13
Fresh milk full-cream 1 L sachet*	7,50	7,57	7,60	0,44 %	1,38 %
Fresh milk full-cream 2 L*	17,37	18,63	18,60	−0,19 %	7,06 %
Fresh milk low fat 1 L sachet*	7,67	8,06	7,95	−1,27 %	3,76 %
Fresh milk low fat 2 L*	18,16	19,72	19,57	−0,73 %	7,78 %
Long life milk full-cream 1 L*	10,57	10,93	10,70	−2,04 %	1,27 %
Skimmed powder milk 1 kg*	69,77	73,32	73,62	0,41 %	5,52 %
Total butter 500 g*	31,51	30,83	30,97	0,48 %	−1,69 %
Cheddar cheese per kg	94,33	102,68	103,68	0,97 %	9,91 %
Average				**−0,24 %**	**4,37 %**

*Data from AC Nielsen

Table A.9: Fruits

Fruits	Price level			Percentage change	
	Jul-12	Apr-13	Jul-13	April-13 to July-13	July-12 to July-13
Apples – fresh per kg	12,62	13,80	13,59	−1,52 %	7,69 %
Bananas – fresh per kg	10,77	11,60	11,92	2,76 %	10,68 %
Average				**0,62 %**	**9,18 %**

Table A.10: Fish products

Fishes – tinned	Price level			Percentage change	
	Jul-12	Apr-13	Jul-13	April-13 to July-13	July-12 to July-13
Fish (excl tuna) – tinned 155 g	6,87	7,40	7,53	1,76 %	9,61 %
Fish (excl tuna) – tinned 425 g	12,11	13,29	13,41	0,90 %	10,73 %
Tuna – tinned 170 g	11,89	13,79	13,99	1,45 %	17,66 %
Average				**1,37 %**	**12,67 %**

Table A.11: Other products

Other products	Price level			Percentage change	
	Jul-12	Apr-13	Jul-13	April-13 to July-13	July-12 to July-13
King Korn 1 kg*	13,93	14,27	14,27	−0,02 %	2,42 %
White Sugar 2.5 kg	23,22	24,65	25,42	3,12 %	9,47 %
Rice 2 kg	21,12	21,01	21,51	2,38 %	1,85 %
Ricoffy Reg 750 g*	56,04	58,52	59,81	2,19 %	6,72 %
Ceylon/Black Tea 62.5 g	7,67	8,00	8,14	1,75 %	6,13 %
Imana Soya Mince Tomato & Onion 200 g*	10,61	9,49	9,82	3,48 %	−7,45 %
Eggs 1.5 dozen	26,72	28,57	28,38	−0,67 %	6,21 %
Average				**1,75 %**	**3,62 %**

*Data from AC Nielsen

APPENDIX B: DATA ON RURAL FOOD PRICE TRENDS

Table B.1: Wheat products

Wheat Products	Price level			Percentage change	
	Apr-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Jun-13 to Jul-13	Apr-13 to Jul-13
Loaf of brown bread 600 g	7.17	7.20	6.73	−6.41 %	−6.06 %
Loaf of brown bread 700 g	8.02	8.70	8.96	2.89 %	11.65 %
Loaf of white bread 600 g	8.70	8.17	7.60	−6.98 %	−12.67 %
Loaf of white bread 700 g	9.28	9.42	9.54	1.33 %	2.86 %
Average				**−2.29 %**	**−1.06 %**

Table B.2: Maize products

Maize Products	Price level			Percentage change	
	Apr-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Jun-13 to Jul-13	Apr-13 to Jul-13
Maize meal 12.5 kg	67.20	58.70	54.35	−7.42 %	−19.13 %
Maize meal 1 kg	8.16	9.85	7.35	−25.36 %	−9.89 %
Maize meal 2.5 kg	16.83	16.12	16.68	3.45 %	−0.91 %
Maize meal 5 kg	31.13	31.21	31.72	1.63 %	1.92 %
Samp 1 kg	8.50	8.50	8.50	0.00 %	0.00 %
Average				**−4.62 %**	**−4.67 %**

Table B.3: Sunflower products

Sunflower Products	Price level			Percentage change	
	Apr-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Jun-13 to Jul-13	Apr-13 to Jul-13
Sunflower Oil 2 L	31.93	34.54	34.49	−0.16 %	8.02 %
Sunflower Oil 500 ml	11.69	11.07	12.19	10.11 %	4.29 %
Sunflower Oil 750 ml	15.60	15.03	15.43	2.68 %	−1.07 %
Margarine 125 g	7.78	7.08	7.62	7.65 %	−2.07 %
Margarine 250 g	11.18	11.22	11.34	1.01 %	1.41 %
Margarine 500 g	25.54	20.08	20.27	0.93 %	−20.63 %
Average				**3.70 %**	**−1.68 %**

Table B.4: Dairy products

Dairy Products	Price level			Percentage change	
	Apr-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Jun-13 to Jul-13	Apr-13 to Jul-13
Full-cream long-life milk 1 L	10.61	9.69	11.74	21.18 %	10.63 %
Full-cream long-life milk 500 ml	7.38	6.95	7.75	11.56 %	5.08 %
Average				**16.37 %**	**7.85 %**

Table B.5: Tea and coffee

Tea and coffee	Price level			Percentage change	
	Apr-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Jun-13 to Jul-13	Apr-13 to Jul-13
Instant coffee 100 g	14.04	13.75	13.60	−1.09 %	−3.15 %
Instant coffee 250 g	27.75	23.49	23.66	0.71 %	−14.76 %
Ceylon/black tea 250 g	22.00	25.99	14.99	−42.32 %	−31.85 %
Ceylon/black tea 62.5 g	6.50	7.00	6.50	−7.14 %	0.00 %
Average				−12.46 %	−12.44 %

Table B.6: Beans

Beans	Price level			Percentage change	
	Apr-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Jun-13 to Jul-13	Apr-13 to Jul-13
Beans 1kg	22.35	24.75	22.86	−7.65 %	2.28 %
Beans 500g	13.32	13.48	13.02	−3.36 %	−2.22 %
Average				**−5.51 %**	**0.03 %**

Table B.7: White sugar

Sugar	Price level			Percentage change	
	Apr-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Jun-13 to Jul-13	Apr-13 to Jul-13
White sugar 1 kg	12.58	12.18	12.44	2.12 %	−1.17 %
White sugar 2.5 kg	26.40	27.18	27.36	0.69 %	3.67 %
White sugar 500 g	6.37	6.46	6.51	0.75 %	2.16 %
Average				**1.19 %**	**1.55 %**

Table B.8: Rice

Rice	Price level			Percentage change	
	Apr-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Jun-13 to Jul-13	Apr-13 to Jul-13
Rice 1 kg	14.03	12.97	13.75	6.08 %	−1.99 %
Rice 2 kg	23.62	20.85	23.08	10.71 %	−2.26 %
Rice 500 g	7.58	8.50	7.27	−14.46 %	−4.05 %
Average				**0.78 %**	**−2.77 %**

Table B.9: Peanut butter

Peanut Butter	Price level			Percentage change	
	Apr-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Jun-13 to Jul-13	Apr-13 to Jul-13
Peanut butter 270 g	18.48	16.83	18.15	7.84 %	−1.79 %
Peanut butter 400 g	23.19	22.60	23.81	5.35 %	2.64 %
Average				**6.59 %**	**0.42 %**

APPENDIX C: SUMMARY OF INFLATION FOR SELECTED FOOD ITEMS BETWEEN JULY 2012, APRIL 2013 AND JULY 2013

Table C.1: Food items in the urban areas ranked according to price changes (July 2012 to July 2013)

Grain and grain products	%	Meat and meat products and dairy and dairy products	%	Fresh and processed fruits and vegetables	%
Soya Mince Tomato & Onion 200 g*	−7,45 %	Bull Brand Meatballs in Gravy 400 g*	−2,76 %	Lettuce – Fresh per kg	−40,74 %
Brick Margarine 500 g	−1,17 %	Total Butter 500 g*	−1,69 %	Oranges – Fresh per kg	−5,32 %
Medium Fat Spread 1 kg Tub*	−0,70 %	Beef Brisket – Fresh per kg	0,98 %	Canned Peas 410 g*	−4,50 %
Maize Super 5 kg*	−0,08 %	Long Life Milk Full-cream 1 L*	1,27 %	Pumpkin – Fresh per kg	−0,15 %
Maize Special 5 kg*	0,79 %	Fresh Milk Full-cream 1 L Sachet*	1,38 %	Baby Carrots 1 kg*	4,21 %
Rice 2 kg	1,85 %	Beef Chuck – Fresh per kg	2,07 %	Tomatoes – Fresh per kg	5,27 %
King Korn 1 kg*	2,42 %	Fresh Milk Low Fat 1 L Sachet*	3,76 %	Tomato & Onion Mix 410 g*	5,97 %
Sunflower Oil 750 ml	3,18 %	Polony per kg	4,16 %	Potatoes Bag 10 kg	7,37 %
Ceylon/Black Tea 62.5 g	6,13 %	Beef Mince – Fresh per kg	5,30 %	Chopped Peeled Tomato 410 g*	7,45 %
Coffee Reg 750 g*	6,72 %	Skimmed Powder Milk 1 kg*	5,52 %	Cabbage – Fresh per kg	7,64 %
Spaghetti 500 g	6,91 %	Lamb – Fresh per kg	5,85 %	Apples – Fresh per kg	7,69 %
Macaroni Plain 500 g*	9,19 %	Eggs 1.5 dozen	6,21 %	Bananas – Fresh per kg	10,68 %
White Sugar 2.5 kg	9,47 %	Beef Rump Steak – Fresh per kg	6,24 %	Sweet Potatoes – Fresh per kg	11,14 %
Loaf Of White Bread 700 g	9,74 %	Pork Chops – Fresh per kg	6,49 %	Carrots – Fresh per kg	14,19 %
Loaf Of Brown Bread 700 g	11,03 %	Fresh Milk Full-cream 2 L*	7,06 %	Cauliflower – Fresh per kg	20,86 %
Cake Flour 2.5 kg	13,13 %	Beef T-Bone – Fresh per kg	7,48 %	Onions -Fresh per kg	28,69 %
		Chicken Portions – Fresh per kg	7,71 %		
		Fresh Milk Low Fat 2 L*	7,78 %		
		Chicken Portions – Frozen per kg	8,67 %		
		Fish (Excl Tuna) – Tinned 155 g	9,61 %		
		Cheddar Cheese per kg	9,91 %		
		Fish (Excl Tuna) – Tinned 425 g	10,73 %		
		Whole Chicken – Fresh per kg	11,99 %		
		Enterprise Picnic Ham 300 g*	13,09 %		
		Tuna – Tinned 170 g	17,66 %		

* Data from AC Nielsen

** Food items highlighted in the table above experienced price increases above the South African Reserve Bank's (SARB) inflation target of 6 %

Table C.2: Food items in the rural areas ranked according to price changes (April 2013 to July 2013)

Grain and grain products	%	Other products	%
Margarine 500 g	−20,63	Instant Coffee 250 g	−14,76
Maize Meal 12.5 kg	−19,13	Instant Coffee 100 g	−3,15
Loaf of White Bread 600 g	−12,67	Beans 500 g	−2,22
Maize Meal 1 kg	−9,89	Peanut Butter 270 g	−1,79
Loaf of Brown Bread 600 g	−6,06	White Sugar 1 kg	−1,17
Rice 500 g	−4,05	Fish (Excl. Tuna) – Tinned 155 g	0,00
Rice 2 kg	−2,26	Fish (Excl. Tuna) – Tinned 425 g	0,00
Margarine 125 g	−2,07	White Sugar 500 g	2,16
Rice 1 kg	−1,99	Beans 1 kg	2,28
Sunflower Oil 750 ml	−1,07	Peanut Butter 400 g	2,64
Margarine 250 g	1,41	White Sugar 2.5 kg	3,67
Maize Meal 5 kg	1,92	Full-cream long-life Milk 500 ml	5,08
Loaf of White Bread 700 g	2,86	Tagless Tea Bags 62.5 g	7,69
Sunflower Oil 500 ml	4,29	Full-cream long-life Milk 1 L	10,63
Sunflower Oil 2 L	8,02	Tagless Tea Bags 250 g	18,16
Loaf of Brown Bread 700 g	11,65		

* Food items highlighted in the table above experienced price increases above the South African Reserve Bank's (SARB) inflation target of 6 %

APPENDIX D: COMMODITY AND PRODUCT PRICE TRENDS

D.1 Wheat price trends

Between July 2012 and July 2013

International wheat price
↑7.71 %

Domestic price of wheat
↑18.27 %

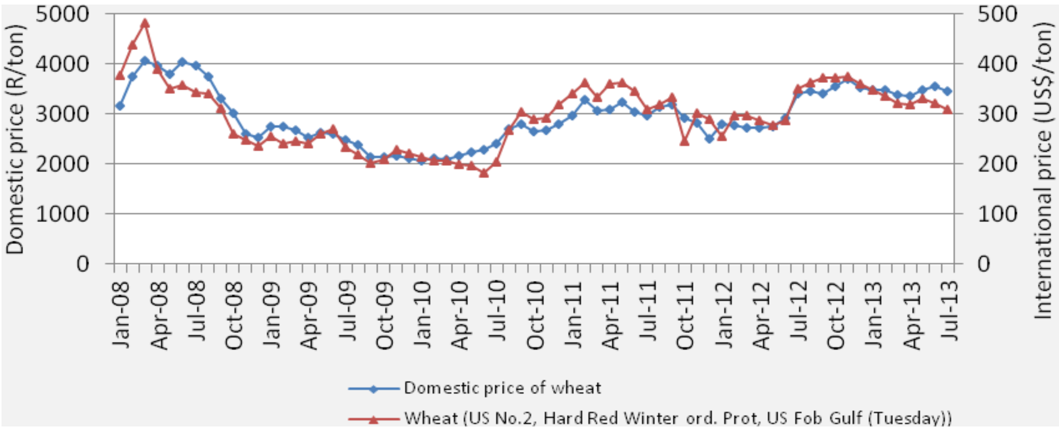

Figure D.1: Domestic market price of wheat against global market price
Source: FAO and SAFEX

Domestic wheat price followed the import parity price of wheat closely, because SA is a net importer of wheat.

Between July 2012 and July 2013:

Wheat import parity price ↑ 26.34 %

Wheat export parity price ↑ 50.40 %

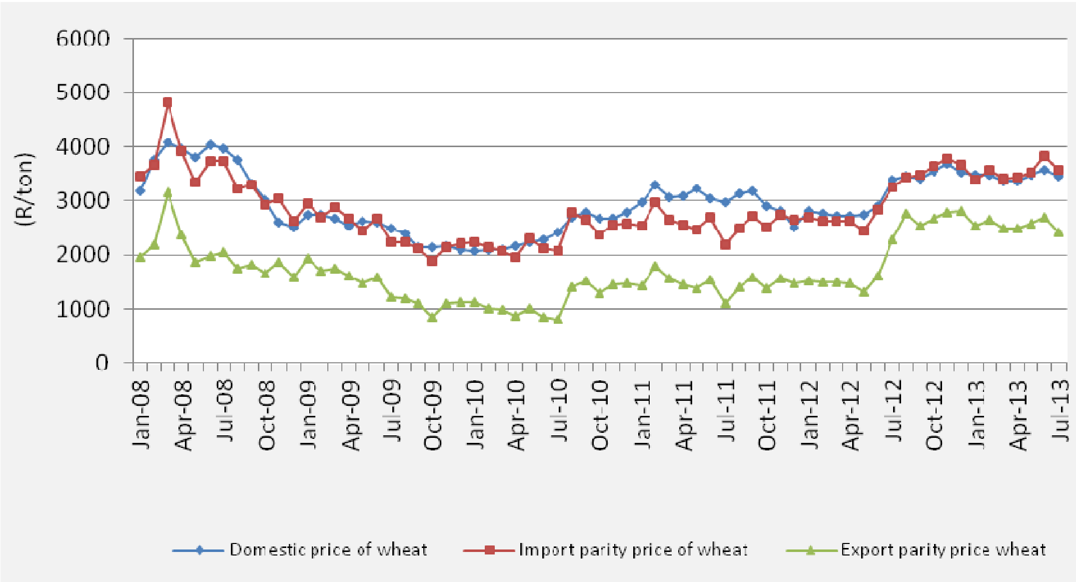

Figure D.2: Import parity, export parity and domestic prices of wheat
Source: SAGIS and SAFEX

Between July 2012 and July 2013:

Domestic wheat price
↑ 18.27 %

Brown bread price
↑ 12.09 %

White bread price
↑ 11.59 %

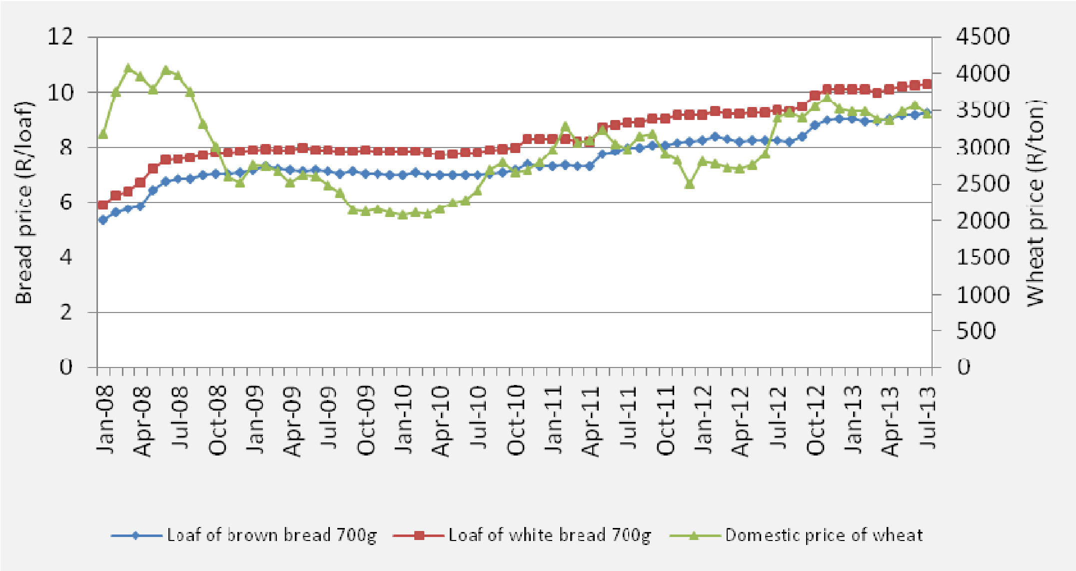

Figure D.3: Domestic market wheat price and bread price trends
Source: Stats SA and SAFEX

D.2 Maize price trends

Between July 2012 and July 2013:

International price of maize
↑ 9.66 %

Domestic price of yellow maize
↑ 9.36 %

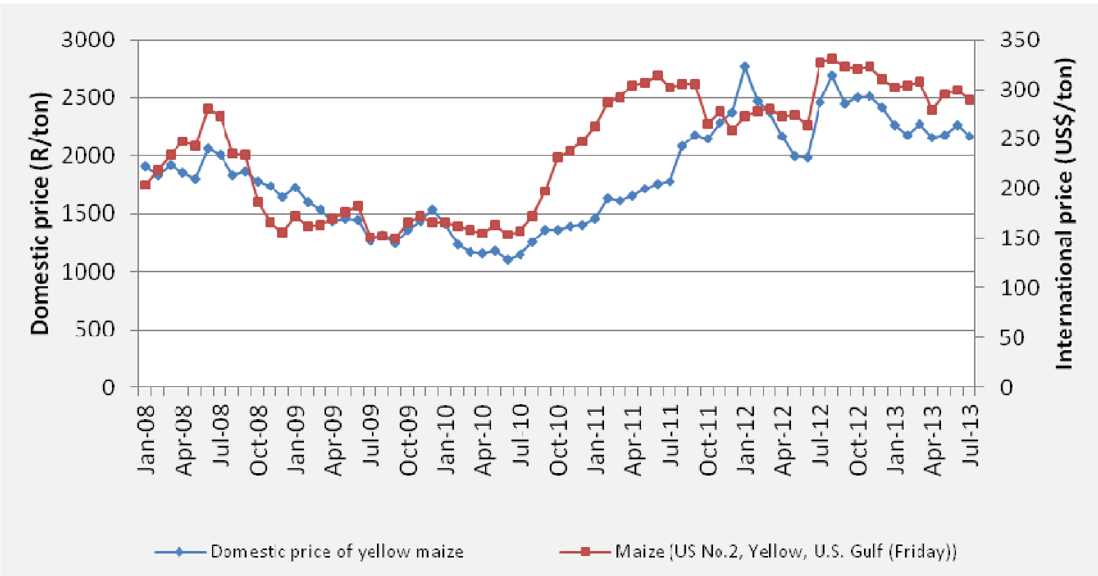

Figure D.4: Domestic market price of maize against global market price
Source: FAO and SAFEX

Between July 2012 and July 2013:

Export parity price of maize
↑ 52.59 %

Import parity price of maize
↑ 40.75 %

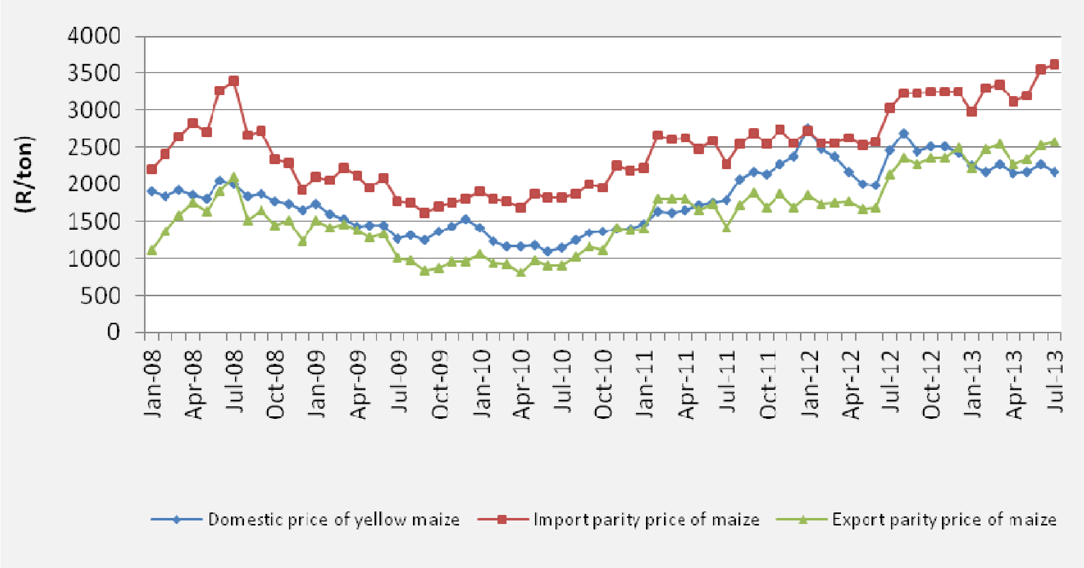

Figure D.5: Import parity, export parity and domestic prices of maize
Source: SAFEX and SAGIS

Between July 2012 and July 2013:

Super maize meal price
↓ 1.16 %

Special maize meal
↑ 1.04 %

Domestic price of white maize
↑ 12.51 %

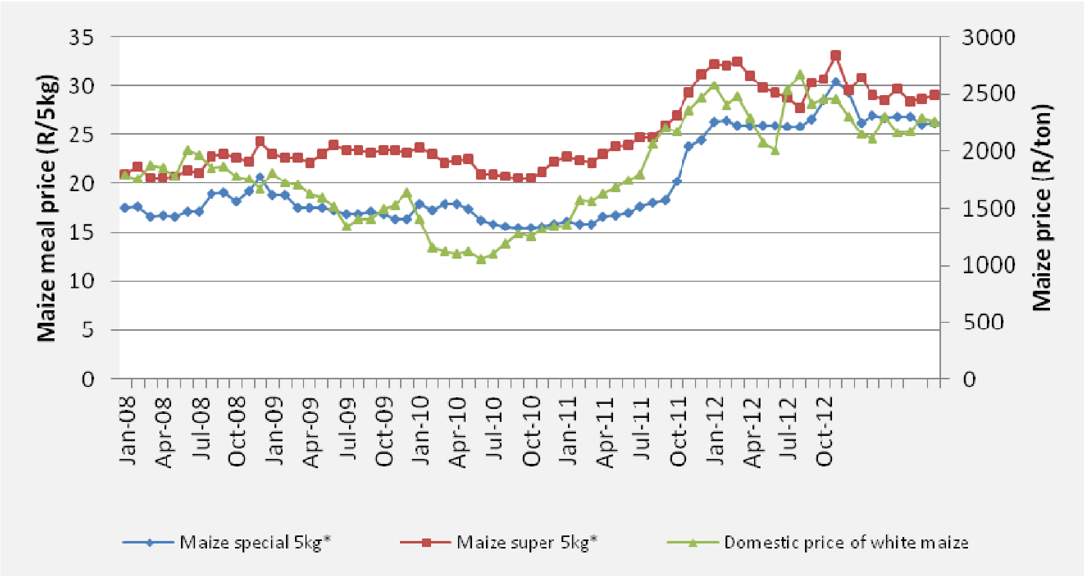

Figure D.6: Maize price and maize meal price trends
Source: SAFEX and AC Nielsen

D.3 Sunflower seeds price trends

Between July 2012 and July 2013:

Domestic price of sunflower seeds ↑ 9.42 %

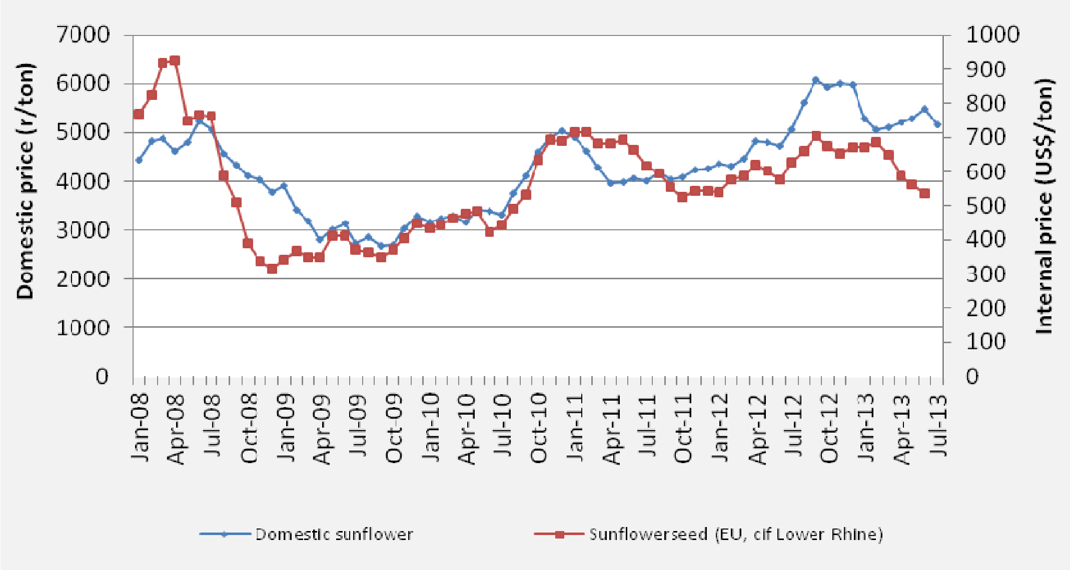

Figure D.7: Domestic market price of sunflower seeds against global market price
Source: FAO and SAFEX

Between July 2012 and July 2013:

Sunflower seed price ↑ 9.42 %

Average retail sunflower oil price ↑ 6.15 %

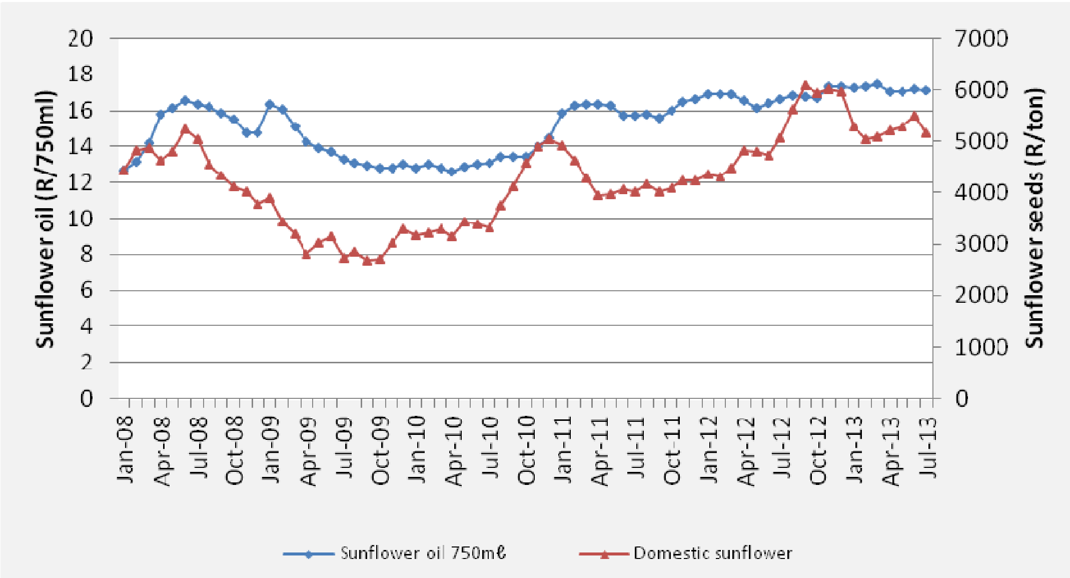

Figure D.8: Sunflower seeds price and sunflower oil price trends
Source: SAFEX and Stats SA

D.4 Dairy price trends

Between July 2012 and July 2013:

Skim milk powder
↑ 57.63 %

Whole milk powder
↑ 74.32 %

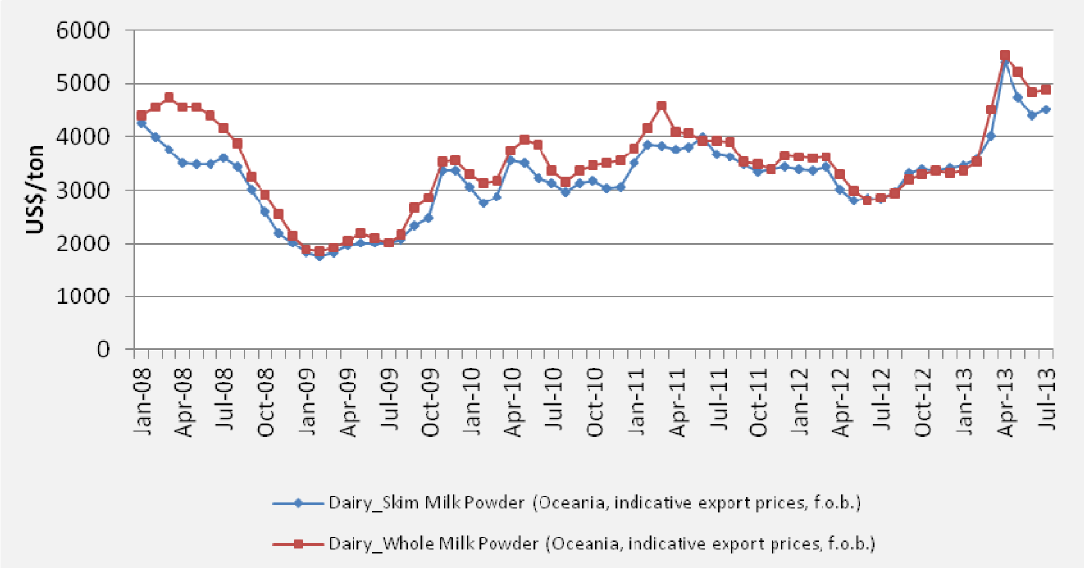

Figure D.9: Skim milk powder and whole milk powder price trends
Source: FAO

Between July 2012 and July 2013:

Milk producer price
↑ 9.71 %

Full cream milk price
↑ 6.51 %

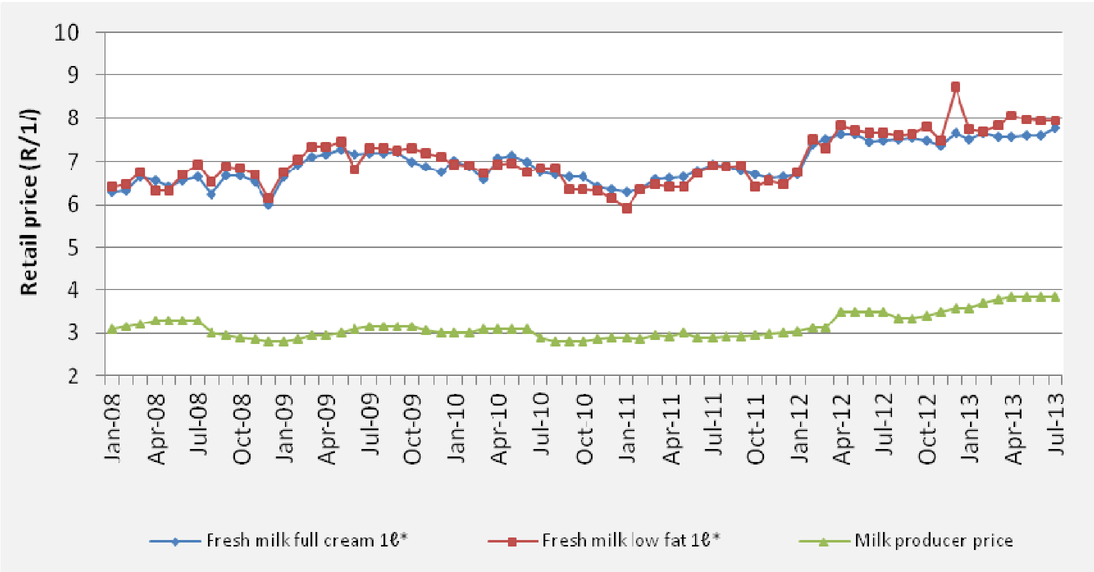

Figure D.10: Domestic producer price and retail prices of milk
Source: MPO and AC Nielsen

D.5 Meat price trends

The price of beef at retail level showed an average increase of 3.37 % for the different cuts.

Frozen chicken portions price ↑ by 9.24 % per kilogram

Lamb price ↑4.84 % and pork chops ↑10.80 %

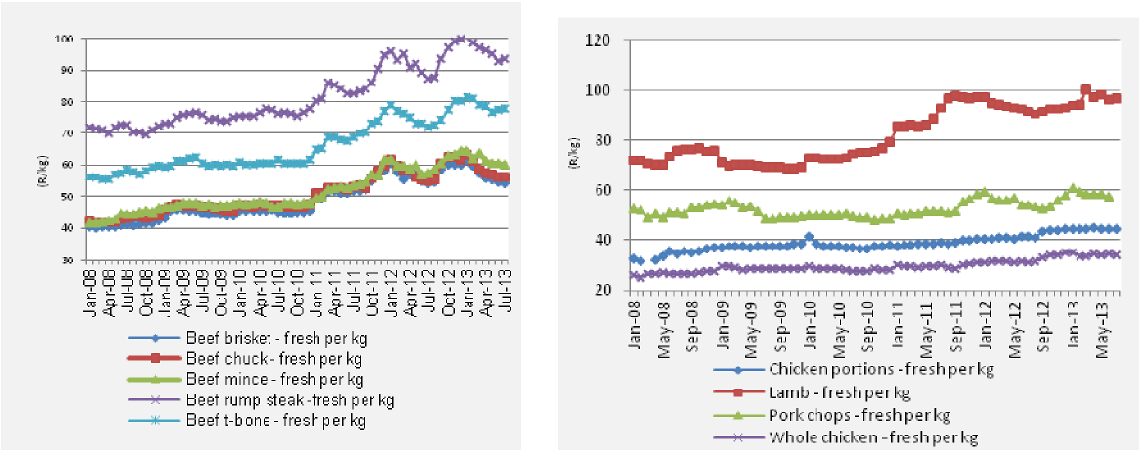

Figure D.11: Retail prices of beef, pork chops, chicken portions, whole chicken and lamb
Source: Stats SA

Between July 2012 and July 2013:

Producer price for fresh chicken ↑ 10.74 %

Frozen chicken price ↑ 23.84 %

Porker price ↑3.11 %

Baconer price ↑6.74 %

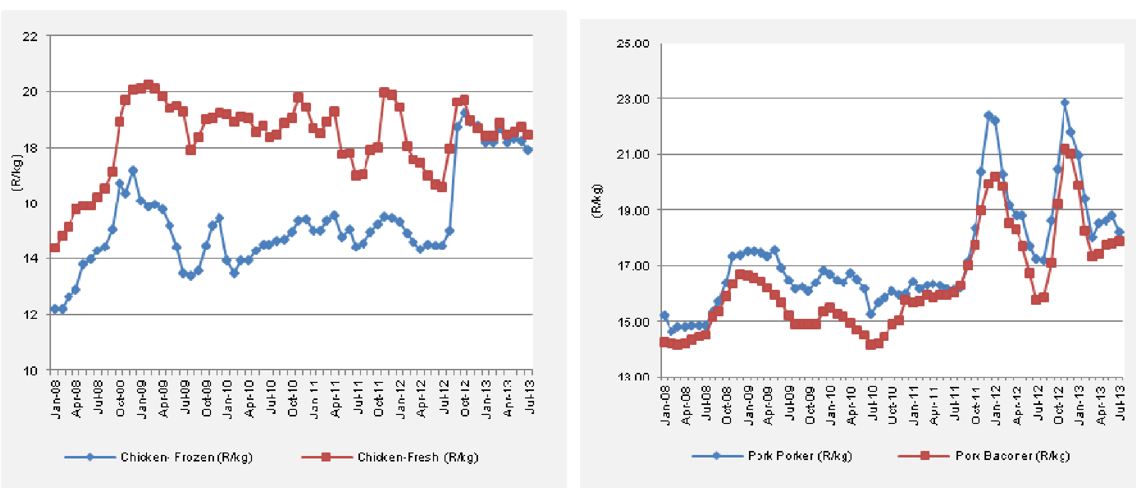

Figure D.12: Producer prices of chicken and pork
Source: AMT

Between July 2012 and July 2013:

Producer price of Beef-class A2/A3 ↑ 5.52 %

Prices of beef class B2/B3 ↑ 3.03 % and class C2/C3↓ 2.89 %

Prices of lamb-class A2/A3 and class B ↓ 7.26 % and ↓ 9.31 % respectively; Prices of class C2/C3 ↑ 3.80 %

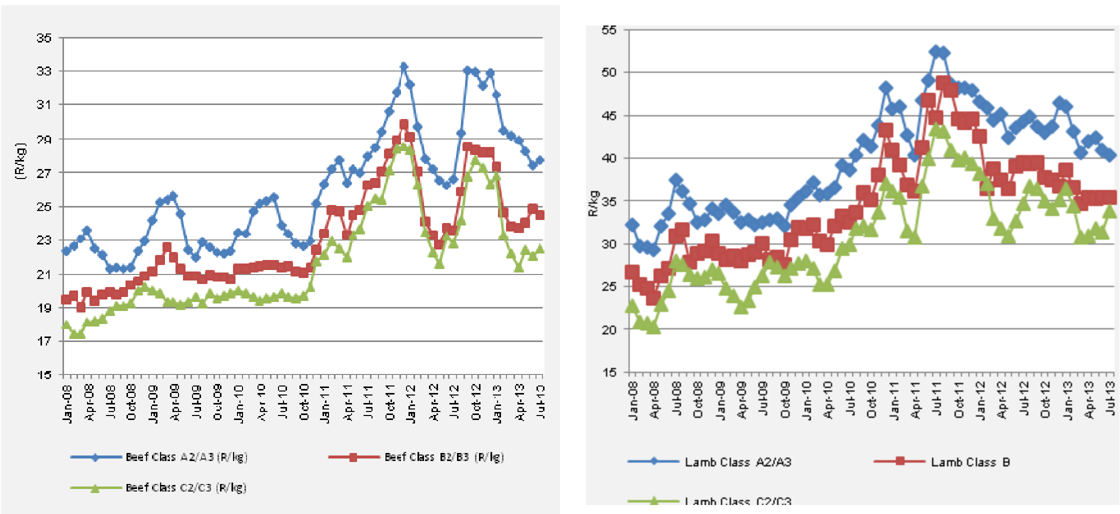

Figure D.13: Producer prices of beef and lamb
Source: AMT

APPENDIX E: REAL FARM TO RETAIL PRICES SPREAD AND FARM VALUE SHARE OF STAPLE FOOD ITEMS

E.1 Brown bread real farm-to-retail price spread and farm value share

Between July 2012 and July 2013

The real farm-to-retail price spread of brown bread ↑ 9.46 %

The real farm value share of brown bread ↑ 7.86 %

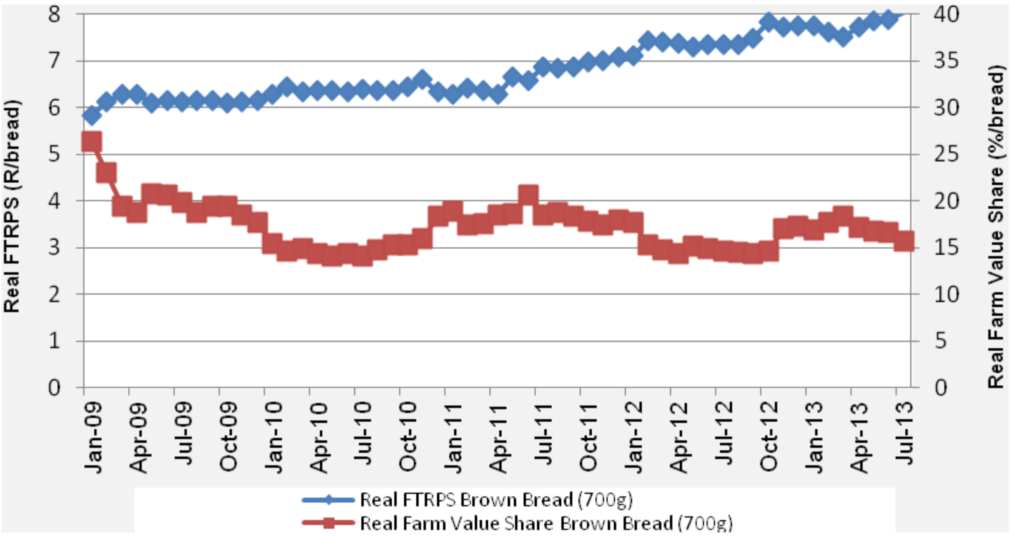

Figure E.1: Real farm to retail price spread and real farm value share of brown bread. Source: SAFEX, Stats SA and own calculations

E.2 White bread real farm-to-retail price spread and farm value share

Between July 2012 and July 2013

The real farm-to-retail price spread of white bread ↑ 0.90 %

The real farm value share of white bread ↑ 16.87 %

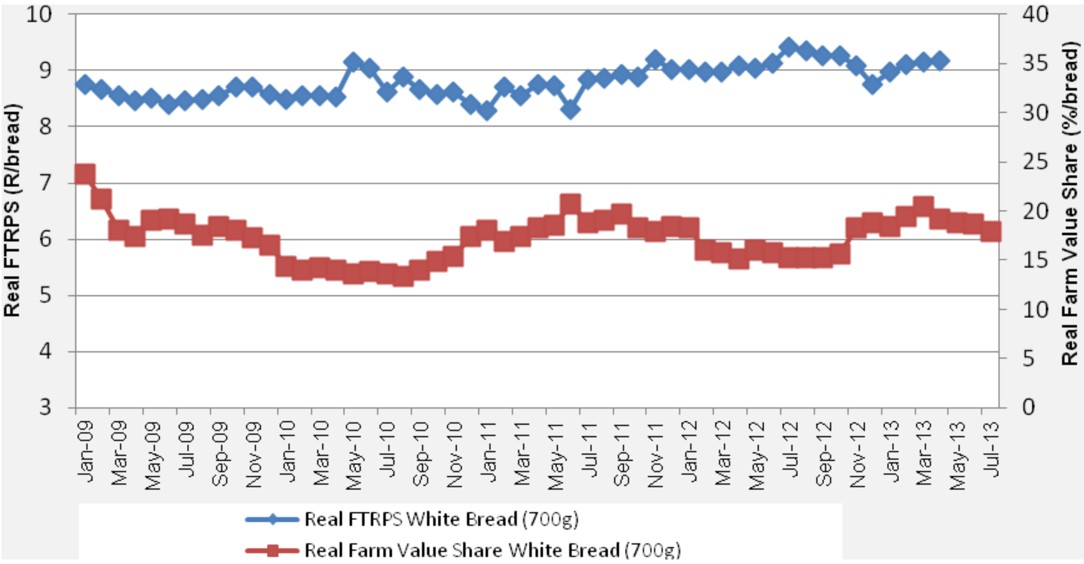

Figure E.2: Real farm to retail price spread and real farm value share of white bread. Source: SAFEX, AC Nielsen and own calculations

E.3 Super maize meal real farm to retail price spread and farm value share

Between July 2012 and July 2013

The real farm-to-retail price spread of super maize meal ↑ 11.71 %

The real farm value share of super maize meal ↓8.71 %

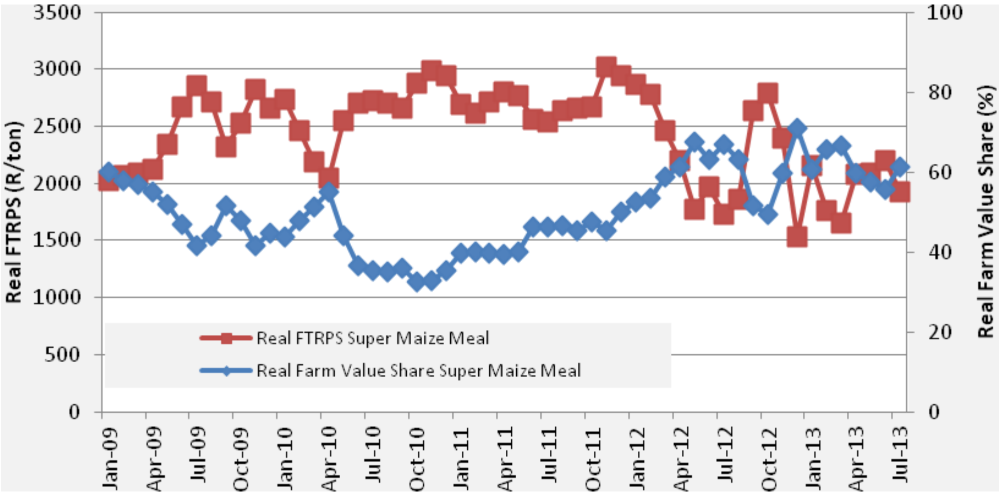

Figure E.3: Real farm to retail price spread and real farm value share of super maize meal. Source: SAFEX, AC Nielsen and own calculations

E.4 Special maize meal real farm to retail price spread and farm value share

Between July 2012 and July 2013

The real farm-to-retail price spread of special maize meal ↑ 7.73 %

The real farm value share of special maize meal ↓ 8.86 %

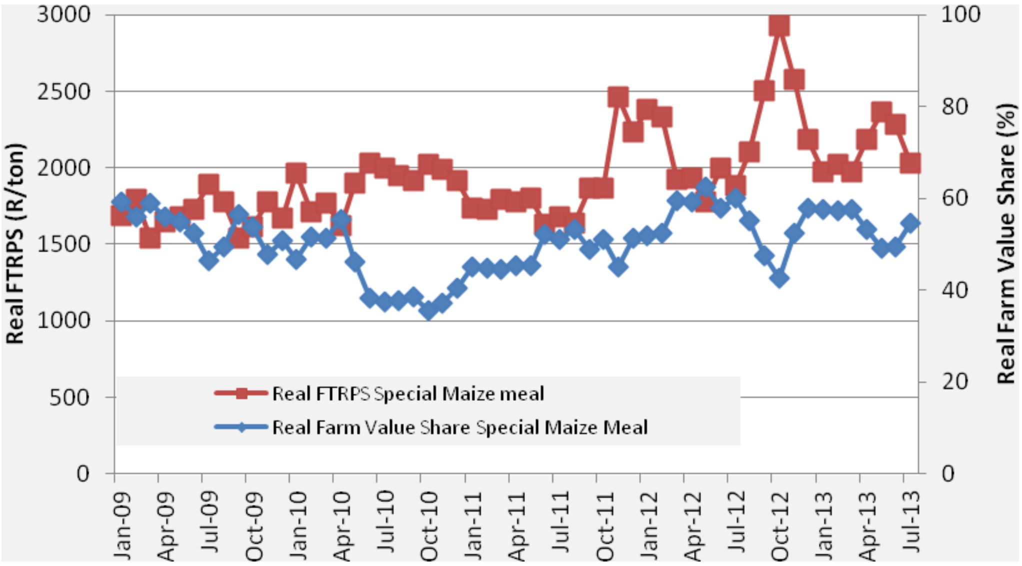

Figure E.4: Real farm to retail price spread and real farm value share of special maize meal. Source: SAFEX, AC Nielsen and own calculations

APPENDIX F: DATA COLLECTION

Urban food prices reported by in this media release are obtained from Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) and AC Nielsen. These prices obtained from these two sources are regarded as being representative of changes in food prices in South Africa due to:

- Stats SA price data on all products are sampled from approximately 800 different data collections points across the country on a monthly basis. Food price data is not collected from all the data collection points since some stores that are sampled do not necessarily sell food. In addition, certain food prices are not sampled in all provinces. For example, the price of cheddar cheese is collected from Gauteng, Western Cape, Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Free State, Northern Cape, North West and Mpumalanga. Food price data collection by Stats SA also involves fieldwork where price collectors visit stores to collect data, after which such data undergoes a rigorous process to ensure the integrity of the data. The basket of food products that are included was derived from the Income and Expenditure Survey of 2005/06 that was compiled by Stats SA to ensure that the basket is representative of consumer spending on food. For more detailed information on the methodological process involved in the collection of prices visit http://www.statssa.gov.za/cpi/documents/CPI_Sources_Methods.pdf.
- AC Nielsen collects food price data on a monthly basis from approximately 1000 large food chain stores across the country. Food prices are collected through scanners at the tellers in the big food chain stores after which it undergoes a rigorous process to ensure the integrity of the data. As is the case for Stats SA not all prices are collected in all provinces. For example, potato prices are collected from the core urban areas of Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape, Western Cape and Free State provinces.

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