



STATISTICS
BACK-UP

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UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

SENSUS

VAN

BLANKES

6 Mei 1941

CENSUS

of

EUROPEANS

6th May, 1941

VERSLAG

OOR DIE

Lone

VAN

Huisbediendes

REPORT

on the

Wages

of

Domestic Servants

UITGEGEE OP GESAG

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

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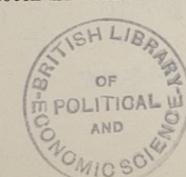
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23.9.1947

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VOORWOORD.

PREFACE.

In paragraaf 1 van die verslag wat hier volg sal 'n oorsig van die geskiedenis van die statistiek van bediendes se lone gevind word. Die onderwerp het ontstaan uit 'n besluit van die Statistiekraad om, indien enigsins moontlik, hierdie item in te sluit in die groep van dienste en handelsartikels wat gebruik word om die indekssyfer in die kleinhandelpryse te bereken.

Voor die jaar 1939 was daar geen statistiek met betrekking tot die lone wat aan huisbediendes in die stede van die Unie van Suid-Afrika betaal is nie. Die eerste ondersoek is dus in Mei 1939 ingestel. Hierdie ondersoek was beperk in omvang en die vraag het verskyn as 'n item op die vorm wat gebruik word vir die hou van die jaarlikse huurgeldsensus vir 'n beperkte soort woonhuise in die nege groot stedelike sentrus. Die eerste volledige sensus van bediendes se lone is gehou gelyktydig met die opname van die blanke bevolking in Mei 1941, en die ontleding in hierdie verslag is dus gebaseer op die statistiek wat op grond van die resultate van die 1941 ondersoek getabellier is. Vir doeleindes van vergelyking dek die uitvoerige tabelle egter al die navrae vanaf die jaar 1939 tot 1944.

Die jaarlikse navrae wat in die tyd tussen die sensusjare gedoen is, het slegs betrekking op huise met 3 tot 6 vertrekke wat van bakstene, klip of beton gebou, ongemeubileerd verhuur en as nie tot voorreg geregtig geklassifiseer is nie, d.w.s. nie teen voorreghuur deur, sê, 'n werknemer van 'n nywerheidsmaatkappy, mynmaatskappy of ander soortgelyke onderneming bewoon word nie. So word huise wat as „sub-ekonomies“ geklassifiseer is, ook uitgesluit.

Die opname van die bevolking in 1941 het alle soorte huise gedek met inbegrip van daardie groot groep wat die „eindom van die bewoner is.“

In hierdie opname is die ontleding hoofsaaklik beperk tot die groep huise met 3 tot 6 vertrekke in die vier grootstte stedelike sentrus, nl. Johannesburg, Kaapstad, Durban en Pretoria.

Die feite wat aan die lig gekom het, is egter ook van toepassing op die ander groot stedelike gebiede. Die statistiek hiervan word in die uitvoerige tabelle gegee, sowel as 'n opsomming vir sommige van die kleiner dorpe.

Die rede waarom slegs huise met 3 tot 6 vertrekke uitgekies is, is toe te skryf aan die feit dat hierdie groep byna 88 persent van al die private woonhuise in die stedelike gebiede van die Unie uitmaak. In die meeste stedelike sentrus is huise met 4 vertrekke in die meerderheid, en bowendien is dit die groep wat gebruik word vir die vasstelling van die skommeling van huurgeld vir doeleindes van die indekssyfer van die kleinhandelpryse.

J. I. RAATS,
Direkteur van Sensus en Statistiek.

September 1946.

In paragraph 1 of the report which follows will be found an outline of the history of the statistics of servants wages. The subject arose from a decision of the Statistical Council to include, if at all possible, this item in the groups of services and commodities utilized in computing the Retail Price Index Number.

Prior to the year 1939, there were no statistics in regard to the wages paid to domestic servants in the towns of the Union of South Africa. The first enquiry was therefore conducted in May, 1939. This enquiry was limited in scope and the question appeared as an item on the form used for conducting the annual census of rents of a limited class of dwelling in the nine large urban centres. The first complete census of servants wages was conducted concurrently with the enumeration of the European population in May, 1941, and the analysis in this report is therefore based upon the statistics tabulated from the results of the 1941 enquiry. For the purposes of comparison, however, the detailed tables cover all the enquiries from the year 1939 to 1944.

The annual enquiries made in the inter-census years are applicable only to houses of from 3 to 6 rooms, built of brick, stone, or concrete, rented unfurnished and classed as non-privileged, i.e., not occupied at a privileged rental, say, by an employee of an industrial company, mining company, or other similar concern. Similarly, houses classed as "sub-economic" are also excluded.

The population enumeration in 1941 covered all classes of houses, including that large group "owned by occupier".

In this survey the analysis has been limited primarily to the group of houses of from 3 to 6 rooms in the four largest urban centres of Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and Pretoria. The facts revealed are, however, applicable to the other large urban centres, the statistics for which are given in the detailed tables as well as a summary for some of the smaller towns.

The reason for selecting the group of houses of from 3 to 6 rooms only, is due to the fact that these comprise almost 88 per cent. of all private dwellings in the urban areas of the Union—the 4-room house predominating in most of the large urban centres, and moreover this is the group utilised for measuring the movement of rents for the purpose of the retail price index number.

J. I. RAATS,
Director of Census and Statistics.

VERSLAG
oor die
Lone van Huisbediendes.

1. **Geskiedkundig.**—In Mei 1936 is 'n opname van byna 2,000 begrotings van gesinsuitgawes in die nege vernaamste nywerheidsgebiede van die Unie gedoen, en die voorname was om die gegewens wat in hierdie begrotings vervat is te gebruik vir die doel om die basis van die indekssyfer van die kleinhandelpryse te hersien. In November 1937 het die Statistiekraad besluit watter items by die berekenings ingesluit moet word, en daar is onder ander besluit om die lone van huisbediendes by die nuwe indeks in te sluit. Dit is belangrik dat daar op gelet word dat hierdie begrotings inligting verstrekket het wat aangetoon het watter persentasie van die gesinsuitgawes deur die lone van bediendes in beslag geneem is. In die slot paragraaf van hierdie verslag word hierna verwys.

By die praktiese berekening van die indeks is sekere moeilikhede ondervind en 'n spesiale sub-komitee van die Raad wat in November 1938 aangestel is om die nuwe indeks vòòr publikasie te ondersoek, het besluit dat die lone van bediendes uitgelaat moet word. Die vernaamste rede vir hierdie besluit was dat die inligting wat in verband met die heersende toestande ingewin is, onbetroubaar en ongeskik was vir die juiste vasstelling van veranderings in die loonskale. Hierdie inligting is, terloops, van stadsklarke, arbeidsinspekteurs en Naturellepasbeamptes ingewin, en met een of twee uitsonderings is daar aangetoon dat die loonskale baie uiteenlopend is, bv. van 30 tot 50 sjulings per maand.

Die sub-komitee van die Raad het verder besluit dat inligting met betrekking tot lone voortaan deur middel van die jaarlikse huurgeldsensus ingewin moet word. Die eerste sensus van bediendes se lone is dus in Mei 1939 gehou. Die vraag wat op die huurgeldsensusvorm bygevoeg is, het gevra na „die getal voltydse huisbediendes, en of hulle op die werk bly of nie,” en die totale bedrag van kontantlone wat per maand betaal is. Die feit dat die inligting met betrekking tot die lone van bediendes op die huurgeldsensusvorm ingewin word, gee te kenne dat die loonskale van toepassing is op bediendes wat werk in die huise wat by die berekening van die amptelike huurgeld in aanmerking geneem word, d.w.s. huise met van 3 tot 6 vertrekke wat van bakstene, klip of beton gebou is en wat bowendien ongemuebileerd op 'n nie-voorregbasis, gehuur word. 'n Opsomming van die resultate van hierdie eerste ondersoek na die lone van bediendes, is in die tabelle van hierdie verslag vervat.

Die ondersoek is in 1940 herhaal, maar met dié verskil dat daar by die geleentheid onderskei is tussen die seks van die bediendes. Tot op datum (1945) is geen onderskeid nog gemaak wat die ras van die bediendes betref nie. Die opgaweforms wat vir die amptelike huurgeldsensusse vir die tydperk 1942-45 gebruik is, was net soos dié van 1940, behalwe dat 'n huisbediende omskryf is as, „iemand wat in diens geneem is vir pligte in en rondom die huis en tuin, nie vir inkomstedoelendes nie.” Die resultate van die 1945 sensus is nog nie beskikbaar nie. Die inligting wat uit hierdie spesiale sensusse

REPORT
on the
Wages of Domestic Servants.

1. **Historical.**—In May, 1936, nearly 2,000 family budgets of expenditure were collected from the nine principal industrial areas of the Union, and it was proposed to utilise the information contained in these budgets for the purpose of revising the basis of the Index Number of Retail Prices. In November, 1937, the Statistical Council decided which items were to be included in the calculations and it was resolved, *inter alia*, to include wages of domestic servants in the new index. It is important to note that these budgets yielded information which showed what proportion of the family expenditure was absorbed by the wages of domestics. Reference to this matter is made in the final paragraph of this report.

In the practical computation of the index certain difficulties were encountered and a special sub-committee of the Council, which was appointed in November, 1938, to examine the new indexes before publication, decided that the wages of servants should be omitted. The chief reason for this decision was that the information which was currently collected was unreliable and unsuitable for the accurate measurement of changes in the rates of wages. This information incidentally, was collected from Town Clerks, Inspectors of Labour and Native Pass Officers and, with one or two exceptions, the wage-rate was expressed as varying between wide limits, for example 30 and 50 shillings per month.

The sub-committee of the Council resolved further that information in regard to wages should henceforth be collected through the medium of the annual Census of Rents. In May, 1939, the first census of servants' wages was accordingly taken. The question which was added to the rent-census form asked for the "number of full-time domestic servants employed, whether resident on the premises or not", and the total amount of cash wages paid per month. The fact that the information in regard to servants is collected on the rent census form implies that the wage-rates apply to servants employed in those houses which are taken into consideration in the calculation of the official rentals, that is, houses having from three to six rooms which are constructed of brick, stone, or concrete, and which, moreover, are rented unfurnished on a non-privileged basis. The summarised results of this first enquiry into servants' wages are shown in the tables of this report.

The enquiry was repeated in May, 1940, but with this difference, that on that occasion distinction was drawn between the sex of servants. To date, (1945) no distinction has yet been drawn between the race of servants. The forms of return which were used at the official rent censuses over the period 1942-45 were similar to that of 1940 except that a domestic servant was defined as "one employed for duties in and around the house and garden, not in connection with the production of income". The results of the 1945 Census are

delike diens en huurgeld saam. Op die Witwatersrand het bediendes se lone sowel as huurgeld minder gestyg as elders, en hier was die stygging in hierdie twee items aansienlik minder as in dié van die kleinhandelprysse van voedsel. As die feit in aanmerking geneem word dat huisbediendes byna sonder uitsondering sowel voedsel as kontantlone ontvang, moes hul totale lone in Pretoria en op die Witwatersrand meer gestyg het as wat die syfers vir daardie gebiede aantoon. Die syfers in Kaapstad en Durban sal baie min deur die voedselfaktor beïnvloed wees.

10. Lone en huurgeld.—Daar is reeds aangetoond dat die loon per bediende en ook die koste van huishoudelike diens na gelang van die grootte van die huis vermeerder. Dit is ook bekend dat die gemiddelde huurgeld per huis na gelang van die grootte van die huis styg. Die volgende syfers toon aan watter persentasie van die totale koste van huishoudelike diens en huurgeld eersgenoemde uitmaak. Die gegewens het op 1941 betrekking, die enigste jaar waarvoor die vereiste inligting vir die berekenings beskikbaar is.

TABLE (xiii).—HUISE VAN BAKSTEEN, KLIP OF BETON, ONGEMEUBILEERD GEHUUR: VERHOUING (PERSENT) VAN DIE KOSTE VAN HUISHOUDELIKE DIENS TOT KOSTE VAN HUURGELD EN HUISHOUDELIKE DIENS SAAM: MEI 1941.

Getal kamers.	Kaapstad.	Durban.	Pretoria.	Witwatersrand.
3.....	22.9	17.8	18.1	20.7
4.....	21.4	17.2	17.2	20.4
5.....	21.4	18.5	18.0	21.2
6.....	21.9	18.8	18.4	22.2
3-6.....	23.0	19.2	17.7	20.2

Ondanks die feit dat huurgeld sowel as die koste van huishoudelike diens aansienlik vermeerder na gelang van die grootte van die huis, bly die verhouding van koste van diens tot totale koste van huurgeld en diens, merkwaardig stabiel vir die verskillende groottes van huise. Dit geld van al vier die betrokke stede. Die gemiddelde verhouding is hoogste in Kaapstad en laagste in Pretoria. Dit is nie verbasd nie as die feit in ag geneem word dat die lone van huisbediendes baie hoog is in Kaapstad, en huurgeld die hoogste is in Pretoria. Die groot verhouding vir huise met ses vertrekke in Johannesburg stem ooreen met die feit waarnaalreeds verwys is, nl. dat die koste van huishoudelike diens in groot huise daar baie hoog is. Die gemiddelde verhoudings vir die vier stede toon dat die koste van huishoudelike diens ongeveer een-vyfde van die gesamentlike koste van huurgeld en huishoudelike diens uitmaak.

11. Lone van bediendes en die indeks vir kleinhandelprysse.—Indien alle huise wat ongemuebileerd gehuur word in aanmerking geneem word, en nie slegs dié waarin bediendes werklik werkzaam is nie, dan daal die verhoudings wat in die voorafgaande Tabel aangetoon word aansienlik. Dus, byvoorbeeld, was die beswaarde gemiddelde maandelike huurgeld vir 'n huis met 3 tot 6 vertrekke in Kaapstad gedurende Mei 1941, £6.938, en die gemiddelde koste van huishoudelike diens £2.076. Laasgenoemde syfer is gebaseer slegs op die huise waarin bediendes werkzaam is. Die totale koste is dus £9.014 en die verhouding van die koste van huishoudelike diens tot totale koste, 23.0 persent—soos in bostaande Tabel aangedui is. As die huurhuise sonder huisbediendes by die berekening ingesluit word, dan daal die gemiddelde koste van huishoudelike diens aansienlik, nl. tot by £6.21—

the Witwatersrand both servants' wages and rent increased to a smaller degree than elsewhere and here these two items lagged appreciably behind the retail prices of food. If consideration be taken of the fact that domestic servants almost invariably receive food in addition to their money wages, then their total emoluments must have increased by more in Pretoria and on the Witwatersrand than the figures for those areas indicate; the figures for Cape Town and Durban will be very little affected by the food factor.

10. Wages and Rent.—It has already been shown that the wage per servant and also the cost of domestic service increase with the size of the house. It is also known that the average rental per house increases with the size of house. The following figures show what proportion, per cent., of the total cost of domestic service and rents is constituted by the former. The data relate to 1941, the only year for which the information necessary for the calculations is available.

TABLE (xiii).—HOUSES OF BRICK, STONE OR CONCRETE RENTED UNFURNISHED: RATIO (PER CENT.) OF COST OF DOMESTIC SERVICE TO COST OF RENT AND DOMESTIC SERVICE COMBINED: MAY, 1941.

Number of Rooms.	Cape Town.	Durban.	Pretoria.	Witwatersrand.
3.....	22.9	17.8	18.1	20.7
4.....	21.4	17.2	17.2	20.4
5.....	21.4	18.5	18.0	21.2
6.....	21.9	18.8	18.4	22.2
3-6.....	23.0	19.2	17.7	20.2

Despite the fact that both rent and the cost of domestic service increase very considerably as the size of house increases, the ratio of cost of service to total cost of rent and service stays remarkably constant for different sizes of houses. This applies to all four cities concerned. The average ratio is highest in Cape Town and lowest in Pretoria. This is not surprising in view of the fact that the wages of domestic servants are very high in Cape Town and that rent is highest in Pretoria. The large ratio for six-roomed houses in Johannesburg is in accordance with the fact, which has already been referred to, that the cost of domestic service in large houses is very high there. The average ratios for the four cities show that the cost of domestic service amounts to about one-fifth of the cost of rent and domestic service combined.

11. Servants' Wages and the Retail Prices Index.—If all houses which are rented unfurnished are taken into consideration and not only those which actually employ servants, then the ratios shown in the preceding Table fall very appreciably. Thus, for example, the weighted average monthly rental for a 3-6 roomed house in Cape Town was £6.938 during May, 1941, and the average domestic service cost was £2.076. The latter figure is based on only those houses which employed servants. The total cost is, therefore, £9.014 and the ratio of domestic service costs to total costs 23.0 per cent.—as shown in the above Table. If the rented houses which did not employ domestic servants be included in the calculations then the average domestic service cost falls very

aangesien omrent twee-derdes van die huurhuise geen bediendes gehad nie. Die totale koste van huurgeld en lone is dan £7.559 en laasgenoemde maak nou 8.2 persent van die totaal uit. Die ooreenkoms tussen die persentasies vir al nege nywerheidseentrums wat by die berekening van die indeks van kleinhandelprysse ingesluit is, word in kolom 2 van die volgende Tabel aangedui:

TABEL (xiv).—HUISE VAN BAKSTEEN, KLIP OF BETON, ONGEMEUBILEERD GEHUUR: VERHOUING VAN KOSTE VAN HUISHOUDELIKE DIENS TOT TOTALE KOSTE VAN HUURGELD EN HUISHOUDELIKE DIENS: MEI 1941.

Gebied.	Verhouding (%) van koste van huishoudelike diens tot koste van huurgeld en huishoudelike diens.	
	Sensus, 1941.	Begrotings, 1936.
(1)	%	%
Kaapstad.....	8.2	9.3
Port Elizabeth.....	9.6	11.1
Oos-Londen.....	11.1	9.3
Kimberley.....	14.7	16.5
Pietermaritzburg.....	15.1	15.3
Durban.....	14.7	13.5
Pretoria.....	12.0	12.9
Witwatersrand.....	14.2	14.3
Bloemfontein.....	12.1	13.2
GEMIDDELDE.....	12.5	12.6

materially to £6.21—since about two-thirds of the rented houses did not employ servants. The total cost of rent and wages is then £7.559 and the latter now constitute 8.2 per cent. of the total. The corresponding proportions for all the nine industrial areas which are included in the computation of the index of retail prices are shown in column 2 of the following Table:

TABLE (xiv).—HOUSES OF BRICK, STONE OR CONCRETE, RENTED UNFURNISHED: RATIO WHICH COST OF DOMESTIC SERVICE BEARS TO TOTAL COST OF RENT AND DOMESTIC SERVICE: MAY, 1941.

Area.	Ratio (%) Cost of Domestic Service to Cost of Rent and Domestic Service.	
	Census, 1941.	Budgets, 1936.
(1)	%	%
Cape Town.....	8.2	9.3
Port Elizabeth.....	9.6	11.1
East London.....	11.1	9.3
Kimberley.....	14.7	16.5
Pietermaritzburg.....	15.1	15.3
Durban.....	14.7	13.5
Pretoria.....	12.0	12.9
Witwatersrand.....	14.2	14.3
Bloemfontein.....	12.1	13.2
Average.....	12.5	12.6

Indien dieselfde stelsel van "beswaring" wat gebruik word by die berekening van die gemiddelde prys van voedsel vir die nege gebiede as geheel toegepas word, dan is die verhouding vir die beswaarde gemiddelde 12.5 persent, soos onderaan kolom (2) aangegetoond word. Indien dieselfde stelsel van "beswaring" egter gebruik word om die gemiddelde boukoste vir die nege gebiede as geheel te vind, is die syfer £1.108. Die beswaarde gemiddelde huurgeld was £7.629 in 1941, sodat die koste van lone £1.108 uit 'n totaal van £8.737, d.w.s. 12.7 persent, bedra het. Hierdie syfer kom byna presies ooreen met die wat direk bereken is deur die verhoudings te beswaar. Die gevolgtrekking is dus dat die gemiddelde loonkoste van huishoudelike diens in huurhuise, afgesien daarvan of bediendes daar werkzaam was of nie, in 1941 onrent 12.7 persent van die totale koste van huurgeld en huishoudelike diens bedra het.

Die verhoudings wat hierbo bereken is, kan vergelyk word met dié wat verkry is uit die Onsersoek na Huishoudelike Begrotings van Mei 1936.⁽¹⁾ 'n Totaal van 1,988 ingevulde vorms is ontvang, en 1,618 van hulle is vir tabellering uitgesoek. Van laasgenoemde totaal het 932 betrekking op gesinne in huurhuise, 583 op gesinne in eienaars- of huuroopende, en 103 op gesinne in woonstelle. Die inligting wat in hierdie 1,618 begrotings verstrekk is, het die grondslag van die verhoudings wat in kolom 3 van bostaande Tabel aangegetoond is, gevorm. Die verskille tussen die twee groepes verhoudings is betreklik klein en die beswaarde gemiddeldes kom byna presies daarvaa. Op grondslag van die 1,293 gesinsbegrotings wat werkelik by die herseining van die indekssyfer van die kleinhandelprys gebruik is, is die verhouding van die koste van huishoudelike diens tot totale koste, huurgeld en ingesluit, 12.1 persent.⁽²⁾

Die ooreenkoms tussen die verhouding gebaseer op die gesinsuitgawes, soos bekendgemaak is in die huishoudelike begrotings van Mei 1936, en die verhouding wat in hierbo bereken is, is lager. Die ooreenkoms tussen die verhouding gebaseer op die gesinsuitgawes, soos bekendgemaak is in die huishoudelike begrotings van Mei 1936, en die verhouding wat in hierbo bereken is, is lager.

If the same system of "weights" which are used in the calculation of average prices of food for the nine areas as a whole be applied then the weighted average ratio comes to 12.5 per cent. as shown at the foot of column 2. If, however, the same system of "weights" be applied to find the average wage cost for the nine areas as a whole then the resulting figure is £1.108. The weighted average rental in 1941 was £7.629 so that the wages cost constituted £1.108 out of a total of £8.737, that is, 12.7 per cent. This figure is in almost exact agreement with that calculated directly by weighting the ratios. The inference is therefore that in 1941 the average wage cost of domestic service in rented houses, irrespective of whether they employed servants or not, was about 12.7 per cent. of the total cost of rent and domestic service.

The ratios calculated above may be compared with those derived from the Household Budgets Enquiry of May, 1936.⁽¹⁾ A total of 1,998 completed forms were received and of these 1,618 were chosen for tabulation. Of this latter total 932 related to families in rented houses, 583 to families in houses which were owned or acquired by hire-purchase, and 103 to families in flats. The information furnished in these 1,618 budgets formed the basis of the ratios shown in column 3 of the above Table. The differences between the two sets of ratios are comparatively small and the weighted averages are in almost exact agreement. On the basis of the 1,293 family budgets which were actually used in the revision of the index-number of retail prices the ratio of cost of domestic service to total cost, including rent, is 12.1 per cent.⁽²⁾

The agreement between the ratio based on the family expenditures as revealed by the household budgets of May, 1936, and that based on the information collected at the Population Census of 1941 is largely fortuitous. The former ratio is based on

¹ Verslag oor die ondersoek na die uitgawes van blanke gesinne in sekere stedelike gebiede, 1936. U.G. 21, 1927, Tabel 5b, bl. 37.

² Spesiale verslag No. 127: Nuwe indekssyfers van kleinhandelprysse, 1938, bl. 16.

