# Growth, Poverty & Inequality in South Africa

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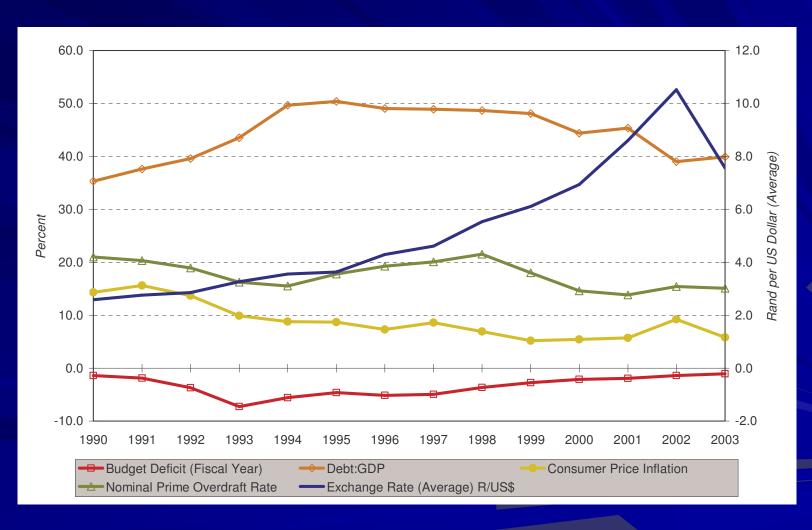
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### Economic Policy In Post-Apartheid South Africa: A Quick Tour

- 1994 first democratic elections
- 1994 Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP)
  - Growth through development
  - Government to invest heavily in the poor to increase productivity of resources
- 1996 Growth Employment and Redistribution (GEAR)
  - Development through growth
  - Private sector investment to stimulate growth
- 2001- Post GEAR and ASGISA
  - Growth remains central but acknowledgement that public sector must play greater role

### Selected South African Macroeconomic Indicators, 1990-2003

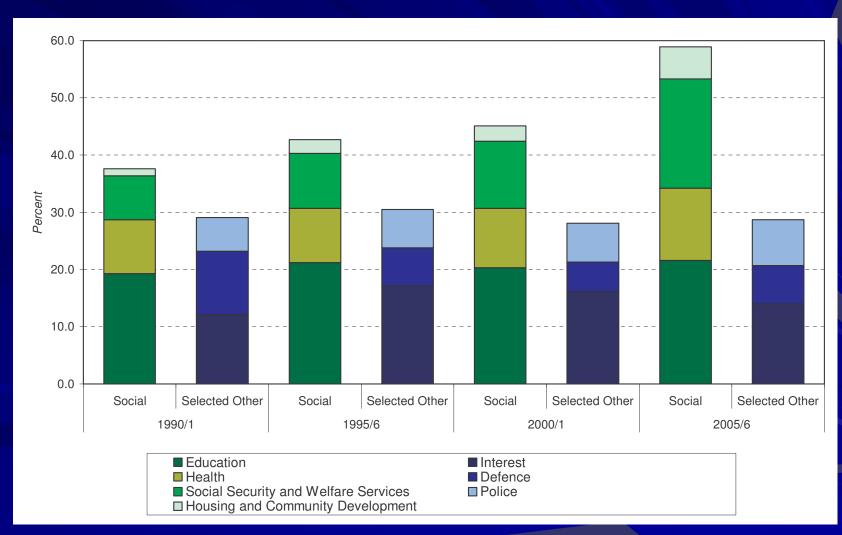


**Source:** SARB (2005)

### A Summary of Post-Apartheid Economic Performance

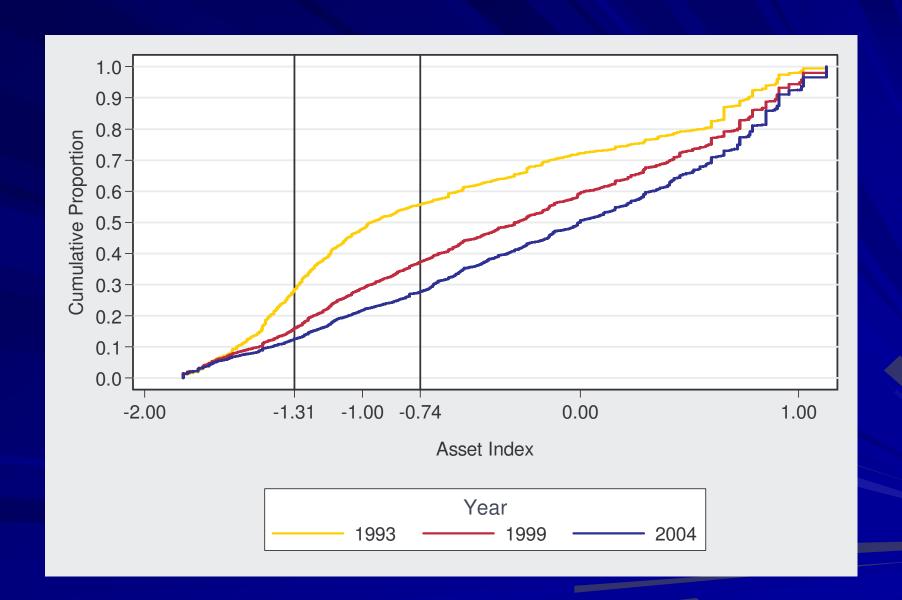
- 1994 2003 growth in
  - ➤ Real GDP = 2.9% pa
  - $\triangleright$  Population =  $\pm 2\%$  pa
  - Real GDP per capita = 0.86
- Insufficient investment
- Low savings
- Improving Consumption (largely M)
- ↑s in X and M : GDP
- Narrow Ue:17.5% (1995) to 28.2% (2003)
- Broad Ue: 30.8% (1995) to 41.8% (2003)

#### Distributing the Gains from Growth: Government Expenditure (Share of Total Expenditure)



**Source:** Statistics South Africa (various years)

#### **Welfare Consequences of Growth I: Asset Poverty Shifts, African Households**



### Welfare Consequences of Growth: Shifts In Income Poverty

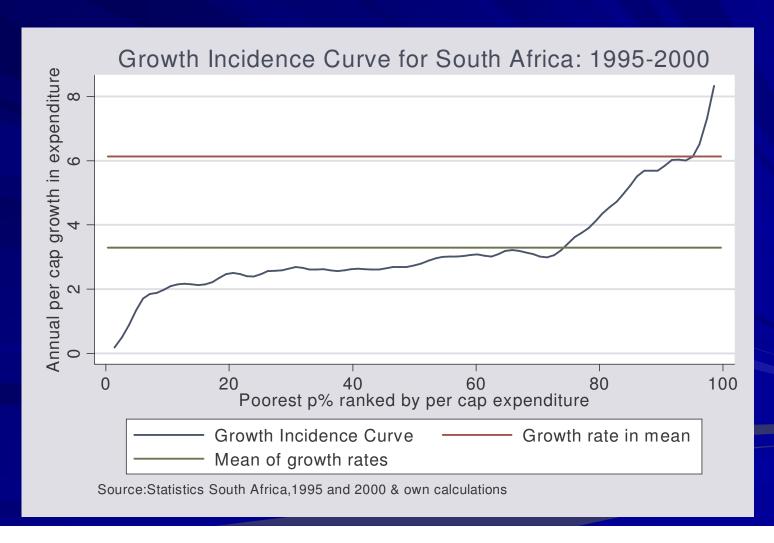
				Pover	ty Gap			
	Headcount			Ratio			Gini	
	1995	2000		1995	2000		1995	2000
African	0.68	0.67		0.32	0.34	*	0.467	0.501
	(0.01)	(0.01)		(0.00)	(0.01)		(0.007)	(0.005)
Coloured	0.50	0.35	*	0.19	0.13	*	0.439	0.453
	(0.02)	(0.02)		(0.01)	(0.00)		(0.009)	(0.008)
Asian	0.08	0.07		0.02	0.02		0.398	0.374
	(0.01)	(0.02)		(0.00)	(0.01)		(0.019)	(0.014)
White	0.01	0.01		0.00	0.00		0.344	0.319
	(0.00)	(0.01)		(0.00)	(0.00)		(0.007)	(0.009)
Urban	0.36	0.40	*	0.14	0.16	*	0.527	0.533
	(0.01)	(0.01)		(0.00)	(0.00)		(0.006)	(0.006)
Rural	0.75	0.80	*	0.37	0.44	*	0.493	0.502
	(0.01)	(0.01)		(0.01)	(0.01)		(0.009)	(0.008)
South								
Africa	0.58	0.58		0.27	0.29	*	0.565	0.577
	(0.01)	(0.01)		(0.01)	(0.01)		(0.005)	(0.005)

Poverty line = R322 per person per month (2000 Rands)

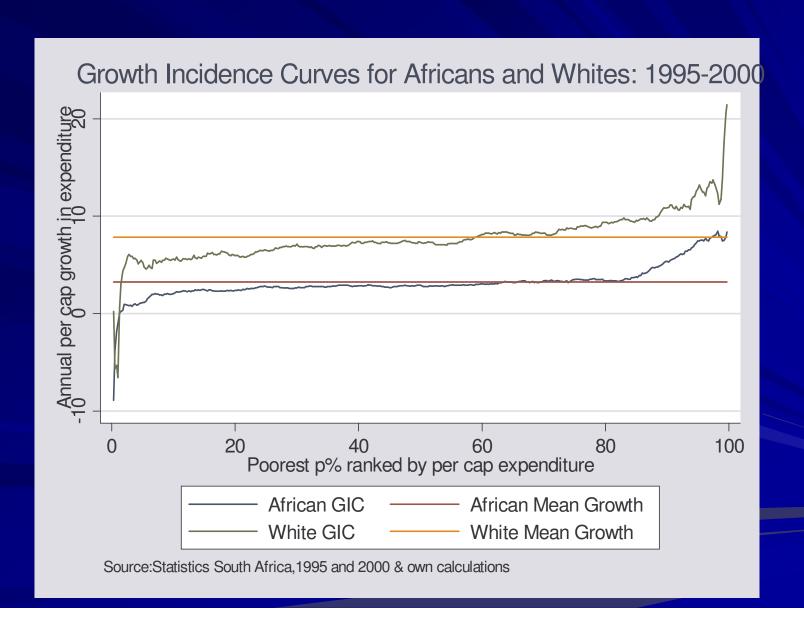
**Source:** Hoogeveen and Ozler (2004).

#### Measuring Pro-Poor Growth in SA

Consider growth in expenditures of poor relative to the rich (growth across each centile)



#### Measuring Pro-Poor Growth in SA



#### Measuring Pro-Poor Growth in SA

Growth Rate In	Total	African	Coloured	White
Mean p.c Expenditure	6.14	5.26	11.01	9.82
Median	2.79	2.91	9.16	7.3
Mean	3.3	3.23	9.13	7.84
Growth at Percentile				
10	0.96	0.85	4.05	4.17
15	1.35	1.34	4.76	4.66
20	1.59	1.59	5.22	5.03
25	1.76	1.79	5.6	5.25
30	1.9	1.93	5.89	5.5
Rate of Pro-Poor Growth	2.29	2.48	6.14	-3.21
Rate of Ultra-Poor Growth	2.05	2.22	4.68	-2.71

## Datt-Ravallion Decompositions for South Africa, 1995-2000

Category	Growth Component	Redistribution Component	Total Change In Poverty	
Total	-9.38	14.65	5.27	
African	-8.84	14.21	5.37	
White	-0.93	1.67	0.74	
Urban	-8.79	17.69	8.89	
Rural	-4.79	9.85	5.06	
Male	-10.05	15.09	5.04	
Female	-8.48	13.96	5.48	