



Digest February 2018

The 2018 Budget

The Minister of Finance, Malusi Gigaba, delivered his Budget Speech on Wednesday which spelled hard times ahead for South Africans, more specifically for the poor. The main points of the budget are:

- VAT to increase by 1 percentage point (7.1%) to 15%
- Free higher education to be phased in over three years at a cost of R57bn
- Fuel levy will be increased
- Government spending has been slashed by R85.7bn
- Higher ad valorem taxes of luxury goods such as motor vehicles, cellphones, electronics, etc.

What follows below are some of the analysis and commentary offered on the Budget.

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<http://www.sharenet.co.za/views/The-2018-Budget-Speech-Summary/3fb4effe1b9c0fd08215617d7f7ea965>

http://www.pacsa.org.za/images/SUBMISSIONS/2018_Budget_Response_PACSA.pdf

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<https://www.fin24.com/Budget/anything-but-a-robin-hood-budget-ndungane-20180221>

<https://www.businesslive.co.za/bd/opinion/2018-02-20-this-is-what-the-budget-would-look-like-if-it-took-people-seriously/>

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2018-02-21-budget-2018-vat-is-increased-a-first-for-new-sa/#.Wo1nPoNubIU>
<https://www.businesslive.co.za/bd/economy/2018-02-21-the-winners-and-losers-in-gigabas-budget/>

<https://www.moneyweb.co.za/in-depth/budget/vat-increased-to-15/>

<https://mg.co.za/article/2018-02-21-government-bites-the-bullet-and-hikes-vat>

<https://www.businesslive.co.za/bd/economy/2018-02-20-a-vat-increase-is-the-least-of-all-tax-evils-says-investec/>

<https://www.fin24.com/Budget/higher-vat-will-increase-inequality-wits-research-unit-20180221>

<http://www.politicsweb.co.za/news-and-analysis/were-extremely-unhappy-with-vat-increase--sacp>

<http://www.themessenger.global/2018/02/22/budget-costly-first-steps-towards-recovery/>

<https://www.fin24.com/Budget/vat-increase-to-impact-tourism-industry-ceo-20180222>