



Mining: production and sales

August 2001

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Stats SA publishes approximately three hundred different releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally, but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

This data in this statistical release adheres to the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which sets out standards on coverage, periodicity and timeliness of data; access by the public; integrity; and quality of the disseminated data.



Key figures regarding mining production as at the end of August 2001

Actual estimates

	August 2001	% change between August 2000 and August 2001	% change between June 2000 to August 2000 and June 2001 to August 2001	% change between January 2000 to August 2000 and January 2001 to August 2001
Index of the physical volume of mining production				
Gold	74,5	-12,1%	-6,4%	-7,1%
Non-gold minerals	116,1	+5,9%	+1,7%	+4,4%
Total	98,4	-0,6%	-1,2%	+0,2%

Seasonally adjusted estimates

	August 2001	% change between July 2001 and August 2001	% change between March 2001 to May 2001 and June 2001 to August 2001
Index of the physical volume of mining production			
Gold	73,9	-8,2%	-0,4%
Non-gold minerals	115,9	+13,2%	-1,7%
Total	98,0	+5,3%	-1,3%

Key findings regarding mining production as at the end of August 2001

Mining production decreases

The total mining production for the three months ended August 2001, after seasonal adjustment, reflected a decrease of 1,3% compared with the previous three months. However, the total mining production for August 2001, after seasonal adjustment, increased by 5,3% compared with July 2001. The total mining production for the first eight months of 2001 increased slightly by 0,2% compared with the first eight months of 2000.

The decrease of 1,3% after seasonal adjustment in the total mining production was due to seasonally adjusted decreases of 1,7% in the production of non-gold minerals and 0,4% in the production of gold during the three months ended August 2001 compared with the previous three months. The major contributors to the seasonally adjusted decrease of 1,7% in the production of non-gold minerals were the copper and nickel mines.

The increase of 0,2% in the total mining production during the first eight months of 2001 compared with the first eight months of 2000 was due to an increase of 4,4% in the production of non-gold minerals. However, this increase was counteracted by a decrease of 7,1% in the production of gold.

Key figures regarding mineral sales as at the end of July 2001**Actual estimates**

	July 2001 R million	% change between July 2000 and July 2001	% change between May 2000 to July 2000 and May 2001 to July 2001	% change between January 2000 to July 2000 and January 2001 to July 2001
Mineral sales				
Gold	2 286,5	+17,9%	+8,0%	+4,7%
Non-gold minerals	7 809,9	+36,9%	+31,0%	+28,4%
Total	10 096,3	+32,1%	+25,0%	+22,1%

Seasonally adjusted estimates

	July 2001 R million	% change between June 2001 and July 2001	% change between February 2001 to April 2001 and May 2001 to July 2001
Mineral sales			
Gold	2 238,9	+2,2%	+8,4%
Non-gold minerals	7 883,9	+1,5%	+9,7%
Total	10 122,8	+1,6%	+9,4%

Key findings regarding mineral sales as at the end of July 2001

Mineral sales increases

The seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended July 2001 reflected an increase of 9,4% compared with the previous three months. Furthermore, the actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended July 2001 reflected an increase of 25,0% compared with three months ended July 2000. The actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the first seven months of 2001 reflected an increase of 22,1% compared with the first seven months of 2000.

The increase of 9,4% in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales for the three months ended July 2001 compared with the previous three months can be attributed to increases of 9,7% in non-gold mineral sales and 8,4% in the sales of gold.

The 25,0% increase in the actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended July 2001 compared with the three months ended July 2000 was mainly due to increases of 31,0% (+R5 508,3 million) in non-gold mineral sales and 8,0% (R503 million) in the sales of gold. The increase of 31,0% in non-gold mineral sales was mainly due to increases of 45,2% (+R2 088,3 million) in sales of coal, 41,4% (+R 2 821,7 million) in sales of platinum and 24,6% (+R187,7 million) in sales of iron ore (cf. table A).

Table A - Contribution by the different mining divisions to the total mineral sales

Mining division	Percentage contribution to mineral sales during May 2000 to July 2000	Quarterly percentage change between May 2000 to July 2000 and May 2001 to July 2001	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in sales 1/	Difference in mineral sales between May 2000 to July 2000 and May 2001 to July 2001 R million
Gold	26,2	8,0	2,1	503
Non-gold minerals				
Iron ore	3,2	24,6	0,8	187,7
Copper	1,3	14,4	0,2	46,1
Manganese ore	1,4	-12,7	-0,2	-43,4
Chromium	1,2	-16,4	-0,2	-46,9
Platinum	28,3	41,4	11,7	2 821,7
Nickel	2,5	-18,0	-0,4	-107,7
Other metallic minerals	3,1	4,1	0,1	30,8
Coal	19,2	45,2	8,7	2 088,3
Building materials	2,9	2,5	0,1	17,6
Other non-metallic	10,7	19,9	2,1	514,1
Total non-gold minerals	73,8	31,0	22,9	5 508,3
Total minerals	100,0	25,0	25,0	6 011,3

1/ The contribution to the percentage change in sales is calculated by multiplying the quarterly percentage change of each mineral with the percentage contribution to total mineral sales during May 2000 to July 2000, divided by 100.

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Forthcoming issues

Issue

Expected date of publication

September 2001

6 November 2001

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11 December 2001

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8 January 2002

December 2001

12 February 2002

Purpose of the survey

The monthly mining production and sales survey is a country-wide sample survey covering a sample of mining establishments operating in the South African economy. The results of this survey are used to calculate physical volume of mining production indices in order to estimate the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components, which in turn are used to develop and monitor Government policy.

Additional information

Explanatory notes

- Introduction**
- 1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) publishes monthly information regarding the mining industry covering a sample of mining establishments (branches). This statistical release contains detailed information regarding indices of the physical volume of mining production and the total value of mineral sales according to mining divisions and major groups on a monthly basis.
 - 2 Data shown in the tables are compiled by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on the basis of mining production figures and mineral sales furnished by the Minerals Bureau, Department of Minerals and Energy.
 - 3 Due to mining production figures being available earlier than mineral sales figures, mining production indices are published one month earlier than mineral sales.
 - 4 The value of mineral sales is calculated, in general, on a free-on-rail/free-on-board basis.
 - 5 In order to improve timeliness, some information for the current month August have been estimated due to late response. These estimates will be revised in future statistical release(s) as soon more up-to-date information is available.
- Scope of the survey**
- 6 This survey covers mining establishments conducting activities regarding -
 - the extracting, dressing and beneficiating of minerals occurring naturally, for example solids such as coal and ores.
- Classification**
- 7 The 1993 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC division, major group and subgroup level. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the establishment (branch).
- Statistical unit**
- 8 The basic statistical unit for the collection of information is the mining establishment. An establishment is the smallest economic unit that functions as a separate entity. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry (cf. paragraph 7).
- Weighting**
- 9 The weights which are used to aggregate minerals to mineral groups and mineral groups to total mining, are based on the value of production derived from detailed information for 1995 supplied by the Minerals Bureau, Department of Minerals and Energy.
- Rebasing**
- 10 In accordance with international practice, the indices have to be rebased every five years to a new base year. The indices in this statistical release have been calculated on the basis of 1995=100. The first results on this basis were published in August 1998. Both actual and seasonally adjusted figures are presented.
- Seasonal adjustment**
- 11 Seasonally adjusted estimates of all items are generated each month, using the X-11 Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by US Bureau of the Census Economic Research and Analyses Division, 1968. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month.
- Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variations. This means the month-to-month movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

Reliability of estimates	12	Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. Figures for the latest month are preliminary.
Related publications	13	Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA - <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bulletin of Statistics.• SA Statistics.
Unpublished statistics	14	In some cases Stats SA can also make available statistics which are not published. The statistics can be made available via: computer printouts or diskette or CD. Generally a charge is made for providing unpublished statistics.
Rounding-off of figures	15	The figures in the tables have, where necessary, been rounded off to the nearest digit shown. There may, therefore, be slight discrepancies between the sums of the constituent items and the totals shown.

Glossary

Enterprise	An enterprise (firm) is a legal entity consisting of one or more establishments (branches). The establishments need not necessarily all be mining establishments, but some may be classifiable as other industries of the economy, such as manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, motor trade and construction.
Establishment	An establishment is defined as an enterprise, or part of an enterprise, that is situated at a single location and in which only a single (non-ancillary) productive activity is carried out or in which the principal productive activity accounts for most of the value added.
Free-on-rail	Free-on-rail relates to goods sold on the local market where no railage or road transport costs are involved.
Free-on-board basis	Free-on-board relates to goods destined for the export market. Railage, road transport and docking charges are involved but no charges are made for the transport by sea.
Index of physical volume of mining production	The index of physical volume of mining production or a production index is a statistical measure of the change in the volume of production. The production index of a major group is the ratio between the volume of production of a major group in a given period and the volume of production of the same major group in the base period. The current base period is 1995. The production in the base period is set at 100.
Industry	An industry consists of a group of establishments engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity. Industries are defined in the System of National Accounts (SNA) in the same way as in the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) of all Economic Activities, Fifth Edition of January 1993.
Sales	Sales are the total value of sales and transfers-out of goods mined by the mining establishments and the amounts received for installation, erection or assembly or other services rendered.
Weight	The weight of a major group is the ratio of the production of a major group to the total production of the mining industry. The weight of a major group reflects the importance of the major group in the total mining industry. The weights change over time due to quality changes and changes in relative prices. New weights need to be calculated from time to time.

Table 1 - Index of the physical volume of mining production including gold (Base 1995=100)

Month	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000*	2001
Actual indices							
J	95,0	96,0	93,6	95,0	88,8	89,8	90,9*
F	99,3	98,3	98,8	97,3	94,9	95,9	93,4*
M	101,1	99,1	97,6	99,5	100,5	97,4	97,3*
A	95,9	93,3	96,7	95,7	92,3	92,1	93,8*
M	96,2	97,6	101,9	96,1	100,0	92,5	97,2
J	105,1	100,8	105,7	104,3	99,3	101,6	100,9*
J	100,2	98,6	100,6	97,6	98,1	94,5	92,3*
A	104,4	99,5	103,1	99,8	94,2	99,0	98,4
S	104,6	98,8	102,6	99,9	100,1	100,2	
O	98,9	98,7	100,6	104,7	99,9	97,5	
N	100,1	100,3	104,4	102,5	102,6	101,9	
D	99,2	98,9	98,6	99,0	96,7	94,1	
Year	100,0	98,3	100,4	99,3	97,3	96,4	
Seasonally adjusted indices							
J	99,2	101,0	99,3	101,5	95,3	96,5	97,8
F	100,1	99,6	100,4	99,5	97,5	98,7	96,1
M	100,0	97,7	96,1	98,2	99,2	96,3	96,4
A	99,0	96,7	100,4	99,3	95,8	95,4	97,0
M	97,1	98,3	102,8	97,0	101,4	93,6	98,3
J	103,2	98,5	102,8	101,0	95,5	97,6	96,9
J	100,1	98,7	100,8	97,9	98,8	95,1	93,1
A	101,5	97,0	101,0	98,3	93,3	98,2	98,0
S	101,4	95,7	99,5	97,1	97,5	98,0	
O	98,1	97,8	99,1	102,6	97,5	94,8	
N	97,6	97,7	101,2	99,0	98,8	97,8	
D	101,5	100,5	99,4	99,3	96,7	94,7	

Table 2 - Index of the physical volume of mining production excluding gold (Base 1995=100)

Month	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000*	2001
Actual indices							
J	94,2	98,4	99,8	100,4	96,3	100,1	105,0*
F	97,0	97,0	103,3	103,8	102,0	101,4	105,8*
M	98,9	100,1	97,7	107,8	104,7	104,9	109,7*
A	95,4	95,3	101,8	104,7	97,3	100,8	107,6*
M	99,1	100,0	107,0	105,6	111,4	104,2	114,5*
J	108,1	104,9	114,4	113,0	106,8	113,1	116,0*
J	100,1	103,6	107,5	105,5	109,7	106,7	103,0*
A	105,4	102,3	107,7	106,4	103,0	109,6	116,1
S	106,1	104,0	104,7	105,8	106,8	111,0	
O	96,9	101,5	105,6	117,6	111,0	109,8	
N	100,2	102,1	106,0	111,1	114,4	116,6	
D	98,8	99,7	100,4	102,4	103,2	103,8	
Year	100,0	100,7	104,7	107,0	105,6	106,8	
Seasonally adjusted indices							
J	97,1	102,1	104,4	105,5	101,7	106,1	111,5
F	98,5	99,0	105,6	106,7	105,4	105,0	109,4
M	98,2	99,1	96,8	107,3	104,7	105,3	110,4
A	97,9	98,1	104,9	108,2	100,8	104,3	111,3
M	99,2	99,6	106,4	104,8	110,9	103,2	113,7
J	104,8	101,4	110,5	108,8	102,3	108,5	111,4
J	98,6	102,3	106,1	104,2	109,0	106,0	102,4
A	101,7	99,4	105,7	105,0	102,2	108,8	115,9
S	103,1	101,4	102,7	104,4	106,0	110,6	
O	96,7	100,6	103,4	114,1	106,9	105,2	
N	98,3	100,0	103,2	107,5	109,9	111,4	
D	104,8	105,0	104,6	105,8	105,8	107,4	

* Revised

Table 3 - Indices of physical volume of mining production according to major divisions, major groups and minerals (Base 1995=100)

Minerals	Weights	Actual indices				Seasonally adjusted indices		
		2000	2001		2000	2001		2000
			Aug.	Jul. *		Aug.	Aug.	
Total, gold included	100,0	96,4	98,4	92,3	99,0	98,0	93,1	98,2
Total, gold excluded	57,5	106,8	116,1	103,0	109,6	115,9	102,4	108,8
Gold	42,5	82,3	74,5	78,0	84,8	73,9	80,5	83,9
Iron ore	3,0	105,1	114,9	110,9	93,1	119,2	113,4	96,3
Chrome	1,1	130,2	97,4	107,7	132,9	94,2	99,6	127,9
Copper	3,1	84,3	87,1	45,2	87,1	85,6	45,8	85,0
Manganese ore	1,3	120,4	99,1	114,0	114,0	99,4	113,0	113,7
Platinum	11,9	112,9	146,7	98,1	112,6	152,8	103,7	117,1
Nickel	1,5	122,9	119,8	124,4	111,8	116,3	128,5	107,7
Other metallic minerals	2,4	102,1	98,1	96,9	105,2	94,8	96,2	101,6
Diamonds	4,4	107,8	115,9	114,3	100,2	117,8	118,7	101,2
Coal	23,2	108,2	113,1	111,4	114,2	110,0	106,8	111,2
Building materials	3,5	90,9	92,6	92,4	112,3	90,6	89,5	110,2
Other non-metallic minerals	2,1	91,9	98,3	87,1	101,9	94,6	83,5	98,2

* Revised

Table 4 - Total value of mineral sales including gold (R million)

Month	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000*	2001
Actual values							
J	4 669,3	5 165,8	6 447,8	6 426,5	6 062,6	6 240,9	9 266,4*
F	4 234,9	4 604,1	5 159,4	5 924,3	5 751,4	7 115,3	9 750,0*
M	4 699,9	5 002,9	4 936,6	5 547,6	6 418,8	8 954,2	8 146,1*
A	4 413,1	5 380,9	5 576,8	5 662,1	5 672,3	7 517,8	8 574,8*
M	4 705,1	5 345,4	5 309,0	5 454,7	5 672,2	8 217,6	9 499,9*
J	4 525,3	4 994,7	5 445,9	6 025,0	6 358,5	8 225,9	10 502,1*
J	4 777,9	5 795,5	5 780,2	6 666,0	5 958,1	7 643,5	10 096,3
A	4 667,3	5 478,2	5 546,2	6 299,2	6 812,6	8 227,5	
S	4 840,0	5 124,4	5 568,2	6 084,5	6 548,3	8 574,0	
O	5 323,0	6 227,5	6 026,2	6 455,7	6 005,8	8 326,1	
N	4 538,9	5 117,3	5 130,7	6 011,9	7 573,0	9 838,5	
D	3 805,3	4 868,1	5 386,8	6 358,4	7 344,8	9 492,2	
Year	55 200,0	63 104,8	66 313,8	72 915,9	76 178,4	98 373,5	
Seasonally adjusted values							
J	4 481,7	5 007,3	6 237,8	6 129,1	6 073,2	6 301,9	9 322,8
F	4 570,2	4 897,5	5 377,0	5 956,0	5 899,0	7 253,0	10 136,9
M	4 680,8	4 985,1	4 906,9	5 530,3	6 398,8	9 245,9	8 048,0
A	4 434,7	5 420,7	5 642,3	6 600,9	5 925,6	7 804,6	9 012,7
M	4 701,3	5 368,2	5 363,6	5 561,7	5 792,8	8 338,5	9 658,6
J	4 640,6	5 082,6	5 477,4	5 927,5	6 192,0	7 861,0	9 961,6
J	4 409,7	5 424,5	5 560,6	6 451,2	5 808,6	7 466,0	10 122,8
A	4 531,6	5 380,0	5 471,5	6 252,1	6 800,5	8 259,5	
S	4 817,8	5 078,8	5 610,7	6 102,3	6 709,4	8 493,4	
O	4 941,8	5 833,6	5 694,7	6 302,1	5 996,4	8 524,5	
N	4 803,0	5 356,5	5 255,3	6 073,1	7 558,7	9 787,2	
D	4 136,9	5 144,8	5 524,4	6 324,4	7 145,1	9 108,0	

Table 5 - Total value of mineral sales excluding gold (R million)

Month	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000*	2001
Actual values							
J	2 613,0	2 764,4	3 394,4	4 586,7	3 997,6	4 473,7	7 206,8*
F	2 454,1	2 612,9	3 280,4	4 187,7	3 789,4	4 963,4	7 759,1*
M	2 678,6	3 031,3	3 172,6	3 713,2	3 912,3	6 684,0	5 923,3*
A	2 391,9	2 828,6	3 441,4	3 779,7	3 768,2	5 786,7	6 768,5*
M	2 716,7	3 078,6	3 245,0	3 698,7	3 796,0	6 161,8	7 198,1*
J	2 751,4	3 104,0	3 663,5	4 129,4	4 380,5	5 912,0	8 277,9*
J	2 728,2	3 229,8	3 429,1	4 282,6	4 023,7	5 703,7	7 809,9
A	2 577,6	3 066,3	3 555,0	4 102,9	4 915,7	5 896,7	
S	2 695,9	3 088,6	3 573,9	3 875,3	4 480,8	6 484,7	
O	2 824,7	3 539,0	3 566,4	4 184,8	3 947,8	6 055,5	
N	2 819,7	3 131,0	3 332,1	3 972,0	5 038,1	7 539,5	
D	2 615,0	3 148,0	3 583,0	4 108,3	5 137,6	7 439,7	
Year	31 866,8	36 622,5	41 236,8	48 621,3	51 187,7	73 101,4	
Seasonally adjusted values							
J	2 558,7	2 717,5	3 258,7	4 285,7	3 959,3	4 462,3	7 166,1
F	2 501,8	2 634,9	3 304,7	4 081,8	3 817,5	4 991,1	8 058,9
M	2 621,3	2 973,3	3 113,2	3 693,2	3 927,2	7 042,4	5 902,7
A	2 433,2	2 891,1	3 488,7	4 642,2	3 863,2	5 865,4	6 954,6
M	2 701,7	3 073,3	3 244,8	3 742,6	3 844,5	6 214,0	7 281,8
J	2 609,1	2 954,9	3 529,2	3 920,2	4 168,1	5 552,5	7 770,3
J	2 630,3	3 146,3	3 430,6	4 245,9	3 987,5	5 598,2	7 883,9
A	2 538,0	3 057,3	3 545,2	4 121,3	4 960,6	5 994,9	
S	2 701,6	3 068,6	3 638,7	3 921,3	4 670,4	6 448,3	
O	2 802,3	3 528,5	3 556,0	4 291,8	4 128,0	6 430,7	
N	2 934,8	3 210,3	3 351,4	3 965,1	5 006,8	7 494,0	
D	2 847,8	3 338,4	3 683,2	4 075,4	4 965,3	7 098,7	

* Revised

Table 6 - Total value of mineral sales according to major divisions, major groups and minerals
(R million)

Minerals	Actual value					Seasonally adjusted value		
	2000	2001		2000	2001		2000	
		Jul.	Jun. *	Jul.	Jul.	Jun.	Jul.	
Total, gold included	98 373,5	10 096,3	10 502,1	7 643,5	10 122,8	9 961,6	7 466,0	
Total, gold excluded	73 101,4	7 809,9	8 277,9	5 703,7	7 883,9	7 770,3	5 598,2	
Gold	25 272,0	2 286,5	2 224,1	1 939,7	2 238,9	2 191,3	1 867,8	
Iron ore	3 064,6	358,7	249,2	216,3	385,5	214,1	228,7	
Chrome	1 076,4	80,7	83,7	80,8	85,7	75,3	85,5	
Copper	1 577,7	70,5	140,8	106,4	89,6	159,7	131,8	
Manganese ore	1 232,2	81,9	150,3	100,6	97,4	119,0	116,0	
Platinum	27 094,5	3 232,2	3 539,2	2 593,0	2 810,5	3 180,7	2 242,5	
Nickel	2 051,0	130,8	200,0	178,2	137,1	161,0	183,1	
Other metallic minerals	2 840,7	251,0	292,8	242,1	241,2	274,6	232,8	
Coal	19 702,8	2 236,3	2 432,6	1 513,0	2 372,6	2 344,8	1 601,8	
Building materials	2 620,2	229,0	237,4	217,6	223,5	221,7	212,1	
- Granite or norite	674,9	48,9	49,5	45,7	51,2	37,4	48,2	
- Lime and limestone	792,5	72,2	77,7	67,8	71,8	77,8	67,3	
- Other building materials	1 153,4	107,9	110,2	104,1	100,5	106,5	96,6	
Other non-metallic minerals	11 841,1	1 138,8	951,9	455,8	1 440,8	1 019,4	563,9	

* Revised

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