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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS: MINING PRODUCTION AND MINERAL SALES

Key findings regarding mining production for August 2009

Seasonally adjusted mining production increases

In the three months to August 2009, seasonally adjusted mining production increased by 2,6% compared with the previous three months. This is the fourth consecutive quarter-on-quarter increase since April 2009. Platinum group metal (PGM) production was the main contributor (1,7 percentage points) to the 2,6% increase (see Table A and Table 4).

Seasonally adjusted mining production decreased by 5,8% month-on-month in August 2009. PGM production was the main contributor (-4,3 percentage points) to the 5,8% decrease (see Table 3).

The total mining production for the three months ended August 2009 decreased by 4,5% compared with the three months ended August 2008. Mining production for August 2009 decreased by 11,5% compared with August 2008, reflected by a 12,7% decrease in the production of non-gold minerals and a 2,9% decrease in the production of gold (see Table A).

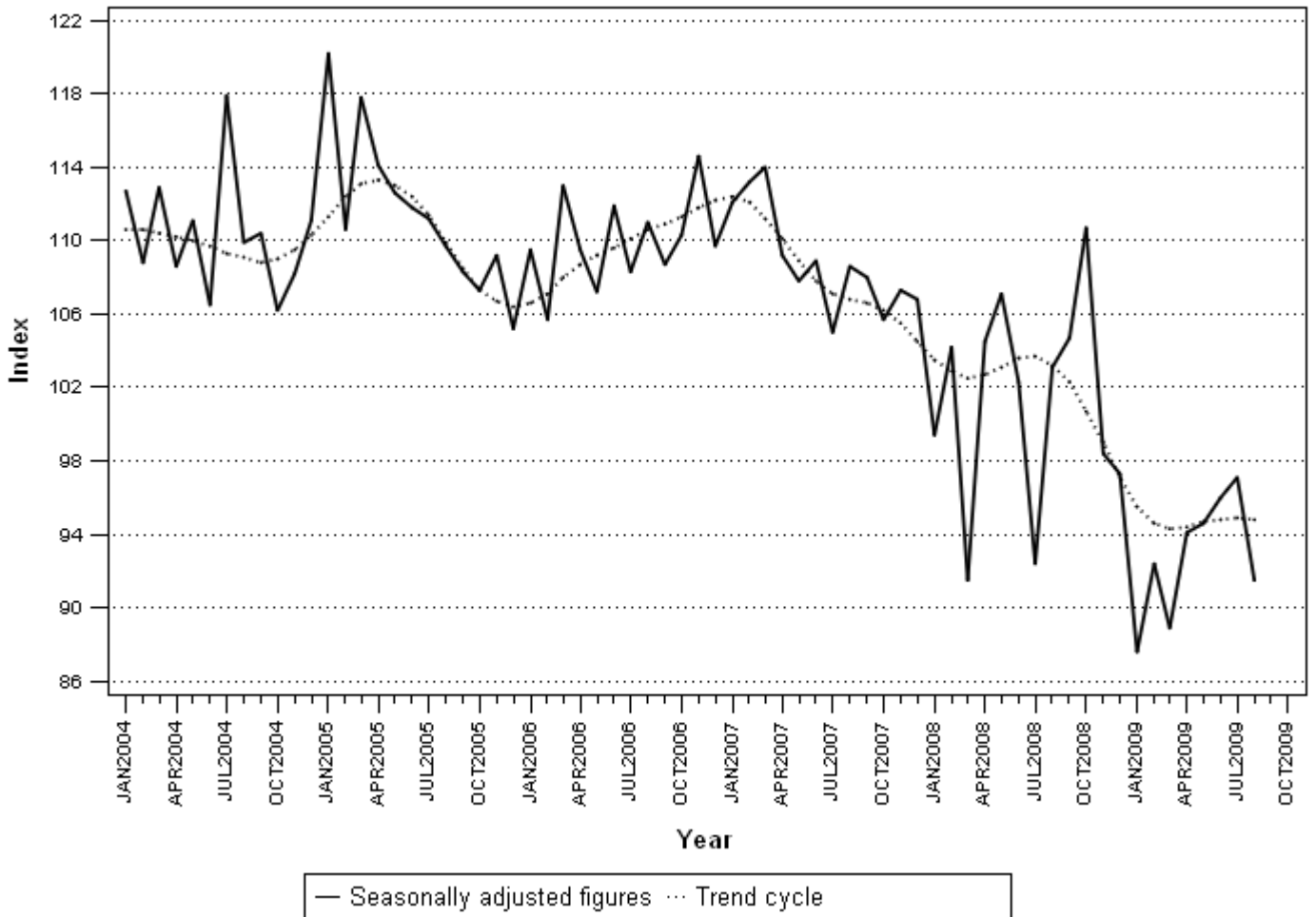
Table A – Selected key figures regarding mining production for August 2009

Actual estimates	Base : 2000=100		
	August 2009	% change between August 2008 and August 2009	% change between June to August 2008 and June to August 2009
Index of the physical volume of mining production			
Gold	46,1	-2,9	-8,4
Non-gold	112,2	-12,7	-4,0
Total	95,2	-11,5	-4,5

Shorter term seasonally adjusted estimates	Base : 2000=100		
	August 2009	% change between July and August 2009	% change between March to May and June to August 2009
Index of the physical volume of mining production			
Gold	44,0	-2,2	-4,1
Non-gold	108,0	-6,2	3,5
Total	91,5	-5,8	2,6

Figure 1 shows the seasonally adjusted figures and trend series for the index of total mining production between January 2004 and August 2009.

Figure 1 – Monthly indices of physical volume of total mining production (Base: 2000=100)



Key findings regarding mineral sales for July 2009

Seasonally adjusted mineral sales decrease

The total seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended July 2009 reflected a decrease of 11,3% compared with the previous three months. This decrease of 11,3% (-R6 984,3 million) was a result of a decrease of 12,8% (-R1 692,1 million) in the sale of gold and a decrease of 10,9% (-R5 292,2 million) in the sale of non-gold minerals (see Table B and Table 16).

The actual estimated total value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended July 2009 decreased by 32,5% compared with the three months ended July 2008. The major contributors to this decrease were PGMs (-17,8 percentage points or -R14 951,4 million), coal (-5,8 percentage points or -R4 898,5 million) and manganese ore (-5,1 percentage points or -R4 297,0 million). Iron ore sales contributed positively (2,1 percentage points or R1 785,0 million) to the 32,5% decrease (see Table 8).

Table B – Selected key figures regarding mineral sales for July 2009

Actual estimates	July 2009	% change between July 2008 and July 2009	% change between May to July 2008 and May to July 2009
	R million		
Mineral sales			
Gold	4 035,6	-2,4	0,2
Non-gold	15 135,8	-34,3	-37,9
Total	19 171,4	-29,4	-32,5

Shorter term seasonally adjusted estimates	July 2009	% change between June and July 2009	% change between February to April and May to July 2009
	R million		
Mineral sales			
Gold	3 775,6	0,3	-12,8
Non-gold	14 992,9	3,6	-10,9
Total	18 768,5	2,9	-11,3

Figure 2 shows the seasonally adjusted figures and trend series of the total value of mineral sales between January 2004 and July 2009.

Figure 2 – Total value of mineral sales

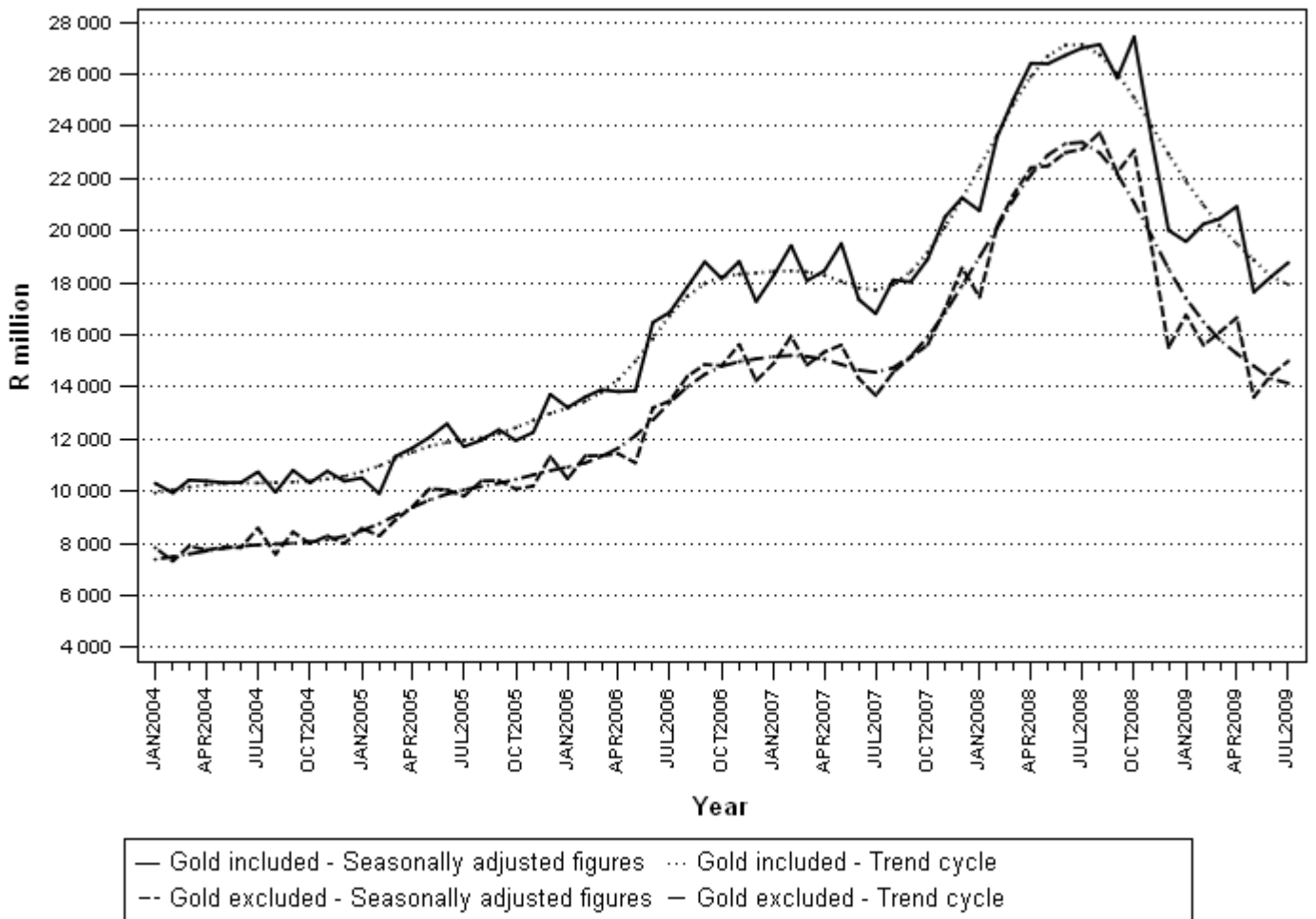
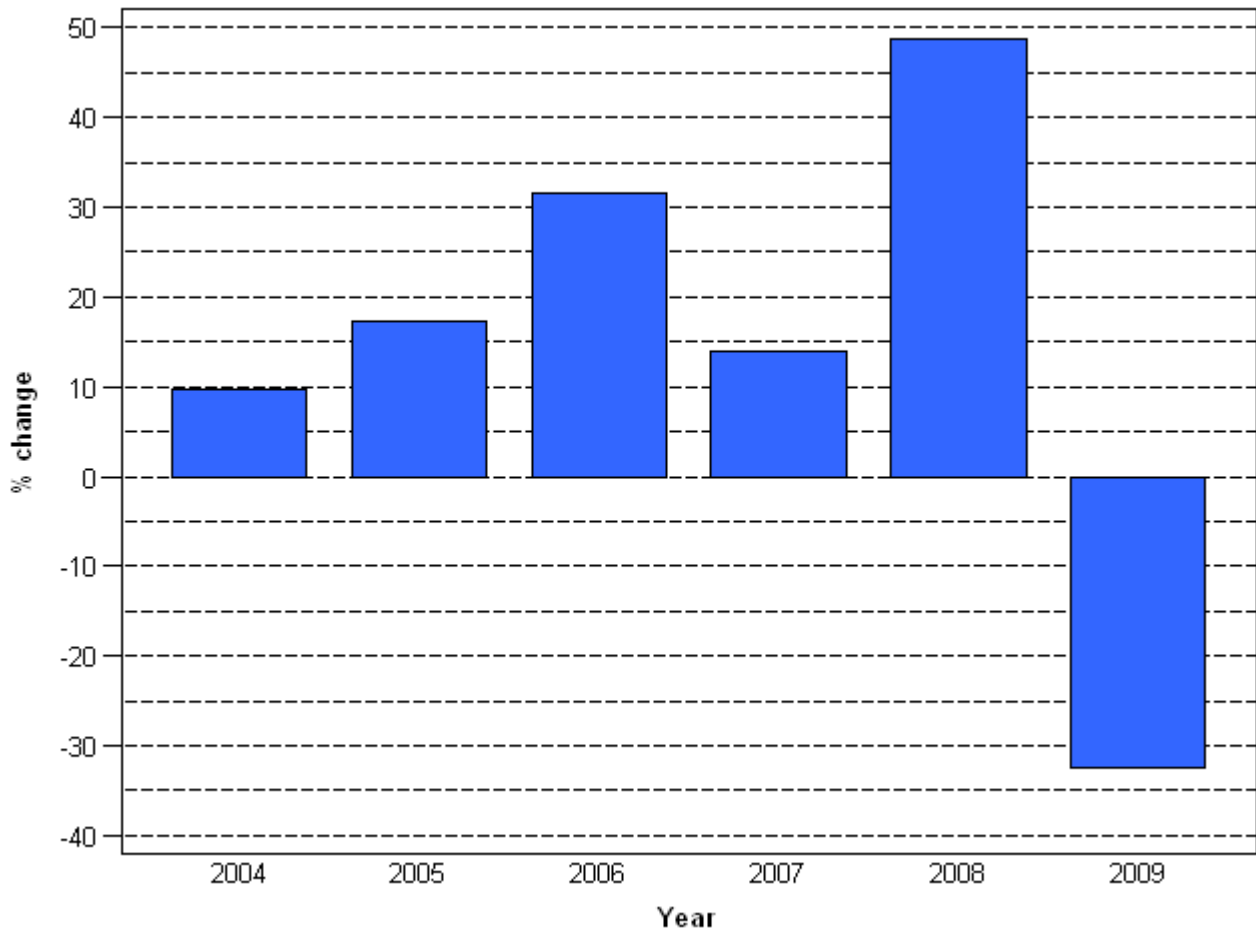


Figure 3 shows an annual negative growth rate of 32,5% in the value of mineral sales for the three months ended July 2009 compared with the three months ended July 2008. The decrease for 2009 represents the lowest growth rate compared to the other years for the same period since the growth rate of 9,6% in 2004.

Figure 3 – Comparison of the last six years for the total value of mineral sales for the quarter ending July compared with the quarter ending July of the previous year



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Detailed results: Tables

Table 1 – Index of the physical volume of mining production including gold

		Base : 2000=100						
		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	1/ 2009
Actual indices	January	85,1	100,7	107,9	96,9	97,8	85,5	75,5
	February	101,7	97,8	98,6	93,6	99,1	90,7	79,5
	March	101,8	112,9	119,9	114,3	115,0	92,2	89,9
	April	101,0	105,0	110,2	105,2	104,7	99,8	89,2
	May	107,1	113,0	115,2	109,0	109,8	108,6	96,5
	June	108,6	111,1	116,8	117,6	115,5	108,9	102,7
	July	110,7	119,5	113,1	110,2	107,1	94,9	99,5
	August	109,1	114,3	114,8	116,3	113,9	107,6	95,2
	September	114,6	117,4	116,7	115,2	118,3	114,5	
	October	114,5	108,2	108,2	110,9	105,9	110,2	
	November	108,6	110,1	111,4	117,3	110,5	101,6	
	December	113,5	113,3	107,4	113,1	109,8	101,1	
	Year	106,4	110,3	111,7	110,0	109,0	101,3	
Seasonally adjusted indices	January	91,7	112,7	120,2	109,5	112,1	99,4	87,6
	February	111,6	108,8	110,6	105,7	113,2	104,2	92,4
	March	102,0	112,9	117,8	113,0	114,0	91,5	88,9
	April	104,0	108,6	114,1	109,5	109,2	104,5	94,1
	May	104,5	111,1	112,6	107,2	107,8	107,1	94,6
	June	103,1	106,5	111,8	111,9	108,9	102,3	96,0
	July	108,7	117,9	111,2	108,3	105,0	92,4	97,1
	August	105,3	109,9	109,7	111,0	108,6	103,1	91,5
	September	109,3	110,4	108,3	108,7	108,0	104,7	
	October	111,7	106,2	107,3	110,3	105,7	110,7	
	November	106,8	108,2	109,2	114,6	107,3	98,4	
	December	110,7	111,1	105,2	109,7	106,8	97,3	

Table 2 – Index of the physical volume of mining production excluding gold

		Base : 2000=100						
		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	1/ 2009
Actual indices	January	85,7	110,0	121,6	110,1	112,4	99,2	87,1
	February	107,3	104,0	108,7	104,1	111,7	106,6	91,2
	March	106,2	123,6	136,2	130,9	134,4	106,0	104,2
	April	106,3	115,0	127,0	119,7	121,6	117,3	105,4
	May	114,7	124,9	131,3	126,1	127,4	128,5	114,0
	June	116,4	121,1	132,3	135,7	134,2	127,8	121,7
	July	118,8	133,1	129,2	127,1	124,0	110,9	118,5
	August	116,3	125,5	132,2	134,0	131,8	128,5	112,2
	September	122,9	130,0	132,4	131,7	137,3	135,6	
	October	124,2	119,7	122,3	127,7	122,3	131,3	
	November	116,2	121,3	126,2	136,2	129,7	119,9	
	December	123,3	127,0	120,0	131,8	128,2	119,6	
	Year	113,2	121,3	126,6	126,3	126,3	119,3	
Seasonally adjusted indices	January	91,6	123,6	135,6	124,8	129,2	115,9	101,5
	February	119,6	117,9	124,0	119,4	129,9	124,2	107,9
	March	106,9	123,9	133,6	129,3	133,2	105,2	102,9
	April	109,2	118,8	131,2	124,1	126,6	122,6	111,0
	May	110,4	121,6	127,4	123,3	124,6	126,3	111,2
	June	110,0	115,9	126,5	128,9	126,2	119,8	113,5
	July	115,6	130,8	126,5	124,2	120,9	107,2	115,1
	August	112,3	120,7	126,3	127,9	125,7	123,1	108,0
	September	117,6	122,4	122,9	124,7	125,3	123,9	
	October	120,5	117,2	121,4	127,3	122,4	132,2	
	November	114,4	119,4	123,8	132,9	125,6	115,8	
	December	120,3	124,5	117,4	127,6	124,3	114,6	

1/ Preliminary.

Table 3 – Indices of the physical volume of mining production according to mineral groups and minerals

	Base : 2000=100							
	Weights	Actual indices				Seasonally adjusted indices		
		2008	2008	1/ 2009		2008	2009	
			Aug	Jul	Aug		Aug	Jul
Total, gold included	100,0	101,3	107,6	99,5	95,2	103,1	97,1	91,5
Total, gold excluded	74,3	119,3	128,5	118,5	112,2	123,1	115,1	108,0
Gold	25,7	49,4	47,5	44,4	46,1	45,3	45,0	44,0
Iron ore	3,1	145,6	162,3	178,3	170,3	160,9	176,6	168,6
Chromium	1,1	145,5	161,1	99,8	98,1	148,1	92,4	89,9
Copper	1,6	71,8	67,8	78,4	63,0	69,7	77,1	65,1
Manganese ore	1,3	183,1	207,4	121,2	93,4	196,8	119,2	87,5
PGMs	27,6	133,4	144,0	141,3	127,4	140,9	140,8	125,5
Nickel	2,0	86,5	93,4	101,0	108,6	88,0	102,1	102,5
Other metallic minerals	2,9	84,4	91,0	85,5	77,3	87,6	80,5	74,6
Diamonds	8,3	114,8	129,5	60,7	65,9	117,2	58,6	59,2
Coal	20,0	112,3	117,7	121,8	120,8	111,3	113,6	114,1
Building materials	2,6	* 133,8	139,1	130,3	124,8	129,7	121,5	116,4
Other non-metallic minerals	3,8	67,5	72,0	61,4	60,7	69,9	61,1	58,7

1/ Preliminary.

* Revised.

Table 4 – Contribution of the mineral groups and minerals to the quarterly growth in total mining production (seasonally adjusted)

		Base : 2000=100			
		Percentage contribution to the total mining production using the weights according to the value of production in the base year	Average seasonally adjusted production index for June to August 2009	Quarterly percentage change June to August 2009 compared with the preceding three months	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total mining production 1/
Gold		25,7	44,8	-4,1	-0,5
Non-gold minerals	Iron ore	3,1	164,6	7,4	0,4
	Chromium	1,1	91,7	-13,7	-0,2
	Copper	1,6	73,0	-4,5	-0,1
	Manganese ore	1,3	114,1	8,7	0,1
	PGMs	27,6	135,8	4,4	1,7
	Nickel	2,0	100,1	-4,9	-0,1
	Other metallic minerals	2,9	78,3	-3,1	-0,1
	Diamonds	8,3	58,6	11,1	0,5
	Coal	20,0	113,3	3,1	0,7
	Building materials	2,6	120,1	-0,9	0,0
	Other non-metallic minerals	3,8	58,9	1,2	0,0
Total non-gold minerals		74,3	112,2	3,5	3,1
Total minerals		100,0	94,9	2,6	2,6

1/ The quarterly contribution (percentage points) of a mineral or mineral group to the total seasonally adjusted mining production is calculated by multiplying the change in the index for the mineral or mineral group by the weight of the mineral or mineral group and then dividing by the previous period index total. Figures have been rounded off.

Table 5 – Total value of mineral sales including gold (R million)

		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	* 2008	1/ 2009
Actual values	January	9 868,8	9 820,5	9 587,4	11 755,1	15 692,9	17 442,2	16 554,1
	February	10 236,5	9 576,1	9 383,8	12 680,8	17 928,6	21 737,4	19 197,7
	March	9 829,3	10 396,0	11 477,1	14 179,9	18 555,2	25 894,1	21 379,9
	April	9 294,1	9 789,3	11 034,0	13 042,6	17 447,8	25 520,6	20 044,6
	May	9 104,1	10 373,3	12 239,8	14 046,8	19 841,6	26 737,6	17 764,4
	June	9 745,9	10 856,0	13 360,1	17 809,8	19 033,2	29 881,0	19 640,0
	July	10 403,7	10 844,2	12 001,8	17 614,8	17 449,4	27 164,7	19 171,4
	August	9 612,0	9 841,7	11 687,6	17 339,2	17 890,4	27 064,3	
	September	10 008,1	11 693,2	13 524,1	20 586,6	19 619,7	27 834,1	
	October	9 989,4	10 466,3	12 074,8	18 031,0	18 713,7	27 190,4	
	November	9 535,8	10 815,6	12 453,2	18 918,2	20 674,4	24 005,2	
	December	9 899,2	10 585,6	13 994,2	17 584,7	21 590,8	20 277,0	
	Year	117 526,9	125 057,8	142 817,9	193 589,5	224 437,7	300 748,6	
Seasonally adjusted values	January	10 034,5	10 309,8	10 519,0	13 215,4	18 273,3	20 762,5	19 578,7
	February	10 494,1	9 941,3	9 910,5	13 619,7	19 430,0	23 590,5	20 254,4
	March	9 903,9	10 434,0	11 330,1	13 896,5	18 079,8	25 050,5	20 447,2
	April	9 849,2	10 397,7	11 668,3	13 824,8	18 458,9	26 418,3	20 928,0
	May	9 076,6	10 333,1	12 075,5	13 855,4	19 508,2	26 401,0	17 639,6
	June	9 313,8	10 339,6	12 592,6	16 478,3	17 357,7	26 723,1	18 237,2
	July	10 431,2	10 747,7	11 717,2	16 871,8	16 816,1	27 006,8	18 768,5
	August	9 761,1	9 964,4	11 964,5	17 836,1	18 104,0	27 139,7	
	September	9 453,8	10 809,2	12 367,2	18 803,1	18 034,1	25 844,7	
	October	9 844,2	10 322,7	11 950,3	18 159,7	18 903,6	27 433,1	
	November	9 622,1	10 774,8	12 263,9	18 814,2	20 534,5	23 521,5	
	December	9 701,6	10 390,1	13 720,5	17 278,6	21 257,3	20 013,1	

Table 6 – Total value of mineral sales excluding gold (R million)

		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	* 2008	1/ 2009
Actual values	January	6 744,1	7 480,6	7 809,6	9 316,0	12 734,4	14 526,9	14 077,6
	February	7 452,6	7 039,8	7 813,9	10 469,6	14 498,1	18 341,8	14 532,1
	March	7 140,7	7 710,4	8 840,3	11 403,2	14 955,5	21 803,3	16 535,9
	April	6 815,2	7 366,5	8 963,2	10 850,3	14 595,8	21 859,1	16 147,1
	May	6 477,2	8 029,3	10 372,9	11 445,0	16 150,6	22 997,9	13 898,2
	June	6 759,5	8 107,4	10 562,0	14 217,3	15 745,9	25 899,7	15 659,0
	July	7 613,1	8 699,0	10 082,3	14 114,1	14 154,8	23 030,9	15 135,8
	August	7 052,7	7 546,9	10 210,5	14 152,3	14 647,2	23 966,6	
	September	7 092,3	9 114,1	11 390,1	16 333,3	16 531,7	23 987,5	
	October	7 345,5	8 089,0	10 186,0	14 646,2	15 351,6	22 714,2	
	November	7 154,9	8 406,4	10 436,1	15 781,8	17 188,8	19 906,1	
	December	6 825,9	8 138,7	11 549,8	14 455,8	18 846,7	15 722,4	
	Year	84 473,7	95 728,1	118 216,7	157 184,9	185 401,1	254 756,4	
Seasonally adjusted values	January	6 825,8	7 836,0	8 581,8	10 477,4	14 910,5	17 444,6	16 766,8
	February	7 625,4	7 325,6	8 294,2	11 360,1	15 947,4	20 182,9	15 609,8
	March	7 332,3	7 902,5	8 890,2	11 372,9	14 845,3	21 379,6	16 092,4
	April	7 119,5	7 751,0	9 412,8	11 439,7	15 347,8	22 412,8	16 664,1
	May	6 332,7	7 861,1	10 095,7	11 094,8	15 612,1	22 478,5	13 609,2
	June	6 570,1	7 842,9	10 064,5	13 206,0	14 326,5	22 992,8	14 472,0
	July	7 591,3	8 592,1	9 814,0	13 467,6	13 676,2	23 125,4	14 992,9
	August	7 171,4	7 587,1	10 401,9	14 414,0	14 571,7	23 754,4	
	September	6 733,5	8 446,2	10 416,6	14 864,4	15 137,7	22 219,7	
	October	7 319,4	8 000,1	10 086,7	14 821,1	15 622,1	23 086,6	
	November	7 162,6	8 291,2	10 204,2	15 634,6	17 000,7	19 355,9	
	December	6 653,6	7 996,7	11 342,8	14 241,9	18 571,7	15 516,4	

1/ Preliminary.
* Revised.

Table 7 – Total value of mineral sales according to mineral groups and minerals (R million)

	Actual values				Seasonally adjusted values		
	* 2008	2008	1/ 2009		2008	2009	
		July	June	July	July	June	July
Total, gold included	300 748,6	27 164,7	19 640,0	19 171,4	27 006,8	18 237,2	18 768,5
Total, gold excluded	254 756,4	23 030,9	15 659,0	15 135,8	23 125,4	14 472,0	14 992,9
Gold	45 992,1	4 133,8	3 981,0	4 035,6	3 881,4	3 765,2	3 775,6
Iron ore	22 241,7	1 646,9	2 087,9	2 329,9	1 699,2	2 266,0	2 420,5
Chromium	5 408,5	588,3	329,7	287,1	533,6	280,1	259,0
Copper	5 627,9	688,9	363,2	366,5	601,8	327,7	319,4
Manganese ore	17 343,6	1 403,9	407,2	334,7	2 142,8	240,3	549,3
PGMs	91 352,4	8 918,9	5 117,1	4 411,0	8 258,2	4 336,2	4 124,2
Nickel	5 255,8	430,3	546,0	391,9	458,9	441,3	424,8
Other metallic minerals	5 875,5	407,7	388,0	592,5	397,3	322,8	586,6
Coal	72 902,4	5 910,2	4 665,5	4 785,5	5 642,4	4 559,2	4 548,3
Building materials	6 913,1	630,2	576,7	605,0	587,0	569,2	564,4
- Granite or norite	700,7	65,4	39,2	44,0	54,8	39,0	37,0
- Lime and limestone	1 906,9	169,3	171,8	168,6	165,0	173,9	164,6
- Other building materials	4 305,1	395,4	365,7	392,4	367,2	356,3	362,8
Other non-metallic minerals	21 835,5	2 405,7	1 177,7	1 031,8	2 804,2	1 129,2	1 196,4

1/ Preliminary.

* Revised.

Table 8 – Contribution of the mineral groups and minerals to the quarterly growth in total value of mineral sales

		Percentage contribution to total mineral sales during May to July 2008	Percentage change between May to July 2008 and May to July 2009	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total value of mineral sales 1/	Difference in sales of mining divisions between May to July 2008 and May to July 2009
					R million
Gold		14,1	0,2	0,0	28,0
Non-gold minerals	Iron ore	5,9	36,4	2,1	1 785,0
	Chromium	1,9	-48,8	-0,9	-770,2
	Copper	2,1	-40,3	-0,8	-706,4
	Manganese ore	6,2	-82,9	-5,1	-4 297,0
	PGMs	34,1	-52,3	-17,8	-14 951,4
	Nickel	1,9	-14,9	-0,3	-243,3
	Other metallic minerals	1,6	-13,5	-0,2	-180,9
	Coal	21,7	-26,9	-5,8	-4 898,5
	Building materials	2,1	0,0	0,0	-0,3
	Other non-metallic minerals	8,3	-42,5	-3,5	-2 972,3
Total non-gold minerals		85,9	-37,9	-32,6	-27 235,5
Total minerals		100,0	-32,5	-32,5	-27 207,5

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 2008 to July 2008, divided by 100. Figures have been rounded off.

Table 9 – Percentage change in the indices of mining production between the current month and the corresponding month of the previous year

	Base : 2000=100			
	Actual estimates August 2008	Actual estimates August 2009	% change between August 2008 and August 2009	Difference between August 2008 and August 2009
				Percentage points
Gold	47,5	46,1	-2,9	-1,4
Non-gold minerals	128,5	112,2	-12,7	-16,3
Total	107,6	95,2	-11,5	-12,4

Table 10 – Percentage change in the average indices of mining production between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year

	Base : 2000=100			
	Actual estimates June to August 2008	Actual estimates June to August 2009	% change between June to August 2008 and June to August 2009	Difference between June to August 2008 and June to August 2009
				Percentage points
Gold	50,2	46,0	-8,4	-4,2
Non-gold minerals	122,4	117,5	-4,0	-4,9
Total	103,8	99,1	-4,5	-4,7

Table 11 – Percentage change in the seasonally adjusted indices of mining production between the current month and the previous month

	Base : 2000=100			
	Seasonally adjusted July 2009	Seasonally adjusted August 2009	% change between July and August 2009	Difference between July and August 2009
				Percentage points
Gold	45,0	44,0	-2,2	-1,0
Non-gold minerals	115,1	108,0	-6,2	-7,1
Total	97,1	91,5	-5,8	-5,6

Table 12 – Percentage change in the average seasonally adjusted indices of mining production between the current quarter and the previous quarter

	Base : 2000=100			
	Seasonally adjusted March to May 2009	Seasonally adjusted June to August 2009	% change between March to May and June to August 2009	Difference between March to May and June to August 2009
				Percentage points
Gold	46,7	44,8	-4,1	-1,9
Non-gold minerals	108,4	112,2	3,5	3,8
Total	92,5	94,9	2,6	2,4

Table 13 – Percentage change in the actual value of mineral sales between the current month and the corresponding month of the previous year

	Actual estimates July 2008	Actual estimates July 2009	% change between July 2008 and July 2009	Difference between July 2008 and July 2009
	R million	R million		R million
Gold	4 133,8	4 035,6	-2,4	-98,2
Non-gold minerals	23 030,9	15 135,8	-34,3	-7 895,1
Total	27 164,7	19 171,4	-29,4	-7 993,3

Table 14 – Percentage change in the actual value of mineral sales between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year

	Actual estimates May to July 2008	Actual estimates May to July 2009	% change between May to July 2008 and May to July 2009	Difference between May to July 2008 and May to July 2009
	R million	R million		R million
Gold	11 854,7	11 882,7	0,2	28,0
Non-gold minerals	71 928,5	44 693,0	-37,9	-27 235,5
Total	83 783,3	56 575,8	-32,5	-27 207,5

Table 15 – Percentage change in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales between the current month and the previous month

	Seasonally adjusted estimates June 2009	Seasonally adjusted estimates July 2009	% change between June and July 2009	Difference between June and July 2009
	R million	R million		R million
Gold	3 765,2	3 775,6	0,3	10,4
Non-gold minerals	14 472,0	14 992,9	3,6	520,9
Total	18 237,2	18 768,5	2,9	531,3

Table 16 – Percentage change in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales between the current quarter and the previous quarter

	Seasonally adjusted estimates February to April 2009	Seasonally adjusted estimates May to July 2009	% change between February to April and May to July 2009	Difference between February to April and May to July 2009
	R million	R million		R million
Gold	13 263,3	11 571,2	-12,8	-1 692,1
Non-gold minerals	48 366,3	43 074,1	-10,9	-5 292,2
Total	61 629,6	54 645,3	-11,3	-6 984,3

Explanatory notes

Introduction	1	Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) publishes monthly information regarding the mining industry on the basis of mining production figures and mineral sales furnished by the Department of Minerals and Energy (DME). 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 mineral groups on a monthly basis.
	2	In accordance with international practice, the indices have to be re-based every five years to a new base year. The base year of the index of the physical volume of mining production is currently 2000=100. Both actual and seasonally adjusted figures are presented.
	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 may have been estimated due to late response. These estimates will be revised in future statistical release(s) as soon as more up-to-date information is available.
Purpose of the survey	6	The monthly mining production and sales survey is conducted by the Minerals Bureau, covering all 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.
Scope of the survey	7	This survey covers mining establishments conducting activities regarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extracting, dressing and beneficiating of minerals occurring naturally, for example solids such as coal and ores.
Classification	8	The 1993 edition of the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC)</i> , Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 <i>International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC)</i> 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.
Statistical unit	9	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 (see paragraph 8).
Weighting	10	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 2000 supplied by the Minerals Bureau, Department of Minerals and Energy.

Seasonal adjustment	11	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>														
Reliability of estimates	12	<p>Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. Figures for the latest month are preliminary.</p>														
Historical data	13	<p>More comprehensive detail on the method of calculation and historical data in respect of the production indices according to mining mineral groups for the period February 1990 to November 2002 is available in statistical release P2041.1, entitled <i>Mining statistics: Indices of the physical volume of mining production, Base: 2000=100, February 1990 to November 2002</i>, published on 11 February 2003 on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za</p>														
Related publications	14	<p>Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bulletin of Statistics.</i> • <i>SA Statistics.</i> 														
Rounding-off of figures	15	<p>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.</p>														
Symbols and abbreviations	16	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>GDP</td> <td>Gross Domestic Product</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ISIC</td> <td>International Standard Industrial Classification</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DME</td> <td>Department of Minerals and Energy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SIC</td> <td>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SNA</td> <td>System of National Accounts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stats SA</td> <td>Statistics South Africa</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PGMs</td> <td>Platinum group metals</td> </tr> </table>	GDP	Gross Domestic Product	ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification	DME	Department of Minerals and Energy	SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities	SNA	System of National Accounts	Stats SA	Statistics South Africa	PGMs	Platinum group metals
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Changes in forthcoming issue	17	<p>The results for mining production to be published in the September 2009 release will be presented for reference year 2005. Indices of the minerals/mineral groups will be arithmetically converted to base 2005=100. In addition, new weights based on the value of mineral sales for 2005 will be implemented for the period from January 2005.</p>														

Glossary

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 mineral group is the ratio between the volume of production of a mineral group in a given period and the volume of production of the same mineral group in the base period. The current base period is 2000. 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 <i>System of National Accounts (SNA)</i> in the same way as in the <i>Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) of all Economic Activities</i> , Fifth Edition of January 1993.
PGMs - Platinum group metals	Platinum group metals include platinum; iridium; osmiridium; palladium; rhodium; ruthenium and osmium.
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 mineral group is the ratio of the sales of a mineral group to the total sales of the mining industry. The weight of a mineral group reflects the importance of the mineral 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.

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