

Mining: production and sales

P2041

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Key figures for the month ended December 1999

Actual estimates	December 1999	% change between December 1998 and December 1999	% change between October 1998 to December 1998 and	% change between January 1998 to December 1998 and
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			October 1999 to December 1999	January 1999 to December 1999
Index of the physical volume of mining production	96,3	-4,2%	-4,1%	-1,8%

Seasonally adjusted estimates	December 1999	% change between November 1999 and December 1999	% change between July 1999 to September 1999 and October 1999 to December 1999
Index of the physical volume of mining production	97,5	-0,5%	+1,4%

Key findings for the month ended December 1999

Mining production for the year 1999 decreases

The total mining production for the year 1999 decreased by 1,8% compared with 1998.

The decrease of 1,8% in the total mining production for 1999 was due to a decrease of 4,8% in gold production compared with 1998. The major contributors to the slight increase of 0,2% in non-gold mineral production were coal (+0,2 of a percentage point) and platinum (+0,1 of a percentage point).

Mining production increases during the fourth quarter of 1999

The total mining production for the fourth quarter of 1999 reflected an increase of 1,4% after seasonal adjustment compared with the previous quarter.

The increase of 1,4% after seasonal adjustment in the total mining production was mainly due to an increase of 3,8% in the production of non-gold minerals during the fourth quarter of 1999 compared with the third quarter of 1999. The major contributors to the increase of 3,8% after seasonal adjustment in the production of non-gold minerals were the production of platinum (+0,9 of a percentage point) and coal (+0,9 of a percentage point) minerals.

Mining sales increase during September to November 1999

The seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales for the three months up to November 1999 reflected an increase of 4,8% compared with the previous three months.

The increase of 4,8% in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales was due to an increase of 1,4% (R191,6 million) and 12,6% (R721,4 million) in non-gold mineral sales and gold sales respectively during the three months up to November 1999 compared with the previous three months. The increase of 1,4% in the seasonally adjusted value of non-gold mineral sales was mainly due to an increase of 2,7% (R98,3 million) in sales of platinum and 3,6% (R154,8 million) in sales of coal.

Notes

Forthcoming issues Issue Expected release date

January 2000 7 March 2000

Purpose of the survey The monthly Mining Production and Sales Survey is a country-wide survey covering a sample of mining establishments (branches) 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) to monitor and develop 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 and the total value of mineral sales according to manufacturing 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 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 mining sales figures, mining production indices are published one month earlier than mining 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 the future statistical release(s) as soon as better 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.

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 May 1998. Both actual and seasonally adjusted figures are presented.

Seasonal adjustment 11 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.

Related publications 12 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA -

- Bulletin of Statistics.
- SA Statistics.

Unpublished statistics 13 In some cases Stats SA can also make available statistics which are not published. The statistics can be made available as: computer printouts or diskette or CD Rom. Generally a charge is made for providing unpublished statistics.

Rounding-off of figures 14 The figures in the tables have, where necessary, been rounded off to the nearest final 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. 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 (firm), 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 Free-on-board relates to goods destined for the export market. Railage, road transport and **basis** docking charges are involved but no charges are made for the transport by sea.

Index of physical volume The index of physical volume of mining production or a production index is a statistical **of mining production** 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 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.

For more information

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Period	Production indices	Percentage change
	1995 = 100	Production indices
Actual figures:		
Oct. 1999 - Dec. 1999	98,6	-4,4
Oct. 1998 - Dec. 1998	103,1	
Seasonally adjusted figures:		
Oct. 1999 - Dec. 1999	97,9	+1,4
Jul. 1999 - Sep. 1999	96,6	

Period	Mineral sales	Percentage change
	R million	Mineral sales
Actual figures:		
Sep. 1999 - Nov. 1999	19 918,4	+6,9
Sep. 1998 - Nov. 1998	18 625,9	
Seasonally adjusted figures:		
Sep. 1999 - Nov. 1999	19 758,6	+4,8
Jun. 1999 - Aug. 1999	18 845,5	

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Table 1 - The index of the physical volume of total mining production - gold included

Base 1995 = 100

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Actual indices							
J	96,4	99,8	95,0	96,0	93,6	91,6	93,7
F	102,1	101,9	99,3	98,3	98,8	97,7	96,7

M	102,0	101,0	101,1	99,1	97,6	99,7	97,7
A	100,7	99,8	95,9	93,3	96,7	96,5	94,9
M	100,8	95,6	96,2	97,6	101,9	95,7	98,5
J	103,3	101,5	105,1	100,8	105,7	104,2	98,4
J	104,0	100,0	100,2	98,6	100,6	96,5	97,3
A	104,8	104,4	104,4	99,5	103,1	99,4	95,3
S	103,5	103,6	104,6	98,8	102,6	99,1	99,0
O	103,3	100,1	98,9	98,7	100,6	104,6	98,7
N	105,0	104,3	100,1	100,3	104,4	104,3	100,8
D	101,6	98,2	99,2	98,9	98,6	100,5	96,3
Year	102,3	100,9	100,0	98,3	100,4	99,2	97,3
Seasonally adjusted indices							
J	101,3	104,8	99,3	100,6	98,1	96,4	98,6
F	103,3	102,5	99,6	99,1	99,9	99,2	98,2
M	102,6	101,3	100,8	98,6	97,1	99,3	97,4
A	103,5	102,9	99,0	96,8	100,4	100,1	98,4
M	102,9	97,1	97,2	98,4	102,5	96,1	98,8
J	102,2	99,9	102,2	97,4	101,4	99,6	94,1
J	104,0	100,0	100,1	98,7	100,9	96,8	97,5
A	102,2	101,7	101,7	97,3	101,3	98,2	94,3
S	102,3	102,2	102,5	97,1	101,0	97,9	97,9
O	103,3	100,1	98,7	98,6	100,3	103,2	98,2
N	103,6	102,4	97,6	97,5	100,9	100,5	98,0
D	104,8	100,3	100,4	99,9	99,3	101,0	97,5

Table 2 - The index of the physical volume of total mining production - gold excluded

Base 1995 = 100

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Actual indices							
J	84,5	199,4	94,2	98,4	99,8	94,9	100,0
F	89,4	95,8	97,0	97,0	103,3	103,0	102,6
M	89,1	91,7	98,9	100,1	97,7	106,3	103,2
A	89,1	93,0	95,4	95,3	101,8	104,4	101,3
M	89,7	89,8	99,1	100,0	107,0	106,5	109,1
J	94,9	95,0	108,1	104,9	114,4	113,4	105,9
J	95,4	94,3	100,1	103,6	107,5	104,1	109,3
A	96,2	99,3	105,4	102,3	107,7	106,0	105,8
S	93,9	96,5	106,1	104,0	104,7	104,6	106,0
O	92,8	93,8	96,9	101,5	105,6	114,9	109,8
N	96,1	99,9	100,2	102,1	106,0	109,0	114,3
D	90,8	91,8	98,8	99,7	100,4	101,5	105,6
Year	91,8	94,4	100,0	100,7	104,7	105,7	106,1
Seasonally adjusted indices							

J	88,0	95,8	97,5	101,9	103,4	98,7	104,2
F	89,9	96,4	97,9	98,3	105,1	105,1	104,8
M	90,3	92,6	99,6	100,6	97,9	106,5	103,5
A	90,4	95,2	98,0	98,2	104,9	107,7	104,3
M	90,5	90,5	99,7	100,2	106,7	105,8	108,3
J	91,9	91,2	102,9	99,0	107,3	106,1	98,9
J	93,6	92,6	98,4	101,9	105,7	102,1	107,1
A	91,7	95,3	101,8	99,6	105,8	104,9	105,0
S	91,9	94,8	104,5	103,1	104,2	104,7	106,4
O	93,4	94,5	97,5	101,7	105,3	114,3	109,1
N	94,8	98,7	99,1	100,8	104,4	106,8	111,7
D	95,4	95,8	102,8	103,6	104,3	105,6	110,1

* Revised
1/ Preliminary

Table 3 - Indices of physical volume of mining production according to divisions and major groups

1995=100

Minerals	Weights	Actual indices				Seasonally adjusted indices		
		1999	1999		1998	1999		1998
			Dec.	Nov. *		Dec.	Dec.	
Total, gold included	100,0	97,3	96,3	101,8	100,5	97,5	98,0	101,0
Total, gold excluded	57,5	106,1	105,6	114,3	101,5	110,1	111,7	105,6
Gold	42,5	85,6	83,8	84,9	98,6	80,5	79,4	94,8
Iron ore	3,0	91,1	85,3	103,6	109,4	80,2	100,0	103,6
Chrome	1,1	120,8	111,9	116,8	125,5	113,8	108,9	127,5
Copper	3,1	89,9	109,3	100,0	80,6	114,4	96,3	85,7
Manganese ore	1,3	97,7	103,8	113,8	99,2	104,1	108,4	99,6
Platinum	11,9	117,7	146,0	130,7	114,2	135,5	126,8	106,5
Nickel	1,5	126,0	109,1	130,1	124,2	107,8	134,5	122,6
Other metallic minerals	2,4	96,5	95,7	95,3	102,6	100,1	94,2	106,6
Diamonds	4,4	99,7	81,0	121,7	107,8	85,8	109,8	113,5
Coal	23,2	109,1	99,1	114,8	96,8	109,4	113,5	106,5
Building materials	3,5	81,8	73,9	89,7	81,2	83,3	93,6	92,1
Other non-metallic minerals	2,1	108,4	90,3	93,1	91,9	105,0	88,8	106,2

1/ Preliminary
* Revised

Table 4 - Total value of sales - gold included

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Actual values							
J	3 748,6	4 428,8	4 669,2	5 165,8	6 447,8	5 462,5	6 145,9
F	3 108,1	3 619,4	4 234,8	4 604,2	5 159,4	5 082,6	5 959,8
M	3 585,3	4 201,9	4 700,0	5 002,8	4 936,6	5 428,5	6 027,6
A	4 529,3	4 001,4	4 413,4	5 380,9	5 576,8	5 668,8	5 960,7
M	3 554,3	4 325,1	4 704,9	5 345,1	5 309,0	5 590,3	5 544,5
J	3 705,1	4 115,8	4 525,2	4 994,8	5 445,9	6 072,5	6 481,2
J	4 422,7	4 669,5	4 777,7	5 795,5	5 780,3	6 597,5	6 053,1
A	4 273,8	4 415,7	4 667,3	5 478,0	5 546,2	6 200,0	6 908,8
S	4 078,4	4 526,6	4 840,0	5 124,5	5 568,2	6 160,6	6 371,0
O	3 948,7	4 343,9	5 133,4	6 227,7	6 026,1	6 443,6	6 037,7
N	3 815,3	4 153,1	4 538,8	5 117,2	5 130,8	6 021,7	7 509,7
D	4 107,9	3 910,4	3 805,3	4 868,2	5 386,9	6 319,0	
Year	46 877,5	50 711,6	55 010,0	63 104,7	66 314,0	71 047,6	
Seasonally adjusted values							
J	3 648,0	4 276,3	4 516,7	4 981,8	6 222,8	5 326,9	5 985,0
F	3 493,0	4 036,9	4 652,9	4 988,9	5 510,9	5 395,9	6 330,5
M	3 600,1	4 218,7	4 735,9	5 080,8	5 041,9	5 582,2	6 240,5
A	4 475,7	3 927,0	4 318,9	5 270,8	5 506,0	5 635,1	5 935,5
M	3 583,9	4 324,7	4 688,6	5 351,2	5 371,8	5 729,5	5 725,3
J	3 798,8	4 255,7	4 617,6	5 041,9	5 404,2	5 951,0	6 314,0
J	3 982,2	4 241,8	4 395,3	5 378,7	5 404,1	6 225,5	5 735,8
A	4 011,1	4 210,8	4 509,6	5 341,9	5 444,7	6 095,6	6 795,7
S	3 942,9	4 407,7	4 740,6	5 046,5	5 511,0	6 103,4	6 313,9
O	3 741,5	4 079,9	4 823,7	5 838,6	5 618,0	6 022,9	5 650,1
N	4 037,9	4 436,0	4 833,1	5 424,7	5 379,1	6 269,1	7 794,6
D	4 647,0	4 372,4	4 135,7	5 257,6	5 763,6	6 731,6	

Table 5 - Total value of mineral sales - gold excluded

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Actual values							
J	1 911,1	2 106,9	2 612,9	2 764,4	3 394,4	3 622,7	4 033,8
F	1 727,0	1 965,1	2 454,0	2 613,0	3 280,4	3 346,0	3 839,0
M	1 826,1	2 095,5	2 678,6	3 031,1	3 172,6	3 594,1	3 920,4
A	1 953,5	2 165,1	2 390,1	2 828,6	3 441,4	3 757,0	3 849,7
M	1 917,0	2 118,6	2 716,5	3 078,3	3 245,0	3 735,9	3 679,8

J	2 146,7	2 239,9	2 751,4	3 104,1	3 663,5	4 176,9	4 504,1
J	1 981,2	2 266,1	2 727,9	3 229,8	3 429,2	4 214,0	4 118,6
A	2 067,0	2 319,0	2 577,6	3 066,1	3 555,0	4 003,7	5 017,1
S	2 137,5	2 333,5	2 695,9	3 088,7	3 573,9	3 955,1	4 318,6
O	1 992,1	2 076,3	2 635,1	3 539,1	3 566,2	4 183,0	3 985,5
N	1 961,8	2 029,1	2 819,6	3 130,9	3 332,1	3 987,2	4 976,3
D	2 017,0	2 043,2	2 615,1	3 148,1	3 583,1	4 192,4	
Year	23 638,0	25 758,3	31 674,7	36 622,2	41 236,8	46 768,0	
Seasonally adjusted values							
J	1 964,5	2 137,9	2 620,7	2 750,9	3 370,9	3 597,7	4 003,1
F	1 832,4	2 078,4	2 587,8	2 741,5	3 443,1	3 517,7	4 047,8
M	1 788,8	2 057,0	2 642,8	3 009,3	3 168,1	3 622,9	3 983,6
A	1 925,2	2 134,7	2 364,4	2 811,5	3 448,4	3 787,8	3 886,7
M	1 929,6	2 113,9	2 700,3	3 075,8	3 274,9	3 817,8	3 792,8
J	2 025,6	2 106,1	2 593,8	2 923,7	3 441,7	3 894,5	4 183,6
J	1 930,7	2 198,2	2 630,2	3 124,0	3 317,4	4 099,5	4 015,4
A	1 954,7	2 237,8	2 525,2	3 034,0	3 527,5	3 969,9	4 956,7
S	2 042,7	2 252,3	2 630,8	3 046,9	3 559,2	3 955,1	4 319,6
O	2 025,4	2 123,9	2 684,8	3 554,7	3 531,3	4 098,7	3 890,7
N	2 069,0	2 142,2	2 973,0	3 281,5	3 459,0	4 115,7	5 137,0
D	2 185,2	2 176,0	2 741,1	3 239,9	3 640,7	4 224,0	

* Revised
1/ Preliminary

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Table 6 - Total value of mineral sales according to divisions and major groups

Minerals	R million						
	Actual value				Seasonally adjusted value		
	1999	1999		1998	1999		1998
	Nov.	Oct. *	Nov.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	
Total, gold included	69 000,0	7 509,7	6 037,7	6 021,7	7 794,6	5 650,1	6 269,1
Total, gold excluded	46 242,9	4 976,3	3 985,5	3 987,2	5 137,0	3 890,7	4 115,7
Gold	22 756,7	2 533,3	2 052,2	2 034,5	2 657,5	1 759,4	2 153,4
Iron ore	2 058,2	210,8	210,2	180,8	204,4	211,7	176,4
Chrome	710,1	55,8	51,9	85,1	49,7	51,2	76,2
Copper	1 173,4	124,9	125,8	120,0	117,4	125,0	112,2
Manganese ore	945,0	117,5	56,9	66,7	128,9	63,5	71,9
Platinum	13 029,2	1 298,5	1 180,8	1 014,1	1 319,7	1 225,8	1 030,1

Nickel	1 045,2	138,0	110,0	68,0	130,0	125,4	63,
Other metallic minerals	2 229,2	230,8	175,6	179,9	257,4	184,0	198,4
Coal	16 158,4	1 741,1	1 453,4	1 715,8	1 618,6	1 396,3	1 606,0
Building materials	2 270,3	215,2	220,7	183,6	211,0	212,1	178,3
- Granite or norite	502,7	47,9	54,0	37,3	46,0	51,0	35,4
- Lime and limestone	774,3	74,7	82,2	56,3	76,6	80,0	57,5
- Other building materials	993,3	92,6	84,6	90,0	88,0	79,9	85,2
Other non-metallic minerals	6 685,8	843,8	400,4	373,2	1 026,9	287,9	450,4

1/ Preliminary

* Revised