

Dipalopalo tsa Aforika Borwa • Statistieke Suid-Afrika • Tistatistiki ta Afrika-Dzonga • Ukuqokelelwa kwamanani eNingizimu Afrika

Mining: production and sales

December 2001

Co-operation between Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), the citizens of the country, the private sector and government institutions is essential for a successful statistical system. continued co-operation and goodwill, the timely release of relevant and reliable official statistics will not be possible.

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 Since the releases are used languages. 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.

Embargo: 11:00

Date: 12 February 2002

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

Actual estimates	December 2001	% change between December 2000 and December 2001	% change between October 2000 to December 2000 and October 2001 to December 2001	% change between January 2000 to December 2000 and January 2001 to December 2001
Index of the physical volume of mining production	00.0	0.004	5.00	5.004
Gold	80,3	-0,9%	-5,2%	-6,9%
Non-gold minerals	98,4	-4,0%	-1,6%	+1,5%
Total	90,7	-2,8%	-2,8%	-1,5%

Seasonally adjusted estimates	December 2001	% change between November 2001 and December 2001	% change between July 2001 to September 2001 and October 2001 to December 2001
Index of the physical volume of mining production			
Gold	76,6	+4,1%	-0,6%
Non-gold minerals	102,3	-2,4%	-1,8%
Total	91.4	-0.1%	-1.4%

Key findings regarding mining production for the year 2001

Mining production lower than a year ago

Total mining production for the year 2001 decreased by 1,5% compared with the year 2000

The decrease of 1,5% in the total mining production was due to a decrease of 6,9% in the production of gold for the year 2001 compared with the year 2000. However, this decrease was partially counteracted by an increase of 1,5% in the production of non-gold minerals during the year 2001 compared with the year 2000.

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

Mining production decreases

The total mining production for the fourth quarter of 2001 reflected a decrease of 1,4% after seasonal adjustment compared with the third quarter of 2000. This decrease was mainly due to a seasonally adjusted decrease of 1,8% in the production of non-gold minerals and 0,6% in the production of gold during the fourth quarter of 2001 compared with the third quarter of 2001. The major contributors to the seasonally adjusted decrease of 1,8% in the production of non-gold minerals were diamond, iron ore and platinum mines.

Key figures regarding mineral sales as at the end of November 2001

Actual estimates	November 2001 R million	% change between November 2000 and November 2001	% change between September 2000 to November 2000 and September 2001 to November 2001	% change between January 2000 to November 2000 and January 2001 to November 2001
Mineral sales				
Gold	2 676,1	+16,4%	+13,5%	+7,2%
Non-gold minerals	7 113,0	-5,5%	+2,0%	+19,1%
Total	9 789,2	-0,4%	+4,9%	+16,0%

Seasonally adjusted estimates	November 2001 R million	% change between October 2001 and November 2001	% change between June 2001 to August 2001 and September 2001 to November 2001
Mineral sales			
Gold	2 550,1	+2,8%	+6,7%
Non-gold minerals	6 989,7	-6,8%	-7,0%
Total	9 539,8	-4,5%	-3,8%

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

Mineral sales decreases

The seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended November 2001 reflected a decrease of 3,8% compared with the previous three months. However, the actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended November 2001 reflected an increase of 4,9% compared with the three months ended November 2000.

The decrease of 3,8% in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales for the three months up to November 2001 compared with the previous three months 2001 can mainly be attributed to a decrease of 7,0% in non-gold mineral sales. However, this decrease was partially counteracted by an increase of 6,7% in sales of gold.

The 4,9% increase in the actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months up to November 2001 compared with the corresponding period of 2000 was mainly due to an increase of 2,0% (+R402,5 million) in non-gold mineral sales and 13,5% (+R898,7 million) in gold sales. The increase of 2,0% in non-gold mineral sales was mainly due to increases of 30,1% (+R247,8 million) in sales of iron ore and 21,9% (+R1 204,7 million) in sales of coal.

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

Mining division	Percentage contribution to mineral sales during September 2000 to November 2000	Quarterly percentage change between September 2000 to November 2000 and September 2001 to November 2001	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the sales 1/	Difference in total mineral sales between September 2000 to November 2000 and September 2001 to November 2001 R million
Gold	24,9	13,5	3,4	898,7
Non-gold minerals				
Iron ore	3,1	30,1	0,9	247,8
Copper	2,0	-13,3	-0,3	-70,5
Manganese ore	1,2	-1,9	0,0	-5,8
Chromium	1,0	-12,9	-0,1	-35,4
Platinum	29,9	-9,0	-2,7	-719,5
Nickel	1,8	-18,0	-0,3	-86,4
Other metallic minerals	3,3	3,3	0,1	28,8
Coal	20,6	21,9	4,5	1 204,7
Building materials	2,7	0,9	0,0	6,7
Other non-metallic	9,5	-6,6	-0,6	-167,9
Total non-gold minerals	75,1	2,0	1,5	402,5
Total minerals	100,0	4,9	4,9	1 301,2

^{1/} The contribution to the percentage change in sales is calculated by multiplying the quarterly percentage change in the sales of each mineral with the percentage contribution to total mineral sales during September 2000 to November 2000, divided by 100.

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	October 2002 November 2002 December 2002	10 December 200207 January 200311 February 2003

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.

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

Month	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
				Actual indice	es		
J	95,0	96,0	93,6	95,0	88,8	89,8	90,7*
F	99,3	98,3	98,8	97,3	94,9	96,0	93,1*
M	101,1	99,1	97,6	99,5	100,5	97,4	97,1*
A	95,9	93,3	96,7	95,7	92,2	92,1	93,4*
M	96,2	97,6	101,9	96,1	100,1	92,5	96,9*
J	105,1	100,8	105,7	104,3	99,4	101,7	100,3*
J	100,2	98,6	100,6	97,6	98,2	94,6	91,3*
A	104,4	99,5	103,1	99,8	94,3	99,2	97,4*
S	104,6	98,8	102,6	99,9	100,1	100,3	94,1*
0	98,9	98,7	100,6	104,7	99,9	97,1	97,9*
N	100,1	100,3	104,4	102,4	102,6	101,2	94,7*
D	99,2	98,9	98,6	98,9	96,7	93,3	90,7
Year	100,0	98,3	100,4	99,3	97,3	96,3	94,8
				Seasonally ad	justed indice	s	
J	99,3	101,0	99,4	101,6	95,3	96,7	97,7
F	100,1	99,6	100,5	99,6	97,5	99,0	96,1
м	100,0	97,7	96,1	98,2	99,3	96,4	96,2
A	99,0	96,9	100,5	99,5	95,8	95,6	96,9
м	97,1	98,3	102,8	96,9	101,4	93,5	97,9
J	103,2	98,5	102,7	100,8	95,4	97,5	96,0
J	100,1	98,7	100,8	97,8	99,0	95,3	92,0
A	101,5	96,9	100,7	97,7	92,7	97,4	96,0
s	101,5	95,8	99,7	97,4	97,9	98,8	92,7
0	98,0	97,7	98,9	102,2	96,7	93,5	94,0
N	97,7	97,7	101,3	99,3	99,1	97,6	91,5
D	101,4	100,3	99,3	99,4	96,9	94,2	91,4

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	96,2	100,1	104,6*
F	97,0	97,0	103,3	103,8	102,0	101,5	105,3*
M	98,9	100,1	97,7	107,8	104,7	104,9	109,5*
A	95,4	95,3	101,8	104,7	97,2	100,8	106,9*
M	99,1	100,0	107,0	105,6	111,6	104,2	114,0*
J	108,1	104,9	114,4	113,0	106,9	113,2	115,1*
J	100,1	103,6	107,5	105,5	109,9	107,0	101,2*
A	105,4	102,3	107,7	106,4	103,1	109,8	115,0*
s	106,1	104,0	104,7	105,8	106,8	111,1	105,2*
0	96,9	101,5	105,6	117,6	111,0	109,2	114,3*
N	100,2	102,1	106,0	110,9	114,4	115,4	109,3*
D	98,8	99,7	100,4	102,2	103,2	102,5	98,4
Year	100,0	100,7	104,7	107,0	105,6	106,6	108,2
				Seasonally adju	sted indice	s	
J	97,2	102,1	104,4	105,6	101,7	106,2	111,3
F	98,5	99,0	105,6	106,8	105,4	105,3	109,3
M	98,2	99,1	96.7	107.3	104,7	105,4	110,1
A	98,0	98,3	105,1	108,4	100,9	104,6	111,0
M	99,1	99,5	106,4	104,7	111,0	103,0	112,9
J	104,8	101,3	110,3	108,6	102,2	108,4	110,0
J	98,6	102,3	106,1	104,0	109,1	106,0	100,3
A	101,7	99,3	105,5	104,6	101,9	108,5	114,2
s	103,2	101,6	103,0	104,9	106,6	111,8	106,0
0	96,6	100,4	103,1	113,5	105,7	103,1	107,6
N	98,4	100,1	103,3	107,6	110,1	110,5	104,8
D	104,7	104,8	104,6	106,1	106,5	106,8	102,3

^{*} Revised

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

Actual indices | Seasonally adjusted | indices Minerals | Weights | ------ | 2001 | 2001 | 2001 | | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | Dec. | Nov. * Dec. | Dec. | Nov. | Dec. 42,5 76,6 80,3 75,1 81,0 76,6 73,6 3,0 108,5 106,8 115,4 112,1 108,2 104,3 1,1 108,0 94,1 108,4 115,1 105,2 103,5 3,1 87,8 77,9 76,4 75,4 72,8 68,8 1,3 108,6 95,9 105,6 98,6 101,9 99,5 11,9 123,9 130,7 133,7 129,5 116,0 129,5 1,5 122,3 136,9 125,8 124,0 140,2 120,2 2,4 96,9 103,2 94,5 98,2 103,1 97,6 77,1 i Go I d Iron ore 113,7 128.7 Chrome Copper 70,6 Manganese ore 104,6 114,8 Platinum Nickel 126,9 Other metallic minerals 98,9

^{*} Revised

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

Month	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
				Actual value	s		
J	4 669,2	5 165,8	6 447,8	5 577,2	6 098,8	6 243,9	9 241,3*
F	4 234,8	4 604,2	5 159,4	5 316,4	5 763,6	7 115,6	9 724,1*
M	4 700,0	5 002,8	4 936,6	5 547,6	6 445,1	8 958,4	8 121,8*
A	4 413,4	5 380,9	5 576,8	5 662,1	5 706,5	7 521,2	8 551,2*
M	4 704,9	5 345,1	5 309,0	5 433,1	5 702,9	8 222,6	9 452,3*
J	4 525,2	4 994,8	5 445,9	6 017,2	6 391,3	8 222,4	10 485,5*
J	4 777,7	5 795,5	5 780,3	6 669,1	5 996,1	7 640,2	10 116,4*
A	4 667,3	5 478,0	5 546,2	6 318,5	6 852,9	8 223,4	9 334,2*
S	4 840,0	5 124,5	5 568,2	6 066,8	6 548,3	8 568,7	8 589,1*
0	5 133,4	6 227,7	6 026,1	6 446,0	6 005,9	8 317,7	9 638,0*
N	4 538,8	5 117,2	5 130,8	5 994,9	7 573,0	9 828,7	9 789,2
D	3 805,3	4 868,2	5 386,9	6 343,0	7 346,8	9 475,1	
Year	55 010,0	63 104,7	66 314,0	71 391,9	76 431,2	98 337,9	
				Seasonally ad	justed values		
J	4 476,8	4 999,5	6 217,6	6 095,4	6 079,6	6 281,3	9 269,9
F	4 571,9	4 898,8	5 380,4	5 958,8	5 918,1	7 260,6	10 119,3
M	4 686,2	4 993,1	4 911,3	5 539,5	6 426,1	9 332,7	8 005,6
A	4 432,8	5 416,2	5 634,0	6 581,2	5 950,9	7 783,9	8 965,0
M	4 702,3	5 369,2	5 366,4	5 537,9	5 823,7	8 321,7	9 583,1
J	4 640,4	5 081,9	5 479,1	5 917,3	6 217,2	7 828,5	9 883,6
J	4 408,1	5 420,9	5 555,3	6 441,0	5 836,0	7 424,0	10 061,7
A	4 530,5	5 378,8	5 471,4	6 285,5	6 881,9	8 342,0	9 416,5
s	4 821,4	5 084,6	5 624,5	6 122,2	6 822,9	8 655,6	8 712,7
0	4 943,1	5 838,0	5 702,2	6 302,0	5 993,0	8 513,7	9 984,7
N	4 805,1	5 356,8	5 252,2	6 038,8	7 495,8	9 672,8	9 539,8

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

Month	1995	1996	1997 	1998	1999 	2000	2001
				Actual value	s		
J	2 612,9	2 764,4	3 394,4	3 737,4	4 033,9	4 476,8	7 181,8*
F	2 454,0	2 613,0	3 280,4	3 579,7	3 801,6	4 963,8	7 733,2*
M	2 678,6	3 031,1	3 172,6	3 713,2	3 938,7	6 688,2	5 898,9*
A	2 390,1	2 828,6	3 441,4	3 779,7	3 802,4	5 790,1	6 745,0*
M	2 716,5	3 078,3	3 245,0	3 677,1	3 826,7		7 150,6*
J	2 751,4	3 104,1	3 663,5	4 121,5	4 413,3	5 908,4	8 264,7*
J	2 727,9	3 229,8	3 429,2	4 285,6	4 061,6	5 700,4	7 824,1*
A	2 577,6	3 066,1	3 555,0	4 122,2	4 956,0	5 892,5	6 892,8*
S	2 695,9	3 088,7	3 573,9	3 857,5	4 480,8	6 479,4	6 357,2*
0	2 635,1	3 539,1	3 566,2	4 175,0	3 947,8	6 047,1	6 988,4*
N	2 819,6	3 130,9	3 332,1	3 955,1	5 038,1	7 529,6	7 113,0
D	2 615,1	3 148,1	3 583,1	4 092,9	5 139,6	7 422,5	
Year	31 674,7	36 622,2	41 236,8	47 096,9	51 440,5	73 065,6	
				Seasonally ad	justed values		
J	2 554,0	2 710,0	3 241,3	4 255,9	3 974,1	4 449,7	7 123,7
F	2 503,5	2 636,3	3 307,4	4 084,3	3 836,7	4 998,7	8 042,5
M	2 626,6	2 980,9	3 116,5	3 701,4	3 952,8	7 127,6	5 859,3
A	2 431,2	2 886,7	3 480,6	4 624,0	3 889,6	5 845,9	6 909,3
M	2 702,7	3 074,3	3 247,3	3 718,5	3 872,9	6 193,0	7 203,7
J	2 608,8	2 954,1	3 530,6	3 907,7	4 186,6	5 508,3	7 687,1
J	2 628,6	3 142,4	3 423,9	4 230,2	4 004,1	5 539,6	7 798,1
A	2 536,9	3 055,7	3 544,6	4 156,1	5 050,5	6 091,3	7 065,5
S	2 705,1	3 073,8	3 651,7	3 927,2	4 761,3	6 569,1	6 479,4
0	2 803,7	3 532,6	3 562,8	4 288,9	4 119,9	6 409,3	7 503,5
N	2 937,0	3 213,5	3 353,5	3 950,9	4 993,8	7 455,4	6 989,7
D	2 852,9	3 347,5	3 693,2	4 069,8	4 981,9	7 099,6	

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

	1	Actual value								Seasonally adjusted value					
Minerals	 2001		2001				2000		2001				2000		
	2001	2001		Nov.		Oct. *		Nov.		Nov.		Oct.		Nov.	
otal, gold included		•							-			984,7		672,8	
otal, gold excluded	86 25	2,3	7	113,0	6	988,4	7	529,6	6 	989,7	7	503,5	7	455,4	
old	27 71	7,5	2	676,1	2	649,6	2	299,1	2	550,1	2	481,2	2	217,4	
ron ore	4 178	8,7		473,5		365,4		314,6		421,7		351,1		281,0	
nrome	99:	1,4		98,2		65,9		85,4		90,1		75,2		77,8	
opper	1 91	3,7		126,5		173,9		228,0		111,7		154,8		200,8	
anganese ore	1 23'	7,5		92,1		84,9		119,9		100,4		95,5		135,2	
latinum	33 22	7,3	2	366,2	2	317,1	2	625,4	2	531,9	2	605,5	2	802,2	
ickel	1 72	8,3		142,2		118,2		171,9		134,5		125,2		162,4	
ther metallic minerals	3 26	0,6		380,1		280,1		272,5		318,9		300,7		233,4	
oal	26 17	3,4	2	316,6	2	392,5	1	909,9	2	245,7	2	306,2	1	854,2	
uilding materials	2 77	7,7		231,0		264,9		258,1	ĺ	221,6		246,9		246,4	
Granite or norite	65	5,5		51,8		63,2		60,4	ĺ	54,1		60,8		62,4	
Lime and limestone	91'	7,7		80,7		88,0		80,9	ĺ	79,5		84,1		79,6	
Other building materials	1 20	4,4		98,5		113,7		116,9	ĺ	88,0		102,0		104,4	
ther non-metallic minerals	10 76	3,2		886,7		925,5	1	543,9	j I	813,2	1	242,4	1	462,0	

Additional information

Explanatory notes

Introduction

- 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.
- 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.
- 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 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

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

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

Seasonal adjustment

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 -
 - Bulletin of Statistics.
 - SA Statistics.

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Unpublished statistics

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

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 December 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.

For more information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical 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.

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Eastern Cape Library Services, King William's Town
Central Regional Library, Pietersburg
Central Reference Library, Nelspruit
Central Reference Collection, Kimberley
Central Reference Library, Mmabatho

Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

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