



**Department of
Minerals and Energy**

Mining: Production and sales (preliminary)

February 2006

**Embargoed until:
11 April 2006
11:00**

**Published jointly by
Statistics South Africa and the Department of Minerals and Energy**

Table A – Selected key figures regarding mining production for February 2006

Annual estimates

| | February 2006 | % change between February 2005 and February 2006 | % change between December 2004 to February 2005 and December 2005 to February 2006 |
|--|----------------------|---|---|
| Index of the physical volume of mining production (2000=100) | | | |
| Gold | 63,2 | -8,7% | -9,1% |
| Non-gold minerals | 103,5 | -4,8% | -6,3% |
| Total | 93,1 | -5,6% | -6,8% |

Shorter term seasonally adjusted estimates

| | February 2006 | % change between January 2006 and February 2006 | % change between September 2005 to November 2005 and December 2005 to February 2006 |
|--|----------------------|--|--|
| Index of the physical volume of mining production (2000=100) | | | |
| Gold | 65,6 | 1,2% | -0,8% |
| Non-gold minerals | 117,5 | -1,3% | -4,5% |
| Total | 104,2 | -0,9% | -3,9% |

Key findings regarding mining production as at the end of February 2006

Mining production decreases

The total mining production for the three months ended February 2006, after seasonal adjustment, decreased by 3,9% compared with the previous three months. Furthermore, the actual total mining production for the three months ended February 2006 decreased by 6,8% compared with the three months ended February 2005.

The decrease of 3,9% in the seasonal adjusted total mining production for the three months ended February 2006 compared with the previous three months was due to a decrease of 4,5% and 0,8% in the production of non-gold and gold minerals respectively. The seasonally adjusted decrease of 4,5% in the production of non-gold minerals was mainly due to a decrease in the production of PGM's (-2,3 percentage points). (see Table 4)

As a result of better data received from the Department of Minerals and Energy (DME), the series mining production and sales has been revised with effect from April 2005 until January 2006. The mining production estimates for 2005 as compared with 2004 has been revised from 2,2% to 1,3%. However the growth of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has remained unchanged.

Figure 1 shows the seasonally adjusted figures and trend series for the index of mining production between January 2002 and February 2006. The trend series has been rising since September 2004 up to April 2005 and started to decline in May 2005.

Figure 1 - Indices of physical volume of total mining production including gold
(Month on month)

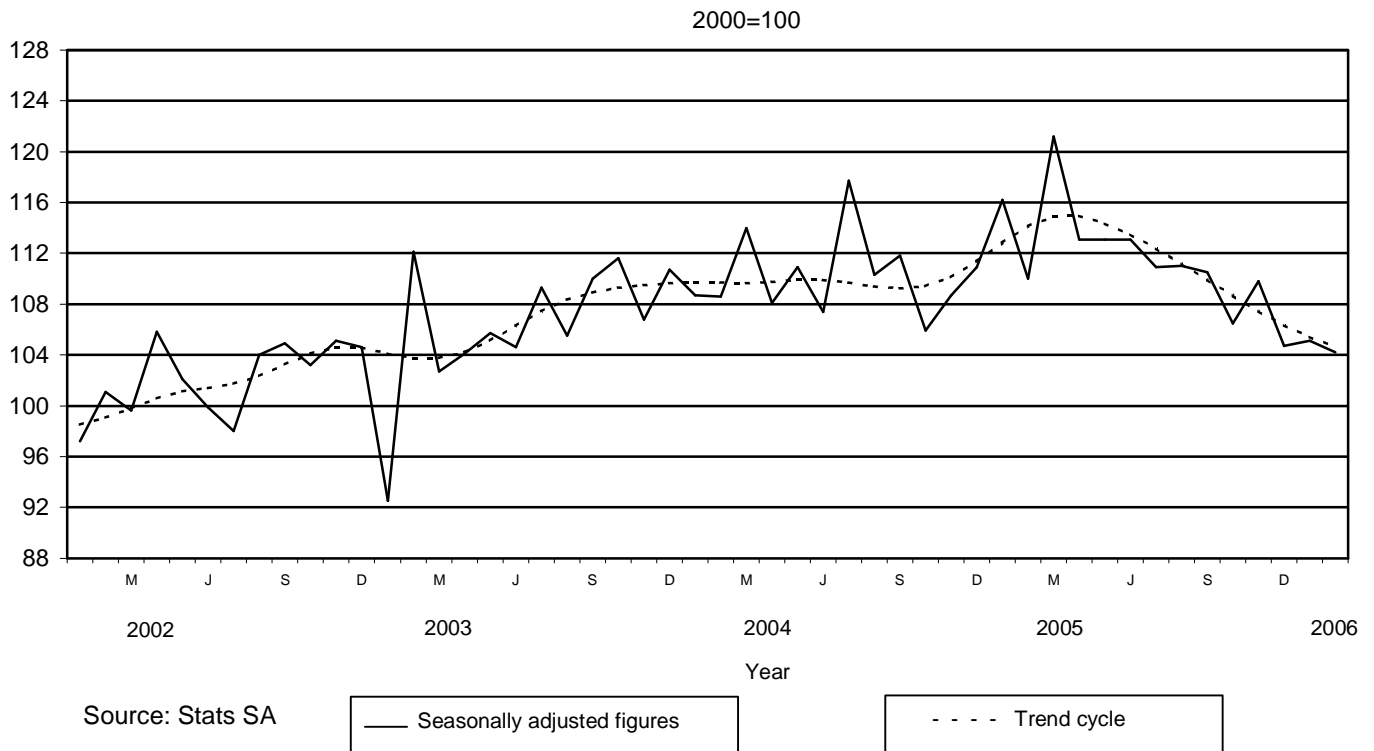


Table B – Selected key figures regarding mineral sales for January 2006

Annual estimates

| | January 2006 R million | % change between January 2005 and January 2006 | % change between November 2004 to January 2005 and November 2005 to January 2006 |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--|--|
| Mineral sales | | | |
| Gold | 2 304,5 | 29,6% | 2,0% |
| Non-gold minerals | 9 335,8 | 19,5% | 29,3% |
| Total | 11 640,3 | 21,4% | 23,5% |

Shorter term seasonally adjusted estimates

| | January 2006 R million | % change between December 2005 and January 2006 | % change between August 2005 to October 2005 and November 2005 to January 2006 |
|-------------------|---------------------------|---|--|
| Mineral sales | | | |
| Gold | 2 358,7 | 1,2% | 26,8% |
| Non-gold minerals | 9 499,3 | -18,2% | 1,1% |
| Total | 11 858,0 | -15,0% | 4,8% |

Key findings regarding mineral sales as at the end of January 2006

Mineral sales increase

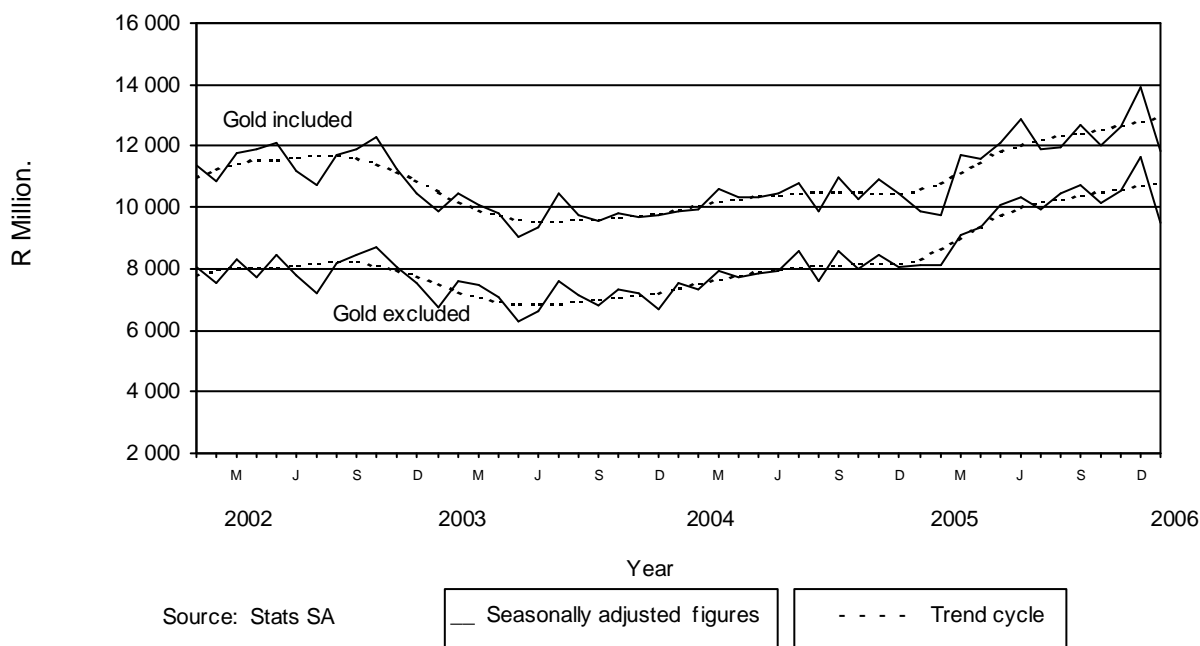
The seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended January 2006 reflected an increase of 4,8% compared with the previous three months. Furthermore, the actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended January 2006 increased by 23,5% compared with the three months ended January 2005 (see table B).

The increase of 4,8% in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales for the three months ended January 2006 compared with the previous three months can be attributed to an increase of 26,8% (+R1 430,4 million) in sales of gold and 1,1% (+R337,3 million) in sales of non-gold minerals.

The major contributors to the increase of 23,5% in the actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended January 2006 compared with the three months ended January 2005 were PGM's (+12,1 percentage points or +R3 744,9 million), coal (+6,4 percentage points or +R1 990,0 million) and iron ore (+3,4 percentage points or +R1 039,3 million).

Figure 2 shows the seasonally adjusted figures and trend series of mineral sales between January 2002 and January 2006. The trend series has been rising since the beginning of 2005.

Figure 2 - Total value of mineral sales including gold



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Notes

| Forthcoming issue | Issue | Expected date of publication |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|

| | | |
|--|------------|-------------|
| | March 2006 | 11 May 2006 |
|--|------------|-------------|

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Purpose of the survey | The monthly mining production and sales survey is a survey 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. |
|------------------------------|--|

Table 1 - Index of the physical volume of mining production including gold (Base 2000=100)

| Month | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005* | 2006 |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| Actual indices | | | | | | | |
| J | 93,8 | 95,0 | 89,0 | 85,1 | 100,7 | 107,9 | 98,0* |
| F | 99,3 | 96,8 | 94,2 | 101,7 | 97,8 | 98,6 | 1/ 93,1 |
| M | 100,0 | 102,3 | 99,1 | 101,8 | 112,9 | 119,9 | |
| A | 95,0 | 98,9 | 102,0 | 101,0 | 105,0 | 110,2 | |
| M | 95,7 | 103,6 | 102,9 | 107,1 | 113,0 | 115,2 | |
| J | 106,8 | 108,4 | 104,1 | 108,6 | 111,1 | 116,8 | |
| J | 96,9 | 93,5 | 99,0 | 110,7 | 119,5 | 113,1 | |
| A | 102,1 | 115,2 | 107,2 | 109,1 | 114,3 | 115,3 | |
| S | 104,9 | 98,4 | 108,1 | 114,6 | 117,4 | 116,7 | |
| O | 100,0 | 105,1 | 106,7 | 114,5 | 108,2 | 108,3 | |
| N | 105,5 | 102,6 | 107,5 | 108,6 | 110,1 | 110,9 | |
| D | 100,2 | 97,2 | 107,0 | 113,5 | 113,3 | 107,0 | |
| Year | 100,0 | 101,4 | 102,2 | 106,4 | 110,3 | 111,7 | |
| Seasonally adjusted indices | | | | | | | |
| J | 102,8 | 104,7 | 97,2 | 92,5 | 108,7 | 116,2 | 105,1 |
| F | 103,7 | 102,2 | 101,1 | 112,1 | 108,6 | 110,0 | 104,2 |
| M | 99,7 | 102,5 | 99,6 | 102,7 | 114,0 | 121,2 | |
| A | 98,7 | 102,6 | 105,8 | 104,1 | 108,1 | 113,1 | |
| M | 95,6 | 103,3 | 102,1 | 105,7 | 110,9 | 113,1 | |
| J | 101,9 | 103,5 | 99,9 | 104,6 | 107,4 | 113,1 | |
| J | 97,0 | 93,2 | 98,0 | 109,3 | 117,7 | 110,9 | |
| A | 100,0 | 112,5 | 104,0 | 105,5 | 110,3 | 111,0 | |
| S | 103,4 | 96,2 | 104,9 | 110,0 | 111,8 | 110,5 | |
| O | 96,2 | 101,0 | 103,2 | 111,6 | 105,9 | 106,5 | |
| N | 101,7 | 99,5 | 105,1 | 106,8 | 108,7 | 109,8 | |
| D | 99,3 | 95,0 | 104,6 | 110,7 | 110,9 | 104,7 | |

Table 2 - Index of the physical volume of mining production excluding gold (Base 2000=100)

| Month | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005* | 2006 |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| Actual indices | | | | | | | |
| J | 94,4 | 98,3 | 89,6 | 85,7 | 110,0 | 121,6 | 111,7* |
| F | 96,4 | 98,6 | 95,8 | 107,3 | 104,0 | 108,7 | 1/ 103,5 |
| M | 97,9 | 104,4 | 101,0 | 106,2 | 123,6 | 136,2 | |
| A | 94,1 | 102,2 | 105,3 | 106,3 | 115,0 | 127,0 | |
| M | 96,6 | 108,9 | 107,0 | 114,7 | 124,9 | 131,3 | |
| J | 107,5 | 112,5 | 107,3 | 116,4 | 121,1 | 132,3 | |
| J | 97,6 | 93,7 | 102,4 | 118,8 | 133,1 | 129,2 | |
| A | 101,7 | 124,5 | 111,2 | 116,3 | 125,5 | 132,8 | |
| S | 105,1 | 99,7 | 111,4 | 122,9 | 130,0 | 132,4 | |
| O | 100,6 | 110,2 | 111,9 | 124,2 | 119,7 | 122,4 | |
| N | 107,4 | 106,8 | 113,3 | 116,2 | 121,3 | 125,6 | |
| D | 100,8 | 97,7 | 111,2 | 123,3 | 127,0 | 119,5 | |
| Year | 100,0 | 104,8 | 105,6 | 113,2 | 121,3 | 126,6 | |
| Seasonally adjusted indices | | | | | | | |
| J | 103,2 | 108,2 | 97,6 | 92,6 | 118,3 | 130,2 | 119,1 |
| F | 101,4 | 104,9 | 104,1 | 120,2 | 117,7 | 123,2 | 117,5 |
| M | 98,4 | 105,4 | 102,3 | 107,8 | 125,4 | 138,2 | |
| A | 97,9 | 106,2 | 109,3 | 109,4 | 118,1 | 130,1 | |
| M | 95,2 | 107,4 | 105,1 | 112,1 | 121,5 | 128,0 | |
| J | 102,2 | 107,1 | 102,7 | 111,8 | 116,8 | 128,0 | |
| J | 96,8 | 92,3 | 100,4 | 116,6 | 130,5 | 126,2 | |
| A | 100,1 | 121,9 | 108,0 | 112,5 | 121,1 | 127,9 | |
| S | 105,1 | 98,6 | 108,9 | 118,5 | 124,1 | 125,5 | |
| O | 95,5 | 104,8 | 107,4 | 120,4 | 116,7 | 120,3 | |
| N | 103,0 | 103,2 | 110,6 | 114,3 | 120,1 | 124,8 | |
| D | 101,0 | 95,9 | 109,1 | 120,5 | 124,5 | 117,2 | |

* Revised
1/ Preliminary

Table 3 - Indices of physical volume of mining production according to mining divisions, mineral groups and minerals(Base 2000=100)

| Minerals | Weights | Actual indices | | | | Seasonally adjusted indices | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------------|-------|--------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------|--------------|
| | | 2005 | 2006 | | 2005 Feb. | 2006 | | 2005 Feb. |
| | | | Feb. | Jan. * | | Feb. | Jan. | |
| | | | Feb. | Jan. | | Feb. | Jan. | |
| Total, gold included | 100,0 | 111,6 | 93,1 | 98,0 | 98,6 | 104,2 | 105,1 | 110,0 |
| Total, gold excluded | 74,3 | 126,6 | 103,5 | 111,7 | 108,7 | 117,5 | 119,1 | 123,2 |
| Gold | 25,7 | 68,4 | 63,2 | 58,4 | 69,2 | 65,6 | 64,8 | 71,8 |
| Iron ore | 3,1 | 118,0 | 102,8 | 113,2 | 113,2 | 110,4 | 115,7 | 121,3 |
| Chrome | 1,1 | 112,5 | 92,8 | 88,4 | 126,0 | 95,2 | 95,2 | 129,9 |
| Copper | 1,6 | 76,7 | 71,6 | 74,4 | 72,4 | 74,0 | 71,9 | 75,2 |
| Manganese ore | 1,3 | 126,7 | 134,4 | 134,0 | 142,8 | 128,6 | 138,5 | 136,4 |
| PGM's | 27,6 | 147,4 | 96,0 | 127,6 | 105,6 | 126,9 | 133,7 | 137,9 |
| Nickel | 2,0 | 115,8 | 92,8 | 90,8 | 111,6 | 96,7 | 97,5 | 116,9 |
| Other metallic minerals | 2,9 | 92,7 | 86,0 | 95,6 | 83,2 | 92,7 | 97,4 | 89,5 |
| Diamonds | 8,4 | 143,4 | 162,4 | 122,4 | 149,6 | 154,7 | 143,5 | 142,1 |
| Coal | 20,0 | 108,5 | 96,8 | 97,2 | 98,0 | 105,2 | 104,0 | 106,3 |
| Building materials | 2,6 | 119,8 | 111,6 | 107,6 | 102,8 | 124,8 | 121,5 | 114,2 |
| Other non-metallic minerals | 3,8 | 102,9 | 86,0 | 89,2 | 115,6 | 85,3 | 88,5 | 114,4 |

* Revised

Table 4 - Contribution of the mining divisions to the total mining production (Base 2000=100)

| Mining division | Percentage contribution to the total mining production using the weights | Average seasonally adjusted production index for December 2005 to February 2006 | Quarterly percentage change December 2005 to February 2006 compared with the preceding three months | Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total mining production 1/ three months |
|-----------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Gold | 25,7 | 66,3 | -0,8 | -0,2 |
| Non-gold minerals | | | | |
| Iron ore | 3,1 | 113,7 | -0,2 | 0,0 |
| Copper | 1,6 | 72,6 | 5,8 | 0,1 |
| Manganese ore | 1,3 | 133,3 | 8,8 | 0,1 |
| Chromium | 1,1 | 92,1 | -15,7 | -0,2 |
| PGM's | 27,6 | 130,1 | -8,3 | -2,3 |
| Nickel | 2,0 | 97,8 | -12,2 | -0,2 |
| Other metallic minerals | 2,9 | 92,7 | -2,2 | -0,1 |
| Diamonds | 8,3 | 142,3 | -7,4 | -0,6 |
| Coal | 20,0 | 106,1 | -1,8 | -0,4 |
| Building materials | 2,6 | 122,1 | 4,2 | 0,1 |
| Other non-metallic minerals | 3,8 | 90,9 | -1,6 | -0,1 |
| Total non-gold minerals | 74,3 | 117,9 | -4,5 | -3,7 |
| Total minerals | 100 | 104,7 | -3,9 | -3,9 |

1/ The contribution is calculated by multiplying the quarterly percentage change of each mining division with its corresponding weight in the base year, divided by 100.

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

| Month | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Actual values | | | | | | | |
| J | 6 244,1 | 9 241,5 | 11 387,0 | 9 868,8 | 9 820,5 | 9 587,4 | 1/ 11 640,3 |
| F | 7 115,7 | 9 711,7 | 10 634,4 | 10 236,5 | 9 576,1 | 9 383,8 | |
| M | 8 958,5 | 8 134,9 | 11 639,2 | 9 829,3 | 10 396,0 | 11 477,1 | |
| A | 7 521,3 | 8 554,2 | 11 194,9 | 9 294,1 | 9 789,3 | 11 031,9 | |
| M | 8 222,7 | 9 675,9 | 12 145,3 | 9 104,1 | 10 373,3 | 12 236,6 | |
| J | 8 222,5 | 10 640,7 | 11 637,2 | 9 745,9 | 10 856,0 | 13 350,8 | |
| J | 7 640,3 | 10 146,3 | 10 779,9 | 10 403,7 | 10 844,2 | 12 003,5 | |
| A | 8 223,4 | 9 586,4 | 11 633,5 | 9 612,0 | 9 841,7 | 11 739,1 | |
| S | 8 568,9 | 8 711,5 | 12 115,1 | 10 008,1 | 11 693,2 | 13 537,5 | |
| O | 8 317,6 | 9 999,6 | 12 514,2 | 9 989,4 | 10 466,3 | 12 212,5 | |
| N | 9 828,5 | 9 627,7 | 11 059,4 | 9 535,8 | 10 815,6 | 12 507,1 | |
| D | 9 474,9 | 11 327,7 | 10 764,4 | 9 899,2 | 10 585,6 | 14 108,5 | |
| Year | 98 338,4 | 115 358,1 | 137 504,5 | 117 526,9 | 125 057,8 | 143 175,8 | |
| Seasonally adjusted values | | | | | | | |
| J | 6 175,0 | 9 161,3 | 11 385,5 | 9 849,3 | 9 891,7 | 9 892,9 | 11 858,0 |
| F | 7 192,0 | 9 860,1 | 10 883,1 | 10 482,0 | 9 925,7 | 9 761,8 | |
| M | 9 662,8 | 8 177,6 | 11 745,5 | 10 088,4 | 10 600,8 | 11 697,0 | |
| A | 7 749,7 | 8 945,2 | 11 869,9 | 9 793,0 | 10 314,6 | 11 545,8 | |
| M | 8 263,7 | 9 698,6 | 12 108,4 | 9 048,7 | 10 316,0 | 12 063,0 | |
| J | 7 940,5 | 10 315,7 | 11 181,2 | 9 359,3 | 10 466,7 | 12 884,1 | |
| J | 7 472,3 | 10 171,1 | 10 716,8 | 10 452,7 | 10 817,8 | 11 905,5 | |
| A | 8 265,5 | 9 606,9 | 11 720,5 | 9 729,2 | 9 911,6 | 11 956,1 | |
| S | 8 562,5 | 8 588,1 | 11 872,9 | 9 548,9 | 10 993,6 | 12 674,4 | |
| O | 8 345,2 | 9 879,7 | 12 258,3 | 9 834,1 | 10 276,6 | 12 020,8 | |
| N | 9 934,6 | 9 735,8 | 11 250,2 | 9 680,1 | 10 921,4 | 12 613,9 | |
| D | 9 072,9 | 10 916,5 | 10 461,1 | 9 730,0 | 10 436,8 | 13 947,1 | |

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

| Month | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|
| Actual values | | | | | | | |
| J | 4 476,9 | 7 181,9 | 8 002,3 | 6 744,1 | 7 480,6 | 7 809,6 | 1/ 9 335,8 |
| F | 4 963,8 | 7 720,8 | 7 368,2 | 7 452,6 | 7 039,8 | 7 813,9 | |
| M | 6 688,4 | 5 912,0 | 8 110,9 | 7 140,7 | 7 710,4 | 8 840,3 | |
| A | 5 790,2 | 6 748,0 | 7 481,9 | 6 815,2 | 7 366,5 | 8 961,1 | |
| M | 6 166,9 | 7 139,7 | 8 619,3 | 6 477,2 | 8 029,3 | 10 369,8 | |
| J | 5 908,5 | 8 245,9 | 8 035,5 | 6 759,5 | 8 107,4 | 10 552,7 | |
| J | 5 700,6 | 7 779,6 | 7 344,7 | 7 613,1 | 8 699,0 | 10 084,1 | |
| A | 5 892,6 | 6 942,5 | 8 065,2 | 7 052,7 | 7 546,9 | 10 262,0 | |
| S | 6 479,6 | 6 219,3 | 8 562,1 | 7 092,3 | 9 114,1 | 11 403,5 | |
| O | 6 047,1 | 6 971,4 | 8 711,8 | 7 345,5 | 8 089,0 | 10 323,6 | |
| N | 7 529,4 | 6 953,1 | 7 981,8 | 7 154,9 | 8 406,4 | 10 490,0 | |
| D | 7 422,4 | 8 532,3 | 7 834,8 | 6 825,9 | 8 138,7 | 11 664,0 | |
| Year | 73 066,4 | 86 346,5 | 96 118,5 | 84 473,7 | 95 728,1 | 118 574,6 | |
| Seasonally adjusted values | | | | | | | |
| J | 4 419,7 | 7 120,2 | 8 024,0 | 6 728,7 | 7 539,6 | 8 091,2 | 9 499,3 |
| F | 4 942,8 | 7 807,0 | 7 523,8 | 7 623,5 | 7 310,2 | 8 143,2 | |
| M | 7 451,5 | 6 015,9 | 8 300,7 | 7 447,9 | 7 938,9 | 9 071,2 | |
| A | 5 831,6 | 6 915,8 | 7 724,0 | 7 078,5 | 7 713,1 | 9 342,2 | |
| M | 6 114,4 | 7 058,5 | 8 443,2 | 6 305,6 | 7 848,4 | 10 087,3 | |
| J | 5 669,8 | 8 028,5 | 7 809,1 | 6 596,6 | 7 947,3 | 10 335,8 | |
| J | 5 571,1 | 7 788,7 | 7 210,5 | 7 580,6 | 8 607,2 | 9 922,8 | |
| A | 6 008,7 | 7 038,9 | 8 208,1 | 7 173,7 | 7 582,6 | 10 442,5 | |
| S | 6 508,7 | 6 164,4 | 8 467,6 | 6 800,1 | 8 601,9 | 10 713,3 | |
| O | 6 259,8 | 7 070,8 | 8 688,9 | 7 313,6 | 7 960,3 | 10 154,5 | |
| N | 7 569,7 | 6 989,7 | 8 074,2 | 7 221,0 | 8 428,0 | 10 531,6 | |
| D | 6 999,2 | 8 088,4 | 7 519,9 | 6 697,3 | 8 074,5 | 11 616,7 | |

1/ Preliminary

Table 7 - Total value of mineral sales according to mining divisions, mineral groups and minerals

Mining: Production and sales, February 2006

| Minerals | Actual value | | | | Seasonally adjusted value | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|----------|----------|---------|---------------------------|----------|---------|
| | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 | | 2006 | 2005 | |
| | | Jan. | Dec.* | Jan. | | Jan. | Dec. |
| Total, gold included | 143 175,8 | 11 640,3 | 14 108,5 | 9 587,4 | 11 858,0 | 13 947,1 | 9 892,9 |
| Total, gold excluded | 118 574,6 | 9 335,8 | 11 664,0 | 7 809,6 | 9 499,3 | 11 616,7 | 8 091,2 |
| Gold | 24 601,2 | 2 304,5 | 2 444,4 | 1 777,8 | 2 358,7 | 2 330,4 | 1 801,7 |
| Iron ore | 7 519,6 | 519,5 | 982,8 | 333,1 | 642,6 | 884,2 | 407,7 |
| Chrome | 1 909,3 | 150,1 | 146,3 | 144,0 | 151,5 | 161,2 | 143,8 |
| Copper | 2 583,0 | 190,7 | 235,5 | 173,5 | 210,7 | 245,6 | 191,9 |
| Manganese ore | 2 200,8 | 206,6 | 185,3 | 174,2 | 192,7 | 206,9 | 160,9 |
| PGM's | 38 448,8 | 3 880,2 | 4 379,9 | 2 266,0 | 3 590,4 | 4 229,7 | 2 089,3 |
| Nickel | 3 923,1 | 273,9 | 205,0 | 353,8 | 260,1 | 205,0 | 333,8 |
| Other metallic minerals | 4 009,3 | 206,2 | 432,6 | 243,3 | 311,4 | 360,8 | 358,9 |
| Coal | 35 576,2 | 2 957,6 | 3 130,6 | 2 603,1 | 3 076,8 | 3 141,0 | 2 701,5 |
| Building materials | 4 329,3 | 333,3 | 298,9 | 309,3 | 374,1 | 383,8 | 343,0 |
| - Granite or norite | 424,6 | 25,3 | 31,2 | 47,0 | 26,4 | 30,9 | 48,8 |
| - Lime and limestone | 1 317,2 | 125,8 | 109,2 | 109,5 | 124,3 | 125,6 | 108,2 |
| - Other building materials | 2 587,4 | 182,1 | 158,5 | 152,8 | 223,4 | 227,3 | 186,0 |
| Other non-metallic minerals | 18 075,5 | 617,7 | 1 667,2 | 1 209,4 | 689,0 | 1 798,5 | 1 360,4 |

* Revised

Table 8 - Contribution of the mining divisions to the total value of mineral sales

| Mining division | Percentage contribution to total mineral sales during November 2004 to January 2005 | Percentage change between November 2004 to January 2005 and November 2005 to January 2006 | Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total value of mineral sales 1/ | Difference in sales of mining divisions between November 2004 to January 2005 and November 2005 to January 2006 R million |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Gold | 21,4 | 2,0 | 0,4 | 132 |
| Non-gold minerals | | | | |
| Iron ore | 4,0 | 84,9 | 3,4 | 1 039,3 |
| Copper | 1,6 | 40,7 | 0,7 | 198,6 |
| Manganese ore | 1,5 | 26,5 | 0,4 | 128,3 |
| Chromium | 1,4 | 2,4 | 0,0 | 10,9 |
| PGM's | 24,9 | 48,6 | 12,1 | 3 744,9 |
| Nickel | 3,1 | -30,6 | -0,9 | -298,0 |
| Other metallic minerals | 2,6 | 31,6 | 0,8 | 253,0 |
| Coal | 24,0 | 26,8 | 6,4 | 1 990,0 |
| Building materials | 3,0 | 12,4 | 0,4 | 114,8 |
| Other non-metallic minerals | 12,5 | -1,2 | -0,2 | -46,5 |
| Total non-gold minerals | 78,6 | 29,3 | 23,1 | 7 135,3 |
| Total minerals | 100,0 | 23,5 | 23,5 | 7 267,3 |

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 November 2004 to January 2005, divided by 100.

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

| | Actual estimates February 2005 | Actual estimates February 2006 | % change between February 2005 and February 2006 | Difference between February 2005 and February 2006 |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Gold | 69,2 | 63,2 | -8,7% | -6,0 |
| Non-gold minerals | 108,7 | 103,5 | -4,8% | -5,2 |
| Total | 98,6 | 93,1 | -5,6% | -5,5 |

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

| | Actual estimates December 2004 to February 2005 | Actual estimates December 2005 to February 2006 | % change between December 2004 to February 2005 and December 2005 to February 2006 | Difference between December 2004 to February 2005 and December 2005 to February 2006 |
|-------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Gold | 211,6 | 192,4 | -9,1% | -19,2 |
| Non-gold minerals | 357,3 | 334,7 | -6,3% | -22,6 |
| Total | 319,8 | 298,1 | -6,8% | -21,7 |

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

| | Actual estimates January 2006 | Actual estimates February 2006 | % change between January 2006 and February 2006 | Difference between January 2006 and February 2006 |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Gold | 64,8 | 65,6 | 1,2% | 0,8 |
| Non-gold minerals | 119,1 | 117,5 | -1,3% | -1,6 |
| Total | 105,1 | 104,2 | -0,9% | -0,9 |

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

| | Actual estimates September 2005 to November 2005 | Actual estimates December 2005 to February 2006 | % change between September 2005 to November 2005 and December 2005 to February 2006 | Difference between September 2005 to November 2005 and December 2005 to February 2006 |
|-------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Gold | 200,6 | 199,0 | -0,8% | -1,6 |
| Non-gold minerals | 370,6 | 353,8 | -4,5% | -16,8 |
| Total | 326,8 | 314,0 | -3,9% | -12,8 |

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

| | Actual estimates January 2005 R million | Actual estimates January 2006 R million | % change between January 2005 and January 2006 | Difference between January 2005 and January 2006 |
|-------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Gold | 1 777,8 | 2 304,5 | 29,6% | 526,7 |
| Non-gold minerals | 7 809,6 | 9 335,8 | 19,5% | 1 526,2 |
| Total | 9 587,4 | 11 640,3 | 21,4% | 2 052,9 |

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

| | Actual estimates November 2004 to January 2005 R million | Actual estimates November 2005 to January 2006 R million | % change between November 2004 to January 2005 and November 2005 to January 2006 | Difference between November 2004 to January 2005 and November 2005 to January 2006 |
|-------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Gold | 6 634,0 | 6 766,0 | 2,0% | 132,0 |
| Non-gold minerals | 24 354,7 | 31 489,8 | 29,3% | 7 135,1 |
| Total | 30 988,6 | 38 255,9 | 23,5% | 7 267,3 |

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

| | Actual estimates December 2005 R million | Actual estimates January 2006 R million | % change between December 2005 and January 2006 | Difference between December 2005 and January 2006 |
|-------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Gold | 2 330,4 | 2 358,7 | 1,2% | 28,3 |
| Non-gold minerals | 11 616,7 | 9 499,3 | -18,2% | -2 117,4 |
| Total | 13 947,1 | 11 858,0 | -15,0% | -2 089,1 |

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

| | Actual estimates August 2005 to October 2005 R million | Actual estimates November 2005 to January 2006 R million | % change between August 2005 to October 2005 and November 2005 to January 2006 | Difference between August 2005 to October 2005 and November 2005 to January 2006 |
|-------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Gold | 5 341,0 | 6 771,4 | 26,8% | 1 430,4 |
| Non-gold minerals | 31 310,3 | 31 647,6 | 1,1% | 337,3 |
| Total | 36 651,3 | 38 419,0 | 4,8% | 1 767,7 |

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 Minerals Bureau, Department of Minerals and Energy. 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.
- 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.
- 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 (see 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 2000 supplied by the Minerals Bureau, Department of Minerals and Energy.
- Seasonal adjustment**
- 10 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**
- 11 Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. Figures for the latest month are preliminary.

- Historical data** **12** 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 *Mining statistics: Indices of the physical volume of mining production, Base: 2000=100, February 1990 to November 2002*, published on 11 February 2003 on the Stats SA website www.statssa.gov.za
- Related publications** **13** Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA -
- *Bulletin of Statistics.*
 - *SA Statistics.*
- Unpublished statistics** **14** In some cases Stats SA can also make available statistics not included in standard publications. 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

| | |
|--|---|
| 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. |
| PGM' s - Platinum Group Metals | Platinum Group Metals includes 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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