



**Statistics
South Africa**

Preferred supplier of quality statistics



Statistical release

P2041

Mining: Production and sales (preliminary)

February 2007

**Embargoed until:
12 April 2007
11:00**

Enquiries:

User Information Services
Tel: (012) 310 8600 / 4892 /8390

Forthcoming issue:

March 2007

Expected release date:

10 May 2007

Contents

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS: MINING PRODUCTION AND MINERAL SALES	3
Key findings regarding mining production as at the end of February 2007	3
Mining production increases	3
Key figures regarding mining production as at the end of February 2007	3
Table A – Selected key figures regarding mining production for distribution for February 2007	3
Figure 1 – Indices of physical volume of total mining production including gold (month on month).....	4
Key findings regarding mineral sales as at the end of January 2007	5
Mineral sales decrease	5
Key figures regarding mineral sales as at the end of January 2007	5
Table B – Selected key figures regarding mineral sales for January 2007.....	5
Figure 2 – Total value of mineral sales including gold	6
Figure 3 – Comparison of the last six years for the total value of mineral sales, including gold, for the three months ended January compared to the three months ended January of the previous year.	7
Detailed results: Tables	8
Table 1 – Index of the physical volume of mining production including gold	8
Table 2 – Index of the physical volume of mining production excluding gold	8
Table 3 – Indices of physical volume of mining production according to mining divisions, mineral groups and minerals.....	8
Table 4 – Contribution of the mining divisions to the total mining production.....	9
Table 5 – Total value of mineral sales including gold (R million)	10
Table 6 – Total value of mineral sales excluding gold (R million)	10
Table 7 – Total value of mineral sales according to mining divisions, mineral groups and minerals (R million)	11
Table 8 – Contribution of the mining divisions to the total value of mineral sales	11
Table 9 – Percentage change in indices of mining production between the current month and the corresponding month of the previous year.....	12
Table 10 – Percentage change in indices of mining production between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year	12
Table 11 – Percentage change in seasonally adjusted indices of mining production between the current month and the previous month.....	12
Table 12 – Percentage change in seasonally adjusted indices of mining production between the current quarter and the previous quarter	12
Table 13 – Percentage change in actual value of mineral sales between the current month and the corresponding month of the previous year.....	13
Table 14 – Percentage change in actual value of mineral sales between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year	13
Table 15 – Percentage change in seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales between the current month and the previous month.....	13
Table 16 – Percentage change in seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales between the current quarter and the previous quarter	13

Explanatory notes..... 14

Glossary..... 16

General information..... 17

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS: MINING PRODUCTION AND MINERAL SALES

Key findings regarding mining production as at the end of February 2007

Mining production increases

The total mining production for the three months ended February 2007 increased by 5,8% compared with the three months ended February 2006. Furthermore, the actual total mining production for February 2007 increased by 4,4% compared with February 2006 (see Table A).

The total mining production for the three months ended February 2007, after seasonal adjustment, decreased marginally by 0,1% compared with the previous three months. This decrease of 0,1% was due to a decrease of 3,9% in the production of gold and an increase of 0,5% in the production of non-gold minerals. The major contributors to the seasonally adjusted increase of 0,5% in the total production of non-gold minerals during the three months ended February 2007 compared with the previous three months was mainly due to the increase in the production of building materials (+1,0 percentage point) (see Table 4).

Gold production decreased by 8,8% for the period February 2007 compared to February 2006. Furthermore, gold production after seasonal adjustment decreased by 1,0% for February 2007 when compared to January 2007 (see Table A).

Key figures regarding mining production as at the end of February 2007

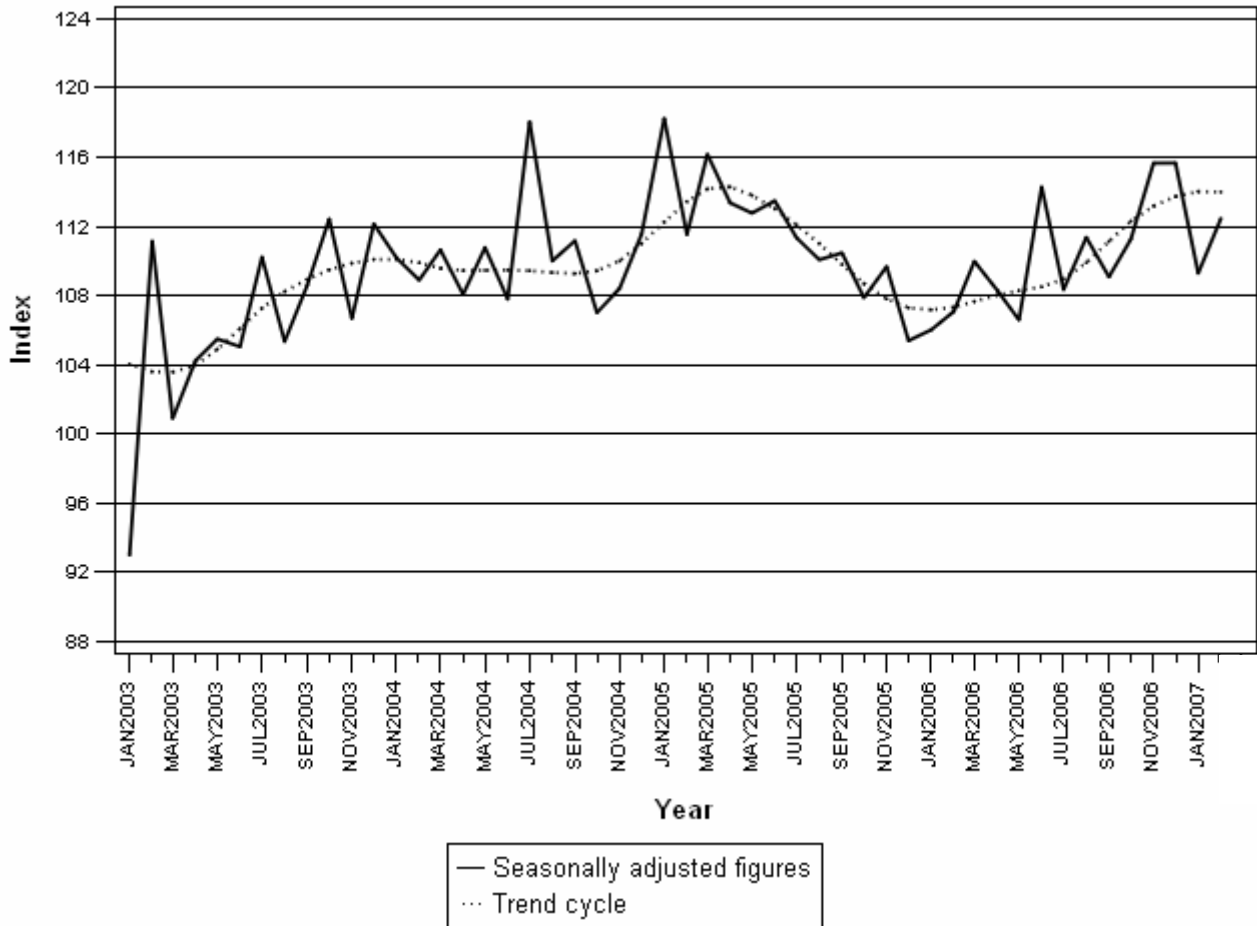
Table A – Selected key figures regarding mining production for distribution for February 2007

Annual estimates	Base : 2000=100		
	February 2007	% Change between February 2006 and February 2007	% Change between December 2005 to February 2006 and December 2006 to February 2007
Index of the physical volume of mining production			
Gold	58,0	-8,8%	-10,2%
Non-gold	111,5	7,2%	9,1%
Total	97,7	4,4%	5,8%

Shorter term seasonally adjusted estimates	Base : 2000=100		
	February 2007	% Change between January 2007 and February 2007	% Change between September 2006 to November 2006 and December 2006 to February 2007
Index of the physical volume of mining production			
Gold	59,9	-1,0%	-3,9%
Non-gold	131,4	3,7%	0,5%
Total	113,0	3,0%	-0,1%

Figure 1 shows the seasonally adjusted figures and trend series for the index of mining production between January 2003 and February 2007. The trend series rose from the beginning of 2003 until January 2004, and then levelled off until November of the same year. The trend reached a peak in April 2005 and a trough in January 2006. Since February 2006 the trend has been increasing.

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



Key findings regarding mineral sales as at the end of January 2007

Mineral sales decrease

The seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended January 2007 reflected a decrease of 1,3% compared with the previous three months. This decrease of 1,3% can be attributed to a decrease of 13,0% (+R1 386,2 million) in the sales of gold (see Table B and Table 16).

However, the actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended January 2007 increased by 39,3% compared with the three months ended January 2006. The increase of 39,3% is higher than the increase of 23,3% for the same period a year ago (see Table B and Figure 3).

The major contributors to the increase of 39,3% year on year in the actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended January 2007 were PGM's (+19,5 percentage points or +R7 445,7 million), gold (+6,1 percentage points or +R2 327,2 million), nickel (+5,2 percentage points or +R1 975,1 million), copper (+2,7 percentage points or +R1 028,1 million) and coal (+2,0 percentage points or +R782,2 million) (see Table 8).

Total sales reached R16,5 billion for the month of January 2007.

Key figures regarding mineral sales as at the end of January 2007

Table B – Selected key figures regarding mineral sales for January 2007

Annual estimates	Base : 2000=100		
	January 2007	% Change between January 2006 and January 2007	% Change between November 2005 to January 2006 and November 2006 to January 2007
	R million		
Mineral sales			
Gold	2 958,5	21,3%	33,7%
Non-gold	13 550,6	45,5%	40,5%
Total	16 509,1	40,5%	39,3%

Shorter term seasonally adjusted estimates	Base : 2000=100		
	January 2007	% Change between December 2006 and January 2007	% Change between August 2006 to October 2006 and November 2006 to January 2007
	R million		
Mineral sales			
Gold	3 002,1	-0,0%	-13,0%
Non-gold	14 681,8	2,5%	1,5%
Total	17 683,9	2,1%	-1,3%

Figure 2 shows the seasonally adjusted figures and trend series of total value of mineral sales between January 2003 and January 2007. From January 2003 the trend decreased until July 2003. The trend series rose moderately from August 2003 until February 2005. Since March 2005 the trend cycle has been increasing until present.

Figure 2 – Total value of mineral sales including gold

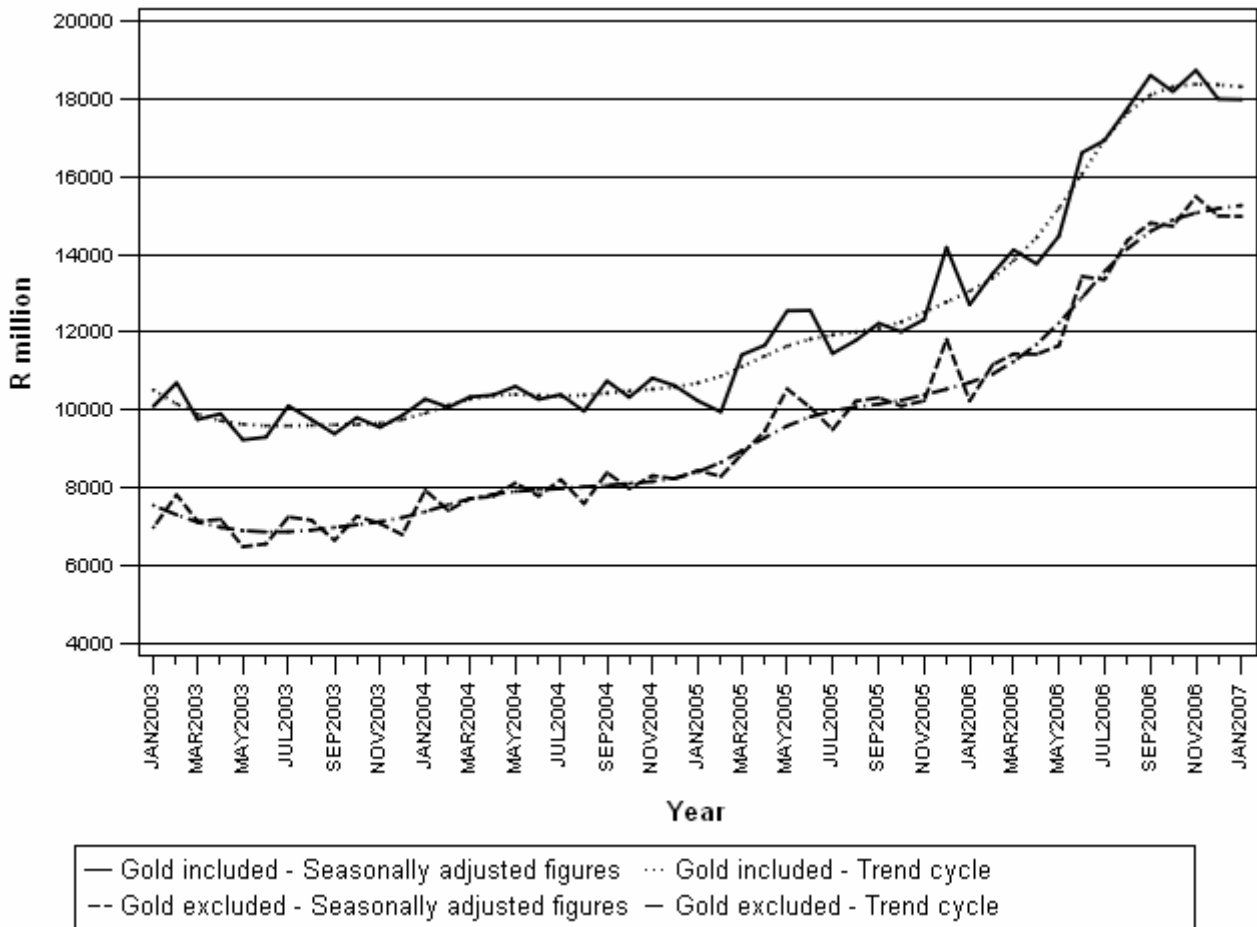
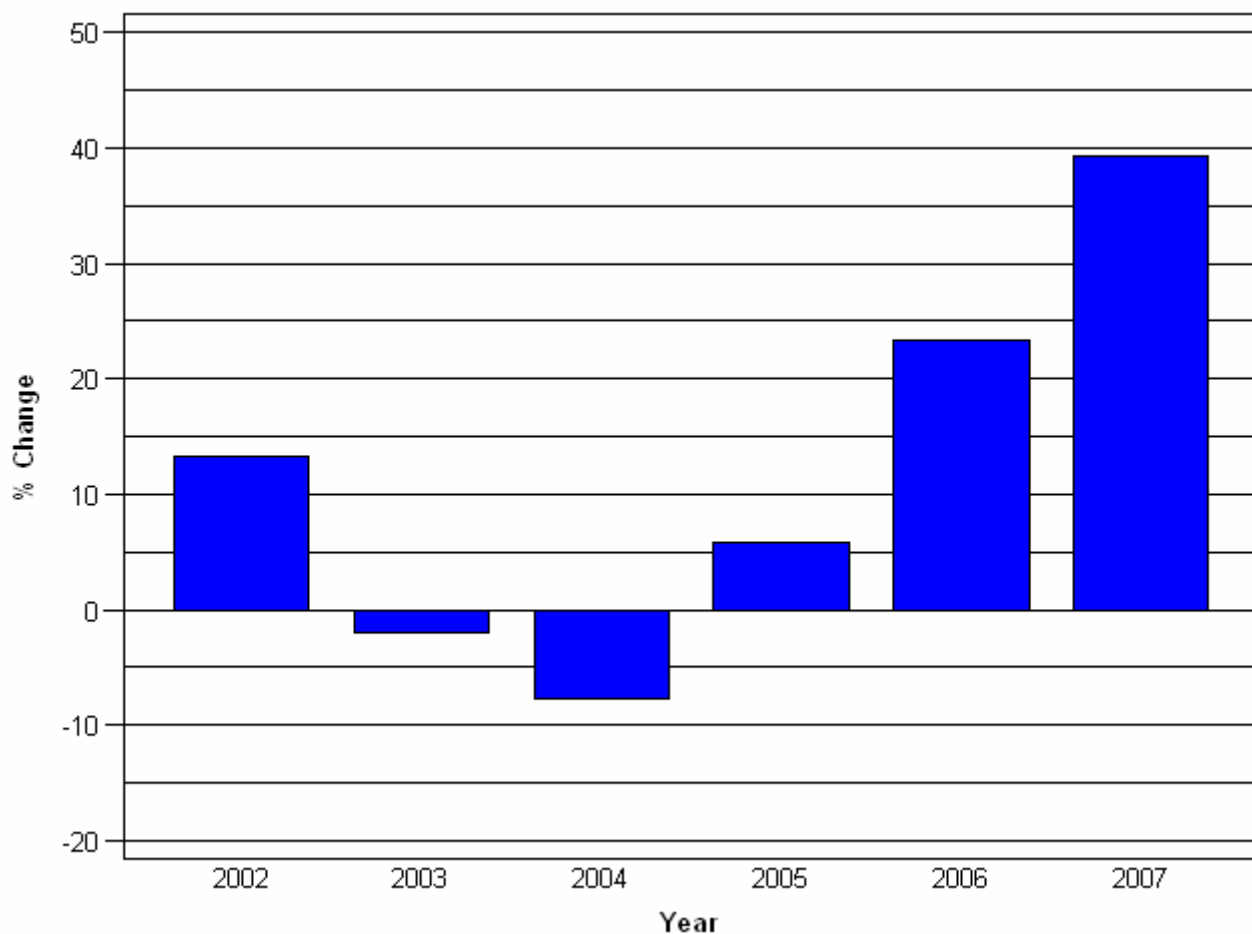


Figure 3 – Comparison of the last six years for the total value of mineral sales, including gold, for the three months ended January compared to the three months ended January of the previous year.



Mineral sales for the quarter ended January 2007 and its growth rate of 39,3% surpassed the 23,3% growth rate of the quarter ended January 2006. Figure 3 shows that there were only two negative growth rates, and those were for the quarters ended January 2003 and January 2004 respectively. Since 2005 all growth rates were positive.

P J Lehohla
Statistician-General

Detailed results: Tables

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

		Base : 2000=100						
		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Actual indices	January	95,0	89,0	85,1	100,7	107,9	96,8	99,7
	February	96,8	94,2	101,7	97,8	98,6	93,6	97,7
	March	102,3	99,1	101,8	112,9	119,9	114,3	
	April	98,9	102,0	101,0	105,0	110,2	105,2	
	May	103,6	102,9	107,1	113,0	115,2	109,0	
	June	108,4	104,1	108,6	111,1	116,8	117,6	
	July	93,5	99,0	110,7	119,5	113,1	110,3	
	August	115,2	107,2	109,1	114,3	114,8	116,3	
	September	98,4	108,1	114,6	117,4	116,7	115,2	
	October	105,1	106,7	114,5	108,2	108,2	111,0	
	November	102,6	107,5	108,6	110,1	111,4	117,4	
	December	97,2	107,0	113,5	113,3	107,4	117,7	
	Year	101,4	102,2	106,4	110,3	111,7	110,4	
Seasonally adjusted indices	January	104,7	97,5	93,0	110,6	118,9	106,6	109,7
	February	102,3	101,3	112,5	109,5	111,2	106,0	113,0
	March	102,5	99,2	101,5	111,6	116,9	110,9	
	April	102,7	106,0	104,5	108,5	113,9	108,7	
	May	103,2	102,0	105,7	110,9	113,1	106,8	
	June	103,5	99,7	103,8	106,1	111,2	111,8	
	July	93,1	97,8	108,9	116,9	110,3	107,5	
	August	112,4	103,9	105,3	110,0	109,9	111,1	
	September	96,1	104,8	110,0	111,9	110,8	109,5	
	October	101,1	103,3	112,0	106,5	107,5	110,8	
	November	99,7	105,4	107,3	109,5	111,2	118,4	
	December	95,1	104,8	111,2	111,5	105,6	115,6	

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

		Base : 2000=100						
		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Actual indices	January	98,3	89,6	85,7	110,0	121,6	110,1	114,9
	February	98,6	95,8	107,3	104,0	108,7	104,0	111,5
	March	104,4	101,0	106,2	123,6	136,2	130,9	
	April	102,2	105,3	106,3	115,0	127,0	119,7	
	May	108,9	107,0	114,7	124,9	131,3	126,1	
	June	112,5	107,3	116,4	121,1	132,3	135,7	
	July	93,7	102,4	118,8	133,1	129,2	127,2	
	August	124,5	111,2	116,3	125,5	132,2	134,1	
	September	99,7	111,4	122,9	130,0	132,4	131,8	
	October	110,2	111,9	124,2	119,7	122,3	127,8	
	November	106,8	113,3	116,2	121,3	126,2	136,3	
	December	97,7	111,2	123,3	127,0	120,0	138,0	
	Year	104,8	105,6	113,2	121,3	126,6	126,8	
Seasonally adjusted indices	January	108,3	98,1	93,5	121,2	134,4	121,7	126,7
	February	105,0	104,3	120,8	118,9	124,9	120,0	131,4
	March	105,4	101,8	106,3	122,2	132,5	126,7	
	April	106,3	109,6	110,0	118,8	131,1	123,4	
	May	107,2	104,9	112,0	121,3	127,9	122,6	
	June	107,0	102,4	110,9	115,3	125,6	128,6	
	July	92,2	100,1	115,9	129,4	125,2	123,1	
	August	121,8	107,9	112,2	120,6	126,3	127,9	
	September	98,5	108,8	118,5	124,2	125,9	125,3	
	October	104,9	107,5	120,9	117,4	121,5	127,6	
	November	103,4	111,0	115,0	121,1	126,7	138,3	
	December	96,0	109,3	120,8	124,8	117,8	135,2	

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

	Base : 2000=100							
	Weights	Actual indices				Seasonally adjusted indices		
		2006	2007		2006	2007		2006
			1/ Feb	Jan *		Feb	Feb	
Total, gold included	100,0	110,4	97,7	99,7	93,6	113,0	109,7	106,0
Total, gold excluded	74,3	126,8	111,5	114,9	104,0	131,4	126,7	120,0
Gold	25,7	62,9	58,0	56,0	63,6	59,9	60,5	65,7
Iron ore	3,1	122,1	113,6	122,4	103,2	125,3	126,5	113,3
Chrome	1,1	111,4	128,0	122,4	97,2	130,6	132,4	99,4
Copper	1,6	80,7	83,2	82,8	53,6	87,7	86,5	56,8
Manganese ore	1,3	143,0	146,4	135,6	134,0	138,2	137,6	126,9
PGM'S	27,6	148,7	113,6	128,4	96,8	157,3	144,7	132,9
Nickel	2,0	113,6	97,2	96,8	105,2	103,9	110,4	112,1
Other metallic minerals	2,9	92,3	75,6	79,6	90,8	81,2	82,6	97,4
Diamonds	8,3	141,9	103,6	95,2	163,2	96,1	110,3	151,7
Coal	20,0	108,6	108,4	114,0	97,2	119,0	122,1	106,5
Building materials	2,6	129,5	224,4	138,8	110,4	246,4	166,2	121,4
Other non-metallic minerals	3,8	84,8	82,0	84,4	82,4	84,1	84,1	83,8

1/ Preliminary.

* Revised.

Table 4 – Contribution of the mining divisions to the total mining production

		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 December 2006 to February 2007	Quarterly percentage change December 2006 to February 2007 compared with the preceding three months	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total mining production 1/
Gold		25,7	59,8	-3,9	-1,0
Non-gold minerals	Iron ore	3,1	125,0	-1,1	0,0
	Copper	1,6	86,6	-0,2	0,0
	Manganese Ore	1,3	138,2	-12,5	-0,2
	Chromium	1,1	131,9	5,4	0,1
	PGM's	27,6	154,1	-2,0	-0,6
	Nickel	2,0	108,4	-8,1	-0,2
	Other metallic minerals	2,9	83,8	-5,1	-0,1
	Diamonds	8,3	130,0	-4,8	-0,4
	Coal	20,0	115,6	4,1	0,8
	Building materials	2,6	184,4	37,9	1,0
	Other non-metallic minerals	3,8	82,2	9,2	0,3
Total non-gold minerals		74,3	131,1	0,5	0,4
Total minerals		100,0	112,8	-0,1	-0,1

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. Figures have been rounded off.

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

		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Actual values	January	9 241,5	11 387,0	9 868,8	9 820,5	9 587,4	11 750,3	16 509,1
	February	9 711,7	10 634,4	10 236,5	9 576,1	9 383,8	12 680,8	
	March	8 134,9	11 639,2	9 829,3	10 396,0	11 477,1	14 171,8	
	April	8 554,2	11 194,9	9 294,1	9 789,3	11 034,0	13 035,2	
	May	9 675,9	12 145,3	9 104,1	10 373,3	12 239,8	14 043,2	
	June	10 640,7	11 637,2	9 745,9	10 856,0	13 360,1	17 824,2	
	July	10 146,3	10 779,9	10 403,7	10 844,2	12 001,8	17 701,0	
	August	9 586,4	11 633,5	9 612,0	9 841,7	11 687,6	17 510,1	
	September	8 711,5	12 115,1	10 008,1	11 693,2	13 524,1	20 723,5	
	October	9 999,6	12 514,2	9 989,4	10 466,3	12 074,8	18 103,3	
	November	9 627,7	11 059,4	9 535,8	10 815,6	12 452,1	18 932,6	
	December	11 327,7	10 764,4	9 899,2	10 585,6	13 991,6	17 751,9	
	Year	115 358,1	137 504,5	117 526,9	125 057,8	142 814,2	194 227,9	
Seasonally adjusted values	January	9 150,0	11 397,7	9 886,4	10 085,6	10 219,8	12 413,0	17 683,9
	February	9 831,6	10 844,1	10 483,6	9 927,3	9 873,6	13 405,5	
	March	8 127,2	11 692,9	9 951,6	10 525,2	11 514,4	14 285,9	
	April	8 961,4	11 882,7	9 836,3	10 372,2	11 659,9	13 875,5	
	May	9 712,6	12 139,0	9 122,8	10 479,8	12 350,2	14 316,4	
	June	10 310,0	11 166,3	9 307,9	10 334,8	12 643,2	16 699,8	
	July	10 278,4	10 729,3	10 508,8	10 853,9	11 791,1	16 980,2	
	August	9 603,3	11 725,4	9 725,3	9 922,0	11 775,7	17 768,9	
	September	8 590,4	11 854,3	9 487,2	10 845,3	12 374,5	18 769,9	
	October	9 899,3	12 289,3	9 870,4	10 336,6	12 019,2	18 364,1	
	November	9 750,5	11 258,7	9 671,5	10 864,3	12 401,5	19 198,2	
	December	10 874,6	10 392,0	9 668,2	10 319,5	13 583,8	17 318,4	

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

		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Actual values	January	7 181,9	8 002,3	6 744,1	7 480,6	7 809,6	9 311,1	13 550,6
	February	7 720,8	7 368,2	7 452,6	7 039,8	7 813,9	10 469,6	
	March	5 912,0	8 110,9	7 140,7	7 710,4	8 840,3	11 395,1	
	April	6 748,0	7 481,9	6 815,2	7 366,5	8 963,2	10 842,9	
	May	7 139,7	8 619,3	6 477,2	8 029,3	10 372,9	11 441,5	
	June	8 245,9	8 035,5	6 759,5	8 107,4	10 562,0	14 231,7	
	July	7 779,6	7 344,7	7 613,1	8 699,0	10 082,3	14 200,2	
	August	6 942,5	8 065,2	7 052,7	7 546,9	10 210,5	14 323,2	
	September	6 219,3	8 562,1	7 092,3	9 114,1	11 390,1	16 470,3	
	October	6 971,4	8 711,8	7 345,5	8 089,0	10 186,0	14 718,5	
	November	6 953,1	7 981,8	7 154,9	8 406,4	10 435,0	15 792,2	
	December	8 532,3	7 834,8	6 825,9	8 138,7	11 547,2	14 623,0	
	Year	86 346,5	96 118,5	84 473,7	95 728,1	118 213,0	157 819,3	
Seasonally adjusted values	January	7 107,4	8 033,5	6 772,8	7 741,8	8 429,4	9 940,9	14 681,8
	February	7 779,1	7 482,0	7 604,9	7 276,7	8 218,9	11 065,6	
	March	5 966,7	8 259,4	7 337,4	7 914,9	8 964,6	11 613,1	
	April	6 935,9	7 748,8	7 123,5	7 769,9	9 455,5	11 554,2	
	May	7 076,2	8 484,0	6 377,1	7 998,2	10 345,5	11 500,8	
	June	8 024,9	7 804,5	6 566,1	7 851,8	10 147,5	13 521,1	
	July	7 895,8	7 224,5	7 652,6	8 669,5	9 836,8	13 407,0	
	August	7 033,8	8 201,8	7 142,2	7 544,1	10 216,8	14 381,4	
	September	6 163,6	8 441,3	6 750,9	8 488,2	10 462,4	14 979,0	
	October	7 086,9	8 712,0	7 333,6	7 992,1	10 114,8	14 906,5	
	November	7 002,7	8 080,2	7 204,1	8 359,1	10 311,0	15 952,1	
	December	8 039,4	7 439,2	6 607,1	7 928,6	11 221,9	14 316,8	

1/ Preliminary.
* Revised.

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

	Actual indices				Seasonally adjusted indices		
	2006	2007		2006	2007		2006
		1/ January	December *		January	January	
Total, gold included	194 227,9	16 509,1	17 751,9	11 750,3	17 683,9	17 318,4	12 413,0
Total, gold excluded	157 819,3	13 550,6	14 623,0	9 311,1	14 681,8	14 316,8	9 940,9
Gold	36 408,5	2 958,5	3 128,9	2 439,1	3 002,1	3 001,6	2 472,1
Iron ore	9 928,1	1 269,2	861,3	520,5	1 592,8	739,7	645,0
Chrome	2 302,0	223,0	204,5	157,2	228,7	229,1	159,4
Copper	4 956,2	452,4	343,7	190,7	524,6	363,5	218,7
Manganese ore	2 245,9	183,8	207,5	206,8	177,8	216,1	195,6
PGM'S	65 519,4	6 117,4	6 119,2	3 880,2	6 147,7	5 733,9	3 851,1
Nickel	7 779,9	784,1	928,2	273,9	838,7	1 015,2	291,1
Other metallic minerals	5 253,3	496,3	512,6	205,6	652,8	514,9	274,4
Coal	37 721,8	2 905,5	3 496,5	2 878,3	3 008,8	3 409,8	2 983,3
Building materials	5 118,2	415,6	377,2	308,0	493,1	502,7	361,0
- Granite or norite	401,3	34,3	37,0	14,5	37,2	41,0	15,8
- Lime and limestone	1 533,9	139,6	119,7	119,8	139,6	138,3	119,8
- Other building materials	3 183,0	241,7	220,5	173,7	316,3	323,4	225,4
Other non-metallic minerals	16 994,4	703,3	1 572,2	690,0	1 016,8	1 591,9	961,3

1/ Preliminary.
*/ Revised.

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

	Percentage contribution to total mineral sales during November 2005 to January 2006	Percentage change between November 2005 to January 2006 and November 2006 to January 2007	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total value of mineral sales 1/	Difference in sales of mining divisions between November 2005 to January 2006 and November 2006 to January 2007	
				R million	
Gold	18,1	33,7	6,1	2 327,2	
Non-gold minerals	Iron ore	5,9	45,4	2,7	1 028,1
	Copper	1,8	102,4	1,8	703,4
	Manganese Ore	1,6	-16,1	-0,3	-98,9
	Chromium	1,2	42,1	0,5	191,2
	PGM's	30,0	65,0	19,5	7 445,7
	Nickel	1,8	291,6	5,2	1 975,1
	Other metallic minerals	2,8	42,3	1,2	445,2
	Coal	24,5	8,3	2,0	782,2
	Building materials	2,6	28,3	0,7	283,7
	Other non-metallic minerals	9,7	-2,2	-0,2	-83,6
Total non-gold minerals	81,9	40,5	33,2	12 672,5	
Total minerals	100,0	39,3	39,3	14 999,6	

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 2005 to January 2006, 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 2006	Actual estimates February 2007	% Change between February 2006 and February 2007	Difference between February 2006 and February 2007
Gold	63,6	58,0	-8,8%	-5,6
Non-gold minerals	104,0	111,5	7,2%	7,5
Total	93,6	97,7	4,4%	4,1

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

	Actual estimates December 2005 to February 2006	Actual estimates December 2006 to February 2007	% Change between December 2005 to February 2006 and December 2006 to February 2007	Difference between December 2005 to February 2006 and December 2006 to February 2007
Gold	192,8	173,2	-10,2%	-19,6
Non-gold minerals	334,1	364,4	9,1%	30,3
Total	297,8	315,1	5,8%	17,3

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

	Actual estimates January 2007	Actual estimates February 2007	% Change between January 2007 and February 2007	Difference between January 2007 and February 2007
Gold	60,5	59,9	-1,0%	-0,6
Non-gold minerals	126,7	131,4	3,7%	4,7
Total	109,7	113,0	3,0%	3,3

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

	Actual estimates September 2006 to November 2006	Actual estimates December 2006 to February 2007	% Change between September 2006 to November 2006 and December 2006 to February 2007	Difference between September 2006 to November 2006 and December 2006 to February 2007
Gold	186,7	179,4	-3,9%	-7,3
Non-gold minerals	391,2	393,3	0,5%	2,1
Total	338,7	338,3	-0,1%	-0,4

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 2006	Actual estimates January 2007	% Change between January 2006 and January 2007	Difference between January 2006 and January 2007
	R million	R Million		
Gold	2 439,1	2 958,5	21,3%	519,4
Non-gold minerals	9 311,1	13 550,6	45,5%	4 239,5
Total	11 750,3	16 509,1	40,5%	4 758,8

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 2005 to January 2006	Actual estimates November 2006 to January 2007	% Change between November 2005 to January 2006 and November 2006 to January 2007	Difference between November 2005 to January 2006 and November 2006 to January 2007
	R million	R million		
Gold	6 900,6	9 227,8	33,7%	2 327,2
Non-gold minerals	31 293,3	43 965,8	40,5%	12 672,5
Total	38 194,0	53 193,6	39,3%	14 999,6

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

	Actual seasonal adjusted estimates December 2006	Actual seasonal adjusted estimates January 2007	% Change between December 2006 and January 2007	Difference between December 2006 and January 2007
	R million	R million		
Gold	3 001,6	3 002,1	-0,0%	0,5
Non-gold minerals	14 316,8	14 681,8	2,5%	365,0
Total	17 318,4	17 683,9	2,1%	365,5

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

	Actual estimates August 2006 to October 2006	Actual estimates November 2006 to January 2007	% Change between August 2006 to October 2006 and November 2006 to January 2007	Difference between August 2006 to October 2006 and November 2006 to January 2007
	R million	R million		
Gold	10 636,0	9 249,8	-13,0%	-1 386,2
Non-gold minerals	44 266,9	44 950,7	1,5%	683,8
Total	54 902,9	54 200,5	-1,3%	-702,4

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.
Purpose of the survey	6	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.
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>
Unpublished statistics	15	<p>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.</p>
Rounding-off of figures	16	<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>

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 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.

General 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.

Stats SA has copyright on this publication. Users may apply the information as they wish, provided that they acknowledge Stats SA as the source of the basic data wherever they process, apply, utilise, publish or distribute the data: and also that they specify that the relevant application and analysis (where applicable) result from their own processing of the data.

Advanced release calendar

An advanced release calendar is disseminated on www.statssa.gov.za

Stats SA products

A complete set of Stats SA publications is available at the Stats SA Library and the following libraries:

National Library of South Africa, Pretoria Division
National Library of South Africa, Cape Town Division
Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg
Library of Parliament, Cape Town
Bloemfontein Public Library
Johannesburg Public Library
Eastern Cape Library Services, King William's Town
Central Regional Library, Polokwane
Central Reference Library, Nelspruit
Central Reference Collection, Kimberley
Central Reference Library, Mmabatho

Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

Electronic services

A large range of data is available via on-line services, diskette, CD and computer printouts. For more details about our electronic data services, contact (012) 310 8600/8390/8351/8496/4892/8095.

You can visit us on the Internet at: www.statssa.gov.za

General enquiries

Telephone number (012) 317 8485 (technical inquiries)
(012) 310 2965/ 8220 (technical enquiries)
(012) 310 8161 (orders)
(012) 310 4883/ 4885/ 8018 (library)

Fax number: (012) 310 8664 (technical enquiries)

email: martin.kohler@dme.gov.za (technical enquiries)
juan-pierret@statssa.gov.za (technical enquiries)
info@statssa.gov.za (user information services)
distribution@statssa.gov.za (orders)

Postal address: Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

Produced by Stats SA