

# Statistical release P2041

# Mining: Production and sales (preliminary)

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Enquiries:

User Information Services Tel: (012) 310 8600 / 4892 /8390 Forthcoming issue: March 2009

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### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS: MINING PRODUCTION AND MINERAL SALES

## **Key findings regarding mining production for February 2009**

### Seasonally adjusted mining production decreases

The total mining production for the three months ended February 2009, after seasonal adjustment, decreased by 11,9% compared with the previous three months. The main contributors to the 11,9% decrease were the platinum group metals (PGMs) (-5,4 percentage points) and diamonds (-4,4 percentage points) (see Table 4).

The total mining production for the three months ended February 2009 decreased by 10,3% compared with the three months ended February 2008. The actual total mining production for February 2009 decreased by 12,8% compared with February 2008, which is largely attributable to negative contributions from diamonds (-6,7 percentage points), coal (-4,0 percentage points) and chromium (-1,1 percentage points).

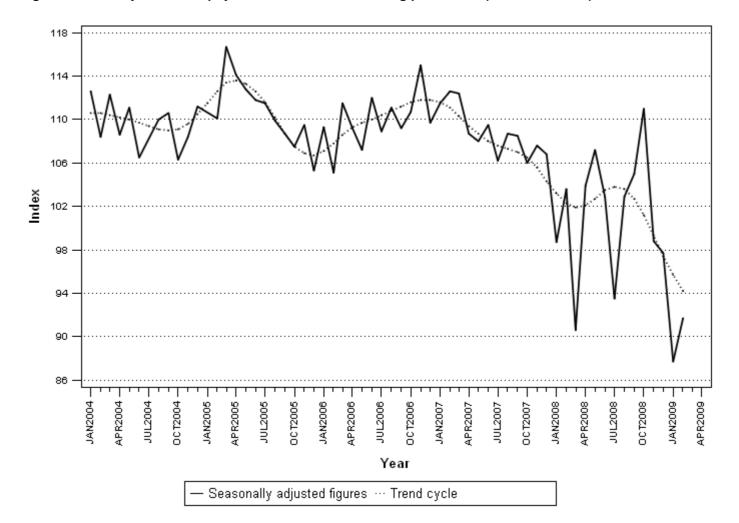
Table A – Selected key figures regarding mining production for February 2009

	Base : 2000=100						
Actual estimates	February 2009	% change between February 2008 and February 2009	% change between December 2007 to February 2008 and December 2008 to February 2009				
Index of the physical volume of mining production							
Gold	45,6	2,7	-8,1				
Non-gold	90,7	-14,9	-10,6				
Total	79,1	-12,8	-10,3				

	Base : 2000=100						
Shorter term seasonally adjusted estimates	February 2009	% change between January 2009 and February 2009	% change between September to November 2008 and December 2008 to February 2009				
Index of the physical volume of mining production							
Gold	47,5	0,4	-2,3				
Non-gold	107,0	5,3	-13,3				
Total	91,7	4,6	-11,9				

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

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



## Key findings regarding mineral sales for January 2009

### Seasonally adjusted mineral sales decrease

The total seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended January 2009 reflected a decrease of 20,0% compared with the previous three months. This decrease of 20,0% (R15 926,6 million) can be largely attributed to a decrease of 23,7% (R16 162,7 million) in non-gold mineral sales (see Table B and Table 16).

The actual estimated total value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended January 2009 increased by 2,5% compared with the three months ended January 2008. The major contributors to this increase of 2,5%, year-on-year, were coal (10,4 percentage points or R6 226,6 million), iron ore (4,9 percentage points or R2 950,7 million), gold (3,3 percentage points or R1 995,2 million) and manganese ore (2,6 percentage points or R1 566,9 million) (see Table 8).

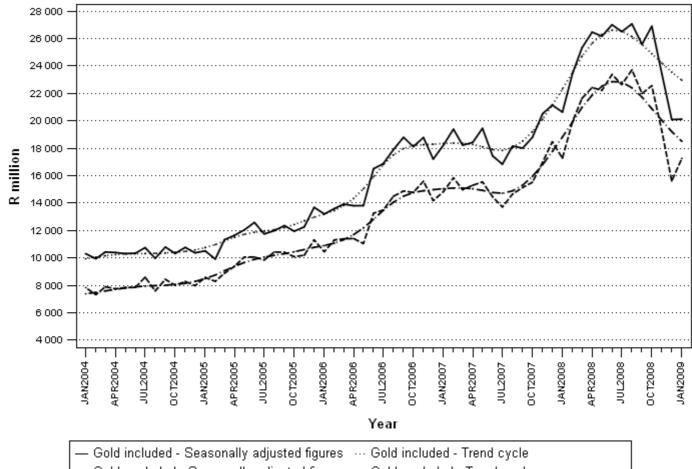
Table B - Selected key figures regarding mineral sales for January 2009

Actual estimates	January 2009	% change between January 2008 and January 2009	% change between November 2007 to January 2008 and November 2008 to January 2009
Mineral sales			
Gold	2 486,6	-14,7	21,8
Non-gold	14 575,9	0,3	-1,0
Total	17 062,5	-2,2	2,5

	January 2009	% change between	% change between	
Shorter term seasonally adjusted estimates	R million	December 2008 and January 2009	August to October 2008 and November 2008 to January 2009	
Mineral sales				
Gold	2 861,4	-36,1	2,1	
Non-gold	17 258,9	10,5	-23,7	
Total	20 120,3	0,1	-20,0	

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

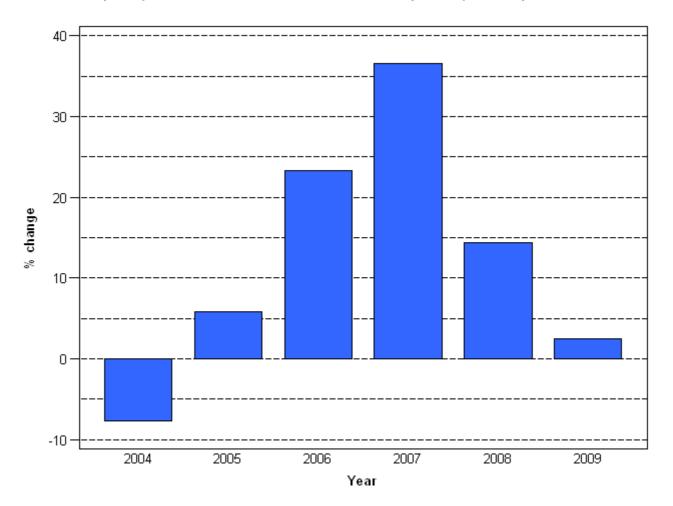
Figure 2 - Total value of mineral sales



<sup>--</sup> Gold excluded - Seasonally adjusted figures - Gold excluded - Trend cycle

Figure 3 shows the 2,5% annual growth rate in the value of mineral sales for the three months ended January 2009 compared with the three months ended January 2008. The increase for 2009 represents the lowest growth rate compared to the other years for the same period since the negative growth rate of 7,7% in 2004.

Figure 3 – Comparison of the last six years for the total value of mineral sales for the three months ended January compared with the three months ended January of the previous year



P J Lehohla Statistician-General

## **Detailed results: Tables**

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

				Ва	ase : 2000=	100		
		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	* 2008	1/ 2009
Actual indices	January	85,1	100,7	107,9	96,9	97,8	85,5	76,1
	February	101,7	97,8	98,6	93,6	99,1	90,7	79,1
	March	101,8	112,9	119,9	114,3	115,0	92,2	
	April	101,0	105,0	110,2	105,2	104,7	99,8	
	May	107,1	113,0	115,2	109,0	109,8	108,6	
	June	108,6	111,1	116,8	117,6	115,5	108,8	
	July	110,7	119,5	113,1	110,2	107,1	94,7	
	August	109,1	114,3	114,8	116,3	113,9	107,6	
	September	114,6	117,4	116,7	115,2	118,3	114,4	
	October	114,5	108,2	108,2	110,9	105,9	110,0	
	November	108,6	110,1	111,4	117,3	110,5	101,7	
	December	113,5	113,3	107,4	113,1	109,8	101,4	
	Year	106,4	110,3	111,7	110,0	109,0	101,3	
Seasonally adjusted indices	January	91,7	112,6	120,2	109,3	111,5	98,7	87,7
	February	111,4	108,4	110,1	105,1	112,6	103,6	91,7
	March	101,7	112,3	116,7	111,5	112,4	90,6	
	April	104,0	108,6	114,1	109,2	108,7	103,9	
	May	104,6	111,1	112,8	107,2	108,0	107,2	
	June	103,1	106,5	111,8	112,0	109,5	102,9	
	July	108,7	118,1	111,5	108,9	106,2	93,5	_
	August	105,3	110,0	109,9	111,1	108,7	102,9	
	September	109,3	110,6	108,7	109,2	108,5	105,0	
	October	111,9	106,3	107,5	110,7	106,0	111,0	
	November	107,0	108,4	109,5	115,0	107,6	98,8	
	December	110,9	111,2	105,3	109,7	106,8	97,7	

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

Table 2 – Illuex of the physica		Ĭ			ase : 2000=	:100		
		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	* 2008	1/ 2009
Actual indices	January	85,7	110,0	121,6	110,1	112,4	99,2	87,9
	February	107,3	104,0	108,7	104,1	111,7	106,6	90,7
	March	106,2	123,6	136,2	130,9	134,4	106,0	
	April	106,3	115,0	127,0	119,7	121,6	117,3	
	Мау	114,7	124,9	131,3	126,1	127,4	128,4	
	June	116,4	121,1	132,3	135,7	134,2	127,8	
	July	118,8	133,1	129,2	127,1	124,0	110,6	
	August	116,3	125,5	132,2	134,0	131,8	128,4	
	September	122,9	130,0	132,4	131,7	137,3	135,4	
	October	124,2	119,7	122,3	127,7	122,3	131,0	
	November	116,2	121,3	126,2	136,2	129,7	120,0	
	December	123,3	127,0	120,0	131,9	128,2	120,0	
	Year	113,2	121,3	126,6	126,3	126,3	119,2	
Seasonally adjusted indices	January	91,6	123,6	135,6	124,6	128,5	114,9	101,6
	February	119,3	117,4	123,3	118,6	129,1	123,5	107,0
	March	106,5	123,1	132,1	127,3	131,0	103,8	
	April	109,2	118,8	131,2	123,8	126,1	122,0	
	Мау	110,5	121,7	127,7	123,4	124,8	126,4	
	June	110,0	115,9	126,5	129,1	126,9	120,6	
	July	115,7	131,0	126,9	125,0	122,4	108,7	
	August	112,3	120,8	126,6	128,0	125,7	122,7	
	September	117,7	122,7	123,3	125,3	125,9	124,4	
	October	120,7	117,3	121,7	127,8	122,8	132,7	
	November	114,6	119,7	124,2	133,5	126,0	116,5	
	December	120,5	124,6	117,5	127,5	124,3	115,2	

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.
\* Revised

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

				Base : 2	000=100				
	Weights		Actual	indices		Seasonally adjusted indices			
		* 2008	2008	1/ 2	009	2008	20	09	
			Feb	Jan	Feb	Feb	Jan	Feb	
Total, gold included	100,0	101,3	90,7	76,1	79,1	103,6	87,7	91,7	
Total, gold excluded	74,3	119,2	106,6	87,9	90,7	123,5	101,6	107,0	
Gold	25,7	49,4	44,4	42,0	45,6	46,2	47,3	47,5	
Iron ore	3,1	145,6	118,4	147,6	153,2	129,6	156,8	167,7	
Chromium	1,1	147,6	151,6	54,8	60,0	158,3	60,5	63,0	
Copper	1,6	71,8	60,8	75,2	69,2	72,2	78,8	82,7	
Manganese ore	1,3	183,1	174,0	94,0	98,4	179,8	103,9	102,8	
PGMs	27,6	133,3	106,4	95,6	106,4	139,6	117,9	139,2	
Nickel	2,0	86,5	78,8	57,2	48,8	88,1	66,2	55,0	
Other metallic minerals	2,9	84,5	76,4	85,6	73,2	84,9	87,7	81,7	
Diamonds	8,3	114,9	108,4	34,4	35,2	107,9	44,4	35,4	
Coal	20,0	112,1	112,8	96,4	94,8	122,7	106,3	103,1	
Building materials	2,6	133,9	134,8	112,0	116,8	143,3	131,4	123,5	
Other non-metallic minerals	3,8	67,4	62,8	68,0	58,0	67,3	68,0	62,3	

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.

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

			Base : 2	000=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 2008 to February 2009	Quarterly percentage change December 2008 to February 2009 compared with the preceding three months	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total mining production 1/
Gold		25,7	47,3	-2,3	-0,3
Non-gold minerals	Iron ore	3,1	162,1	4,5	0,2
	Chromium	1,1	66,3	-56,1	-0,9
	Copper	1,6	78,1	18,8	0,2
	Manganese ore	1,3	123,5	-33,2	-0,8
	PGMs	27,6	132,3	-13,4	-5,4
	Nickel	2,0	70,6	-18,7	-0,3
	Other metallic minerals	2,9	84,2	1,1	0,0
	Diamonds	8,3	50,1	-52,5	-4,4
	Coal	20,0	106,4	-2,0	-0,4
	Building materials	2,6	129,4	-2,7	-0,1
	Other non-metallic minerals	3,8	64,5	0,3	0,0
Total non-gold minerals		74,3	107,9	-13,3	-11,8
Total minerals		100,0	92,4	-11,9	-11,9

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

<sup>\*</sup>Revised

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

		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	* 2008	1/ 2009
Actual values	January	9 868,8	9 820,5	9 587,4	11 755,1	15 692,9	17 442,2	17 062,5
	February	10 236,5	9 576,1	9 383,8	12 680,8	17 928,6	21 737,4	
	March	9 829,3	10 396,0	11 477,1	14 179,9	18 555,2	25 892,4	
	April	9 294,1	9 789,3	11 034,0	13 042,6	17 447,8	25 523,0	
	May	9 104,1	10 373,3	12 239,8	14 046,8	19 841,6	26 667,3	
	June	9 745,9	10 856,0	13 360,1	17 809,8	19 033,2	29 807,9	
	July	10 403,7	10 844,2	12 001,8	17 614,8	17 449,4	27 083,4	
	August	9 612,0	9 841,7	11 687,6	17 339,2	17 890,4	26 987,5	
	September	10 008,1	11 693,2	13 524,1	20 586,6	19 619,7	27 562,2	
	October	9 989,4	10 466,3	12 074,8	18 031,0	18 713,7	26 731,6	
	November	9 535,8	10 815,6	12 453,2	18 918,2	20 674,4	23 779,9	
	December	9 899,2	10 585,6	13 994,2	17 584,7	21 590,8	20 362,9	
	Year	117 526,9	125 057,8	142 817,9	193 589,5	224 437,7	299 577,7	
Seasonally adjusted values	January	10 036,7	10 312,8	10 520,5	13 207,4	18 221,9	20 635,4	20 120,3
	February	10 495,6	9 946,9	9 920,5	13 599,5	19 395,9	23 462,1	
	March	9 906,6	10 437,6	11 332,0	13 926,0	18 225,3	25 324,5	
	April	9 850,8	10 398,8	11 653,2	13 810,0	18 424,6	26 469,7	
	May	9 069,5	10 318,1	12 047,0	13 816,8	19 455,2	26 164,7	
	June	9 314,2	10 345,1	12 593,2	16 504,4	17 443,4	27 004,5	
	July	10 431,9	10 757,7	11 750,9	16 881,8	16 838,2	26 500,0	
	August	9 764,2	9 975,0	11 995,0	17 901,6	18 158,9	27 066,5	
	September	9 452,3	10 802,3	12 360,8	18 799,1	18 010,5	25 577,1	
	October	9 847,0	10 326,9	11 951,2	18 115,7	18 795,2	26 902,0	
	November	9 623,6	10 774,8	12 272,9	18 787,4	20 512,9	23 406,8	
	December	9 695,3	10 373,4	13 695,5	17 207,8	21 144,8	20 091,9	

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

		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	* 2008	1/ 2009
Actual values	January	6 744,1	7 480,6	7 809,6	9 316,0	12 734,4	14 526,9	14 575,9
	February	7 452,6	7 039,8	7 813,9	10 469,6	14 498,1	18 341,8	
	March	7 140,7	7 710,4	8 840,3	11 403,2	14 955,5	21 801,6	
	April	6 815,2	7 366,5	8 963,2	10 850,3	14 595,8	21 861,5	
	Мау	6 477,2	8 029,3	10 372,9	11 445,0	16 150,6	22 927,6	
	June	6 759,5	8 107,4	10 562,0	14 217,3	15 745,9	25 826,6	
	July	7 613,1	8 699,0	10 082,3	14 114,1	14 154,8	22 949,6	
	August	7 052,7	7 546,9	10 210,5	14 152,3	14 647,2	23 889,8	
	September	7 092,3	9 114,1	11 390,1	16 333,3	16 531,7	23 715,6	
	October	7 345,5	8 089,0	10 186,0	14 646,2	15 351,6	22 255,4	
	November	7 154,9	8 406,4	10 436,1	15 781,8	17 188,8	19 680,8	
	December	6 825,9	8 138,7	11 549,8	14 455,8	18 846,7	15 808,3	
	Year	84 473,7	95 728,1	118 216,7	157 184,9	185 401,1	253 585,5	
Seasonally adjusted values	January	6 828,7	7 839,7	8 581,8	10 455,9	14 832,1	17 279,6	17 258,9
	February	7 625,6	7 327,8	8 299,0	11 317,2	15 844,0	19 947,4	
	March	7 334,7	7 903,8	8 885,6	11 394,0	14 974,7	21 639,4	
	April	7 120,7	7 750,2	9 393,6	11 418,1	15 300,2	22 427,5	
	May	6 325,5	7 845,4	10 066,3	11 054,4	15 547,8	22 216,3	
	June	6 571,8	7 851,6	10 071,6	13 263,0	14 461,1	23 383,0	
	July	7 592,6	8 605,1	9 855,2	13 499,7	13 717,6	22 639,9	
	August	7 174,1	7 599,4	10 437,1	14 497,8	14 658,2	23 717,6	
	September	6 734,0	8 444,0	10 417,9	14 882,7	15 138,4	21 986,6	
	October	7 322,7	8 004,5	10 088,1	14 778,9	15 519,6	22 562,7	
	November	7 164,2	8 288,6	10 209,0	15 598,7	16 971,8	19 228,4	_
	December	6 645,3	7 980,4	11 320,2	14 180,4	18 471,8	15 616,9	

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.
\* Revised.

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

		Actual	values	Seaso	nally adjusted v	/alues	
	* 2008	20	08	2009	20	2009	
		January	* December	1/ January	January	December	January
Total, gold included	299 577,7	17 442,2	20 362,9	17 062,5	20 635,4	20 091,9	20 120,3
Total, gold excluded	253 585,5	14 526,9	15 808,3	14 575,9	17 279,6	15 616,9	17 258,9
Gold	45 992,1	2 915,4	4 554,6	2 486,6	3 355,8	4 475,0	2 861,4
Iron ore	22 241,7	1 396,7	2 309,6	2 462,1	1 519,5	2 166,6	2 612,0
Chromium	5 543,7	365,7	176,1	126,4	386,9	213,6	133,9
Copper	5 620,0	315,7	237,6	255,7	363,5	301,4	295,8
Manganese ore	17 343,6	480,6	926,9	1 238,5	548,8	963,1	1 445,1
PGMs	91 352,4	6 205,8	3 929,8	3 609,7	7 461,2	3 794,2	4 386,1
Nickel	5 255,8	467,4	113,7	248,0	547,8	118,6	298,9
Other metallic minerals	5 886,9	454,5	562,2	313,8	513,7	523,4	352,7
Coal	71 639,3	3 531,2	6 369,1	4 923,2	3 858,3	6 274,6	5 436,1
Building materials	6 873,7	482,2	459,8	513,3	579,6	608,9	618,0
- Granite or norite	684,7	44,6	60,5	56,7	53,9	66,9	69,3
- Lime and limestone	1 914,7	150,4	117,4	158,1	151,0	132,1	159,2
- Other building materials	4 274,2	287,2	281,9	298,4	374,7	409,9	389,5
Other non-metallic minerals	21 828,8	827,0	723,6	885,2	1 500,3	652,5	1 680,3

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.

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

		Percentage contribution to total mineral sales during November 2007 to January 2008	Percentage change between November 2007 to January 2008 and November 2008 to January 2009	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total value of mineral sales 1/	Difference in sales of mining divisions between November 2007 to January 2008 and November 2008 to January 2009
Gold		15,3	21,8	3,3	1 995,2
Non-gold minerals	Iron ore	7,2	68,4	4,9	2 950,7
	Chromium	1,5	-16,2	-0,2	-146,2
	Copper	2,0	-20,5	-0,4	-248,4
	Manganese ore	2,5	103,3	2,6	1 566,9
	PGMs	36,0	-40,7	-14,7	-8 764,6
	Nickel	3,2	-68,8	-2,2	-1 303,0
	Other metallic minerals	2,3	6,0	0,1	83,3
	Coal	19,7	52,8	10,4	6 226,6
	Building materials	2,4	10,4	0,2	150,5
	Other non-metallic minerals	7,7	-22,1	-1,7	-1 012,9
Total non-gold minerals		84,7	-1,0	-0,8	-497,4
Total minerals		100,0	2,5	2,5	1 497,9

<sup>1/</sup> 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 2007 to January 2008, divided by 100. Figures have been rounded off.

<sup>\*</sup> Revised.

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

	Base : 2000=100			
	Actual estimates February 2008	Actual estimates February 2009	% change between February 2008 and February 2009	Difference between February 2008 and February 2009
				Percentage points
Gold	44,4	45,6	2,7	1,2
Non-gold minerals	106,6	90,7	-14,9	-15,9
Total	90,7	79,1	-12,8	-11,6

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

	Base : 2000=100			
	Actual estimates December 2007 to February 2008	Actual estimates December 2008 to February 2009	% change between December 2007 to February 2008 and December 2008 to February 2009	Difference between December 2007 to February 2008 and December 2008 to February 2009
				Percentage points
Gold	49,1	45,1	-8,1	-4,0
Non-gold minerals	111,3	99,5	-10,6	-11,8
Total	95,3	85,5	-10,3	-9,8

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

	Base : 2000=100			
	Seasonally adjusted January 2009	Seasonally adjusted February 2009	% change between January 2009 and February 2009	Difference between January 2009 and February 2009
				Percentage points
Gold	47,3	47,5	0,4	0,2
Non-gold minerals	101,6	107,0	5,3	5,4
Total	87,7	91,7	4,6	4,0

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

		Base : 2000=100			
	Seasonally adjusted September to November 2008	Seasonally adjusted December 2008 to February 2009	% change between September to November 2008 and December 2008 to February 2009	Difference between September to November 2008 and December 2008 to February 2009	
				Percentage points	
Gold	48,4	47,3	-2,3	-1,1	
Non-gold minerals	124,5	107,9	-13,3	-16,6	
Total	104,9	92,4	-11,9	-12,5	

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

	Actual estimates January 2008	Actual estimates January 2009	% change between January 2008 and January 2009	Difference between January 2008 and January 2009
	R million	R million		R million
Gold	2 915,4	2 486,6	-14,7	-428,8
Non-gold minerals	14 526,9	14 575,9	0,3	49,0
Total	17 442,2	17 062,5	-2,2	-379,7

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

	Actual estimates November 2007 to January 2008	Actual estimates November 2008 to January 2009	% change between November 2007 to January 2008 and November 2008 to January 2009	Difference between November 2007 to January 2008 and November 2008 to January 2009
	R million	R million		R million
Gold	9 145,1	11 140,3	21,8	1 995,2
Non-gold minerals	50 562,4	50 065,0	-1,0	-497,4
Total	59 707,4	61 205,3	2,5	1 497,9

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

	Seasonally adjusted estimates December 2008	Seasonally adjusted estimates January 2009	% change between December 2008 and January 2009	Difference between December 2008 and January 2009
	R million	R million		R million
Gold	4 475,0	2 861,4	-36,1	-1 613,6
Non-gold minerals	15 616,9	17 258,9	10,5	1 642,0
Total	20 091,9	20 120,3	0,1	28,4

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

	Seasonally adjusted estimates August to October 2008	Seasonally adjusted estimates November 2008 to January 2009	% change between August to October 2008 and November 2008 to January 2009	Difference between August to October 2008 and November 2008 to January 2009
	R million	R million		R million
Gold	11 278,7	11 514,8	2,1	236,1
Non-gold minerals	68 266,9	52 104,2	-23,7	-16 162,7
Total	79 545,6	63 619,0	-20,0	-15 926,6

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## **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.

- 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.
- 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 as more up-to-date information is available.

# Purpose of the 6 survey

The monthly mining production and sales survey is conducted by the Minerals Bureau, covering all mining establishments operating in the South African economy. The results of this survey are used to calculate physical volume of mining production indices in order to estimate the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components, which in turn are used to develop and monitor government policy.

# Scope of the 7 survey

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 8

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 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.

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# Seasonal adjustment

11

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 12 estimates

Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. Figures for the latest month are preliminary.

#### Historical data 13

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

14

15

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

- Bulletin of Statistics.
- SA Statistics.

# Unpublished statistics

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 16 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.

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### **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 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.

PGMs - Platinum Group Metals

Platinum Group Metals include platinum; iridium; osmiridium; palladium; rhodium;

ruthenium and osmium.

Sales Sales are the total value of sales and transfers-out of goods mined by the mining

establishments and the amounts received for installation, erection or assembly or

other services rendered.

Weight The weight of a mineral group is the ratio of the sales of a mineral group to the

total sales of the mining industry. The weight of a mineral group reflects the importance of the mineral group in the total mining industry. The weights change over time due to quality changes and changes in relative prices. New weights

need to be calculated from time to time.

### **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.

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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'