

Mining: production and sales

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Actual estimates	January 2000	% change between January 1999 and January 2000	% change between November 1998 to January 1999 and November 1999 to January 2000
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Index of the physical volume of mining production	96,3	-3,5%	-3,4%
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Seasonally adjusted estimates	January 2000	% change between December 1999 and January 2000	% change between August 1999 to October 1999 and November 1999 to January 1999
Index of the physical volume of mining production	97,5	-1,0%	+0,0%

Key findings for the month ended January 2000

Mining production remains on the same level

The total mining production for the three months up to January 2000 remained on the same level after seasonal adjustment compared with the previous three months.

The total mining production remained on the same level, due to an increase of 2,1% in the production of non-gold minerals which was counteracted by a decrease in the production of gold during the same period. Major contributors to the increase of 2,1% in the production of non-gold minerals were the coal (contributing 0,9 of a percentage point) and copper (contributing 0,4 of a percentage point) mines.

Key findings for the year 1999

Mineral sales for the year 1999 increase

The value of mineral sales for the year 1999 increased by 7,6% compared with the year 1998. The increase of 7,6% in the value of mineral sales was mainly due to increases of 10,1% and 2,8% in non-gold mineral sales and gold sales respectively. The increase of 10,1% in non-gold mineral sales can mainly be attributed to an increase of 20,9% in platinum sales and an increase of 47,1% in other non-metallic mineral sales.

Key findings for the month ended December 1999

Mineral sales increase during the fourth quarter of 1999

The seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales for the fourth quarter of 1999 reflected an increase of 11,2% compared with the previous quarter.

The 11,2% increase in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales was due to increases of 6,8% (+R906,1 million) and 21,7% (+R1 218,3 million) in non-gold mineral sales and gold sales respectively during the fourth quarter of 1999 compared with the previous quarter. The 6,8% increase in the seasonally adjusted value of non-gold mineral sales was mainly due to an increase of 24,8% (+R866,9 million) in sales of platinum and 8,6% (+R360,7 million) in sales of coal.

Notes

Forthcoming issues Issue Expected release date

February 2000 11 April 2000

Purpose of the survey The monthly Mining Production and Sales Survey is a country-wide survey covering a sample of mining establishments (branches) operating in the South African economy. The results of this survey are used to calculate physical volume of mining production indices in order to estimate the gross domestic product (GDP) to monitor and develop Government policy.

Additional information

Explanatory Notes

Introduction 1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) publishes monthly information regarding the mining industry covering a sample of mining establishments (branches). This statistical release contains detailed information regarding indices of the physical volume of mining production and the total value of mineral

sales according to manufacturing divisions and major groups on a monthly basis.

2 Data shown in the tables are compiled by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on the basis of production figures and mineral sales furnished by the Minerals Bureau, Department of Minerals and Energy.

3 Due to mining production figures being available earlier than 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 better information is available.

Scope of the survey **6** This survey covers mining establishments conducting activities regarding -

- the extracting, dressing and beneficiating of minerals occurring naturally, for example

solids such as coal and ores.

Classification **7** The 1993 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC division, major group and subgroup level. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the establishment (branch).

Statistical unit **8** The basic statistical unit for the collection of information is the mining establishment. An establishment is the smallest economic unit that functions as a separate entity. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry (cf. paragraph 7).

Weighting **9** The weights which are used to aggregate minerals to mineral groups and mineral groups to total mining, are based on the value of production derived from detailed information for 1995 supplied by the Minerals Bureau.

Rebasing **10** In accordance with international practice, the indices have to be rebased every five years to a new base year. The indices in this statistical release have been calculated on the basis of 1995=100. The first results on this basis were published in May 1998. Both actual and seasonally adjusted figures are presented.

Seasonal adjustment 11 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variations. This means the month-to-month movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

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

- Bulletin of Statistics.
- SA Statistics.

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

Rounding-off of figures 14 The figures in the tables have, where necessary, been rounded off to the nearest final digit shown. There may, therefore, be slight discrepancies between the sums of the constituent items and the totals shown.

Glossary

Enterprise An enterprise (firm) is a legal entity consisting of one or more establishments. The establishments need not necessarily all be mining establishments, but some may be classifiable as other industries of the economy, such as manufacturing, wholesale trade, retail trade, motor trade and construction.

Establishment An establishment is defined as an enterprise (firm), or part of an enterprise, that is situated at a single location and in which only a single (non-ancillary) productive activity is carried out or in which the principal productive activity accounts for most of the value added.

Free-on-rail Free-on-rail relates to goods sold on the local market where no railage or road transport costs are involved.

Free-on-board Free-on-board relates to goods destined for the export market. Railage, road transport and

basis docking charges are involved but no charges are made for the transport by sea.

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

of mining production measure of the change in the volume of production. The production index of a major group is the ratio between the volume of production of a major group in a given period and the volume of production of the same major group in the base period. The base period is 1995. The production in the base period is set at 100.

Industry An industry consists of a group of establishments engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity. Industries are defined in the System of National Accounts (SNA) in the same way as in the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) of all Economic Activities, Fifth Edition of January 1993.

Sales Sales are the total value of sales and transfers-out of goods mined by the mining establishments and the amounts received for installation, erection or assembly or other services rendered.

Weight The weight of a major group is the ratio of the production of a major group to the total production of the mining industry. The weight of a major group reflects the importance of the major group in the total mining industry. The weights change over time due to quality changes and changes in relative prices. New weights need to be calculated from time to time.

For more information

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

Base 1995 = 100

Month	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Actual indices							
J	99,8	95,0	96,0	93,6	91,6	93,7	90,4
F	101,9	99,3	98,3	98,8	97,7	96,7	
M	101,0	101,1	99,1	97,6	99,7	97,7	
A	99,8	95,9	93,3	96,7	96,5	94,9	
M	95,6	96,2	97,6	101,9	95,7	98,5	
J	101,5	105,1	100,8	105,7	104,2	98,4	
J	100,0	100,2	98,6	100,6	96,5	97,3	
A	104,4	104,4	99,5	103,1	99,4	95,3	
S	103,6	104,6	98,8	102,6	99,1	99,0	
O	100,1	98,9	98,7	100,6	104,6	98,7	
N	104,3	100,1	100,3	104,4	104,3	101,8	
D	98,2	99,2	98,9	98,6	100,5	96,2	
Year	100,9	100,0	98,3	100,4	99,2	97,4	
Seasonally adjusted indices							
J	104,8	99,3	100,6	98,4	96,6	99,0	95,7
F	102,5	99,6	99,1	100,0	99,2	98,2	
M	101,3	100,8	98,7	97,1	99,4	97,4	
A	102,9	99,0	96,8	100,4	100,2	98,4	
M	97,1	97,2	98,5	102,6	96,2	98,9	
J	99,9	102,2	97,4	101,5	99,7	94,2	
J	100,0	100,0	98,6	100,7	96,6	97,3	
A	101,7	101,7	97,4	101,3	98,2	94,3	
S	102,2	102,6	97,1	101,1	97,9	98,0	
O	100,1	98,7	98,5	100,2	103,1	98,1	
N	102,4	97,6	97,5	101,0	100,6	98,1	
D	100,3	100,3	99,6	98,9	100,4	96,7	

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

Base 1995 = 100

Month	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Actual indices							
J	92,3	1995	98,4	99,8	94,9	100,0	101,8
F	95,8	97,0	97,0	103,3	103,0	102,6	
M	91,7	98,9	100,1	97,7	106,3	103,2	
A	93,0	95,4	95,3	101,8	104,4	101,3	
M	89,8	99,1	100,0	107,0	106,5	109,1	
J	95,0	108,1	104,9	114,4	113,4	105,9	
J	94,3	100,1	103,6	107,5	104,1	109,3	

A	99,3	105,4	102,3	107,7	106,0	105,8	
S	96,5	106,1	104,0	104,7	104,6	106,0	
O	93,8	96,9	101,5	105,6	114,9	109,8	
N	99,9	100,2	102,1	106,0	109,0	114,3	
D	91,8	98,8	99,7	100,4	101,5	103,2	
Year	94,4	100,0	100,7	104,7	105,7	105,9	
Seasonally adjusted indices							
J	95,9	97,6	102,0	103,8	99,1	105,0	107,2
F	96,5	97,9	98,4	105,1	105,2	104,8	
M	92,6	99,6	100,6	97,9	106,6	103,5	
A	95,2	98,0	98,3	104,9	107,7	104,3	
M	90,5	99,7	100,3	106,7	105,8	108,3	
J	91,2	102,9	99,0	107,4	106,1	98,9	
J	92,5	98,2	101,7	105,3	101,7	106,6	
A	95,3	101,8	99,6	105,8	104,9	104,9	
S	94,8	104,5	103,1	104,2	104,6	106,3	
O	94,5	97,5	101,6	105,2	113,9	108,8	
N	98,7	99,1	100,9	104,4	106,8	111,7	
D	95,8	102,8	103,6	104,4	105,7	107,7	

* Revised
1/ Preliminary

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

1995=100

Minerals	Weights	Actual indices				Seasonally adjusted indices		
		1999	2000		1999	2000		1999
			Jan.	Dec.	* Jan.	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.
Total, gold included	100,0	97,4	90,4	96,2	93,7	95,7	96,7	99,0
Total, gold excluded	57,5	105,9	101,8	103,2	100,0	107,2	107,7	105,0
Gold	42,5	85,8	75,0	86,8	85,1	80,2	82,0	91,0
Iron ore	3,0	91,1	102,4	84,6	102,4	99,2	79,7	99,7
Chrome	1,1	120,3	106,7	106,3	115,7	119,3	110,8	130,3
Copper	3,1	90,3	72,7	113,5	61,7	88,7	116,4	73,3
Manganese ore	1,3	97,7	102,1	103,8	95,7	103,7	103,9	97,4
Platinum	11,9	117,7	100,1	146,0	115,2	99,3	135,1	113,5
Nickel	1,5	125,7	127,7	105,1	105,9	137,7	103,4	112,9
Other metallic minerals	2,4	96,8	103,1	99,3	94,8	102,7	103,6	94,3
Diamonds	4,4	99,6	145,3	79,8	85,2	165,9	82,7	97,4
Coal	23,2	108,8	102,9	95,4	102,0	110,6	105,6	109,3

Building materials	3,5	81,1	67,9	64,6	75,3	77,8	73,5	85,8
Other non-metallic minerals	2,1	107,4	92,2	79,0	122,3	89,2	92,6	119,4

1/ Preliminary

* Revised

Table 4 - Total value of sales - gold included

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Actual values							
J	3 748,6	4 428,8	4 669,2	5 165,8	6 447,8	5 462,5	6 145,9
F	3 108,1	3 619,4	4 234,8	4 604,2	5 159,4	5 082,6	5 959,8
M	3 585,3	4 201,9	4 700,0	5 002,8	4 936,6	5 428,5	6 027,6
A	4 529,3	4 001,4	4 413,4	5 380,9	5 576,8	5 668,8	5 960,7
M	3 554,3	4 325,1	4 704,9	5 345,1	5 309,0	5 590,3	5 544,5
J	3 705,1	4 115,8	4 525,2	4 994,8	5 445,9	6 072,5	6 481,2
J	4 422,7	4 669,5	4 777,7	5 795,5	5 780,3	6 597,5	6 053,1
A	4 273,8	4 415,7	4 667,3	5 478,0	5 546,2	6 200,0	6 908,8
S	4 078,4	4 526,6	4 840,0	5 124,5	5 568,2	6 160,6	6 371,0
O	3 948,7	4 343,9	5 133,4	6 227,7	6 026,1	6 443,6	6 037,7
N	3 815,3	4 153,1	4 538,8	5 117,2	5 130,8	6 021,7	7 589,6
D	4 107,9	3 910,4	3 805,3	4 868,2	5 386,9	6 319,0	7 388,9
Year	46 877,5	50 711,6	55 010,0	63 104,7	66 314,0	71 047,6	76 468,8
Seasonally adjusted values							
J	3 647,2	4 275,3	4 516,3	4 983,9	6 230,0	5 332,9	5 996,7
F	3 492,3	4 035,3	4 649,1	4 987,6	5 512,1	5 403,0	6 344,2
M	3 607,3	4 232,9	4 760,8	5 112,9	5 078,6	5 626,9	6 293,4
A	4 482,1	3 931,8	4 325,3	5 275,9	5 506,1	5 632,5	5 936,4
M	3 582,9	4 324,1	4 689,6	5 354,3	5 378,5	5 743,8	5 744,9
J	3 799,2	4 256,9	4 619,2	5 051,5	5 421,2	5 980,5	6 352,5
J	3 983,5	4 244,0	4 398,1	5 382,3	5 407,0	6 226,7	5 735,8
A	4 012,2	4 212,6	4 513,1	5 349,2	5 455,2	6 113,0	6 815,2
S	3 942,1	4 408,0	4 743,6	5 060,0	5 540,0	6 154,6	6 371,2
O	3 740,6	4 079,2	4 824,2	5 839,4	5 621,7	6 030,5	5 658,3
N	4 036,6	4 433,6	4 832,9	5 441,6	5 416,4	6 336,7	7 972,8
D	4 624,5	4 337,0	4 093,0	5 144,8	5 565,7	6 413,0	7 415,5

Table 5 - Total value of mineral sales - gold excluded

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Actual values							

J	1 911,1	2 106,9	2 612,9	2 764,4	3 394,4	3 622,7	4 033,8
F	1 727,0	1 965,1	2 454,0	2 613,0	3 280,4	3 346,0	3 839,0
M	1 826,1	2 095,5	2 678,6	3 031,1	3 172,6	3 594,1	3 920,4
A	1 953,5	2 165,1	2 390,1	2 828,6	3 441,4	3 757,0	3 849,7
M	1 917,0	2 118,6	2 716,5	3 078,3	3 245,0	3 735,9	3 679,8
J	2 146,7	2 239,9	2 751,4	3 104,1	3 663,5	4 176,9	4 504,1
J	1 981,2	2 266,1	2 727,9	3 229,8	3 429,2	4 214,0	4 118,6
A	2 067,0	2 319,0	2 577,6	3 066,1	3 555,0	4 003,7	5 017,1
S	2 137,5	2 333,5	2 695,9	3 088,7	3 573,9	3 955,1	4 318,6
O	1 992,1	2 076,3	2 635,1	3 539,1	3 566,2	4 183,0	3 985,5
N	1 961,8	2 029,1	2 819,6	3 130,9	3 332,1	3 987,2	5 054,7
D	2 017,0	2 043,2	2 615,1	3 148,1	3 583,1	4 192,4	5 181,7
Year	23 638,0	25 758,3	31 674,7	36 622,2	41 236,8	46 768,0	51 503,0
Seasonally adjusted values							
J	1 963,4	2 135,7	2 616,9	2 746,6	3 366,1	3 594,6	4 002,2
F	1 832,0	2 077,0	2 584,9	2 738,1	3 438,6	3 514,3	4 045,7
M	1 795,2	2 071,1	2 668,8	3 042,3	3 204,3	3 664,5	4 030,6
A	1 924,2	2 132,3	2 360,8	2 806,0	3 441,0	3 780,3	3 881,8
M	1 930,0	2 114,4	2 701,0	3 079,5	3 283,9	3 836,2	3 815,7
J	2 025,3	2 105,2	2 591,9	2 919,2	3 434,0	3 883,7	4 173,4
J	1 930,2	2 197,2	2 628,4	3 120,0	3 312,1	4 091,9	4 007,7
A	1 954,2	2 236,8	2 523,4	3 032,4	3 528,0	3 974,1	4 963,5
S	2 041,7	2 250,7	2 628,5	3 047,5	3 566,1	3 971,5	4 340,4
O	2 024,3	2 122,3	2 682,6	3 554,9	3 536,9	4 112,2	3 905,4
N	2 067,3	2 139,8	2 969,2	3 281,2	3 465,5	4 133,0	5 244,2
D	2 183,2	2 173,3	2 737,4	3 222,6	3 591,8	4 126,8	5 068,1

* Revised
1/ Preliminary

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

R million							
Minerals	Actual value				Seasonally adjusted value		
	1999	1999		1998	1999		1998
		Dec.	Nov. *	Dec.	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.
Total, gold included	76 468,8	7 388,9	7 589,6	6 319,0	7 415,5	7 972,8	6 413,0
Total, gold excluded	51 503,0	5 181,7	5 054,7	4 192,4	5 068,1	5 244,2	4 126,8
Gold	24 965,4	2 207,2	2 534,8	2 126,7	2 347,3	2 728,6	2 286,2
Iron ore	2 239,1	181,4	210,3	363,0	190,5	202,4	375,4
Chrome	796,6	73,9	68,4	74,0	64,9	59,1	66,4

Copper	1 368,1	199,6	119,1	216,9	205,9	116,4	230,1
Manganese ore	994,3	48,9	117,9	81,5	46,9	144,8	79,2
Platinum	14 704,7	1 677,5	1 296,5	939,1	1 708,8	1 370,1	966,1
Nickel	1 160,6	115,4	138,0	60,5	129,9	129,6	67,1
Other metallic minerals	2 567,1	310,9	257,8	290,8	233,6	289,2	221,0
Coal	17 675,8	1 521,3	1 737,2	1 502,2	1 508,0	1 628,0	1 489,2
Building materials	2 451,8	184,6	212,1	158,5	219,5	209,1	189,6
- Granite or norite	562,1	65,4	41,9	28,4	64,5	41,3	28,2
- Lime and limestone	839,0	63,6	75,8	61,9	71,4	76,8	69,3
- Other building materials	1 050,7	55,6	94,4	68,2	77,9	87,5	95,9
Other non-metallic minerals	7 607,5	868,2	897,3	506,0	1 012,3	1 079,4	606,6

1/ Preliminary

* Revised