

Mining: Production and sales (preliminary)

January 2005

**Embargoed until:
10 March 2005
11:00**

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

Table A – Selected key figures regarding mining production for January 2005

Actual estimates

	January 2005	% change between January 2004 and January 2005	% change between November 2003 to January 2004 and November 2004 to January 2005
Index of the physical volume of mining production (2000=100)			
Gold	76,0	+3,3%	-4,4%
Non-gold minerals	126,1	+14,6%	+12,5%
Total	113,2	+12,4%	+9,2%

Seasonally adjusted estimates

	January 2005	% change between December 2004 and January 2005	% change between August 2004 to October 2004 and November 2004 to January 2005
Index of the physical volume of mining production (2000=100)			
Gold	83,3	+10,0%	+1,2%
Non-gold minerals	138,9	+2,6%	+8,3%
Total	124,6	+3,7%	+7,1%

Key findings regarding mining production as at the end of January 2005

Mining production increases

The total mining production for the three months ended January 2005, after seasonal adjustment, increased by 7,1% compared with the previous three months. This increase was due to a seasonally adjusted increase of 8,3% in the production of non-gold minerals and 1,2% in the production of gold during the three months ended January 2005 compared with the previous three months. The seasonally adjusted increase of 8,3% in the production of non-gold minerals was mainly due to an increase in the production of coal (+3,3 percentage points) and PGM's (+2,3 percentage points) (see table 4).

Figure 1 - Indices of physical volume of total mining production including gold

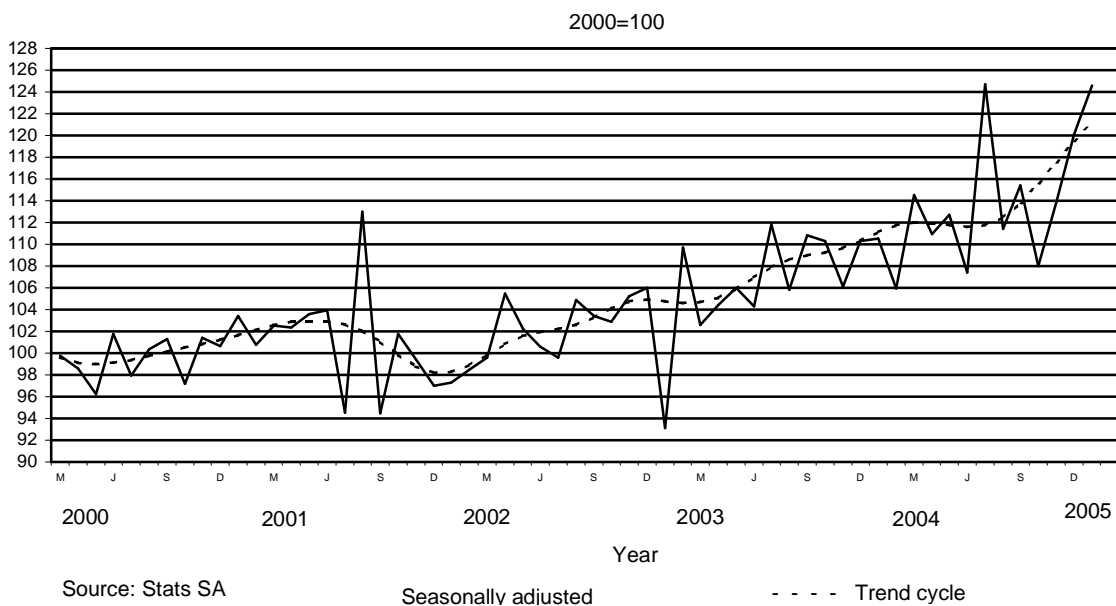


Table B – Selected key figures regarding mineral sales for December 2004

Actual estimates

	December 2004 R million	% change between December 2003 and December 2004	% change between October 2003 to December 2003 and October 2004 to December 2004	% change between January 2003 to December 2003 and January 2004 to December 2004
Mineral sales				
Gold	2 376,8	-22,7%	-11,5%	-11,5%
Non-gold minerals	8 508,4	+24,6%	+19,4%	+13,9%
Total	10 885,2	+10,0%	+10,9%	+6,8%

Seasonally adjusted estimates

	December 2004 R million	% change between November 2004 and December 2004	% change between July 2004 to September 2004 and October 2004 to December 2004
Mineral sales			
Gold	2 512,0	-1,0%	+6,0%
Non-gold minerals	8 297,0	-7,9%	+2,3%
Total	10 809,0	-6,4%	+3,1%

Key findings regarding mineral sales for the year 2004

Mineral sales increase

The actual value of mineral sales for the year 2004, increased by 6,8% compared with the year 2003.

Key findings regarding mineral sales as at the end of December 2004

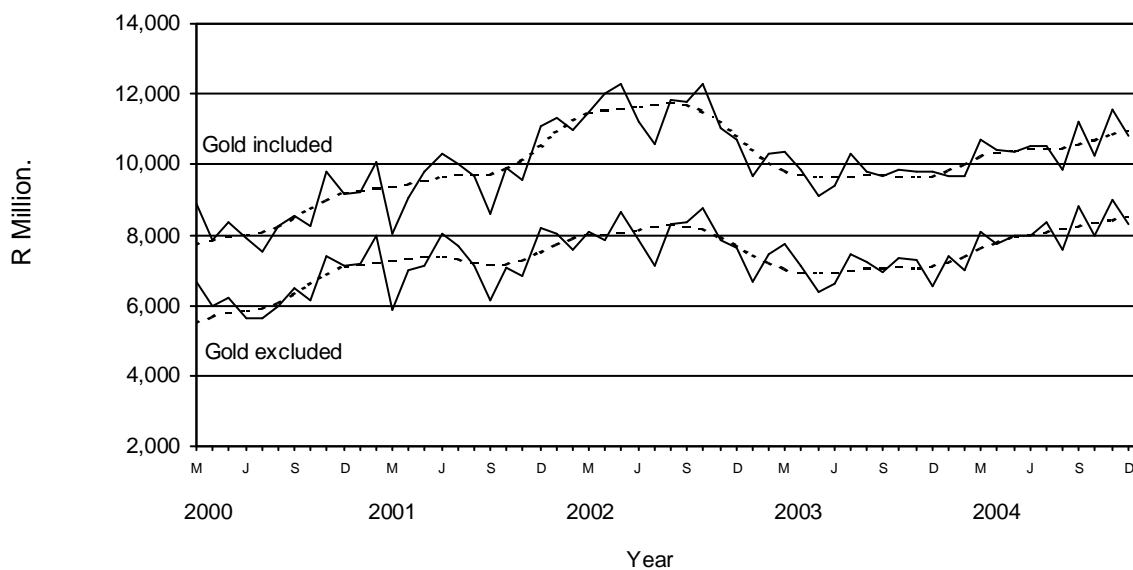
Mineral sales increase

The seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales at current prices for the fourth quarter of 2004 reflected an increase of 3,1% compared with the third quarter of 2004. Furthermore, the actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the fourth quarter of 2004 increased by 10,9% compared with the fourth quarter of 2003.

The increase of 3,1% in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales for the fourth quarter of 2004 compared with the third quarter of 2004 can be attributed to an increase of 6,0% (+R413,8 million) in sales of gold and an increase of 2,3% (+R559,0 million) in sales of non-gold minerals during the same period.

The major contributors to the increase of 10,9% in the actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the fourth quarter of 2004 compared with the fourth quarter of 2003 were other non-metals (+5,3 percentage points or +R1 608,9 million), coal (+4,0 percentage points or +R1 163,5 million) and PGM's (+2,2 percentage points or +R643,8 million). However, this increase was slightly counteracted by a decrease in the sales of gold (-3,2 percentage points or -R934,7 million) (see table 8).

Figure 2 - Total value of mineral sales including gold



Source: Stats SA

— Seasonally adjusted

- - - Trend cycle

pp
P J Lehohla
Statistician-General

pp
S Nogxina
Director-General
Department of Minerals and Energy

Contents

Notes	5
Tables	
Table 1 Index of the physical volume of mining production including gold (Base 2000=100)	6
Table 2 Index of the physical volume of mining production excluding gold (Base 2000=100)	6
Table 3 Indices of physical volume of mining production according to mining divisions, mineral groups and minerals (Base 2000=100)	7
Table 4 Contribution of the mining divisions to the total mining production (Base 2000=100)	7
Table 5 Total value of mineral sales including gold (R million)	8
Table 6 Total value of mineral sales excluding gold (R million)	8
Table 7 Total value of mineral sales according to mining divisions, mineral groups and minerals (R million)	9
Table 8 Contribution of the mining divisions to the total value of mineral sales	9
Table 9 Percentage change in indices of mining production between the current month and the corresponding month of the previous year	10
Table 10 Percentage change in indices of mining production between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year	10
Table 11 Percentage change in seasonally adjusted indices of mining production between the current month and the previous month	10
Table 12 Percentage change in seasonally adjusted indices of mining production between the current quarter and the previous quarter	10
Table 13 Percentage change in actual value of mineral sales between the current month corresponding month of the previous year	11
Table 14 Percentage change in actual value of mineral sales between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year	11
Table 15 Percentage change in actual value of mineral sales between the year 2003 and year 2004	11
Table 16 Percentage change in seasonally value of mineral sales between the current month and the previous month.....	12
Table 17 Percentage change in seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales between the current quarter and the previous quarter	12
Explanatory notes	13
Glossary	15
General information	16

Notes

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

	February 2005	12 April 2005
--	---------------	---------------

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	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*	2005
Actual indices							
J	92,6	93,8	95,0	89,0	85,1	100,7	1/ 113,2
F	99,0	99,3	96,8	94,2	101,7	98,0	
M	104,8	100,0	102,3	99,1	101,8	113,8	
A	96,2	95,0	98,9	102,0	101,0	107,6	
M	104,5	95,7	103,6	102,9	107,1	114,5	
J	103,7	106,8	108,4	104,1	108,6	111,4	
J	102,5	96,9	93,5	99,0	110,7	122,8	
A	98,4	102,1	115,2	107,2	109,1	115,2	
S	104,4	104,9	98,4	108,1	114,6	119,7	
O	104,2	100,0	105,1	106,7	114,5	111,8	
N	107,0	105,5	102,6	107,5	108,6	116,6	
D	100,9	100,2	97,2	107,0	113,5	122,8	
Year	101,5	100,0	101,4	102,2	106,4	112,9	
Seasonally adjusted indices							
J	98,3	103,0	104,8	97,6	93,1	110,5	124,6
F	100,0	103,5	101,7	100,0	109,7	105,9	
M	101,9	99,6	102,4	99,4	102,6	114,5	
A	97,3	98,6	102,4	105,7	104,4	110,9	
M	103,6	95,5	103,2	102,1	106,0	112,7	
J	98,1	101,8	103,4	99,7	104,3	107,4	
J	103,3	98,0	94,4	99,6	111,8	124,7	
A	95,9	99,8	112,3	104,0	105,8	111,4	
S	99,6	103,6	96,5	105,3	110,8	115,4	
O	100,2	95,9	100,7	102,5	110,3	108,0	
N	102,7	101,5	99,3	104,6	106,1	113,8	
D	100,5	99,3	94,9	104,3	110,3	120,1	

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

Month	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*	2005
Actual indices							
J	90,6	94,4	98,3	89,6	85,7	110,0	1/ 126,1
F	96,1	96,4	98,6	95,8	107,3	104,3	
M	98,6	97,9	104,4	101,0	106,2	124,9	
A	91,6	94,1	102,2	105,3	106,3	118,4	
M	105,1	96,6	108,9	107,0	114,7	126,8	
J	100,7	107,5	112,5	107,3	116,4	121,5	
J	103,5	97,6	93,7	102,4	118,8	137,5	
A	97,1	101,7	124,5	111,2	116,3	126,4	
S	100,6	105,1	99,7	111,4	122,9	132,9	
O	104,6	100,6	110,2	111,9	124,2	123,2	
N	107,7	107,4	106,8	113,3	116,2	129,0	
D	97,2	100,8	97,7	111,2	123,3	138,2	
Year	99,5	100,0	104,8	105,6	113,2	124,4	
Seasonally adjusted indices							
J	95,8	103,4	108,4	98,1	93,5	120,8	138,9
F	98,0	101,1	104,3	102,7	117,1	114,1	
M	98,2	98,3	105,2	102,0	107,6	126,1	
A	93,5	97,7	106,0	109,3	109,9	122,0	
M	102,5	95,0	107,2	105,0	112,3	123,6	
J	95,8	102,1	107,0	102,5	111,5	116,8	
J	103,2	98,1	94,0	102,6	119,9	139,7	
A	95,5	99,8	121,6	108,0	112,8	122,4	
S	97,8	105,4	98,9	109,4	119,4	128,6	
O	99,3	95,2	104,4	106,5	118,7	118,3	
N	102,8	102,8	102,9	109,9	113,2	125,8	
D	99,8	101,0	95,9	108,8	120,0	135,4	

* Revised
1/ Preliminary

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

Minerals	Weights	Actual indices				Seasonally adjusted indices		
		2004	2005		2004	2005		2004
			Jan.	Dec. *		Jan.	Dec.	
Total, gold included	100,0	112,9	113,2	122,8	100,7	124,6	120,1	110,5
Total, gold excluded	74,3	124,4	126,1	138,2	110,0	138,9	135,4	120,8
Gold	25,7	79,6	76,0	78,4	73,6	83,3	75,7	80,7
Iron ore	3,1	117,4	119,2	126,4	108,4	121,5	125,8	109,8
Chrome	1,1	114,5	122,4	116,4	102,4	131,4	126,7	110,0
Copper	1,6	75,3	68,4	72,8	83,6	66,5	70,7	81,8
Manganese ore	1,3	113,5	129,6	133,6	94,8	143,6	130,6	105,0
Platinum	27,6	144,8	140,0	170,4	129,2	158,9	144,9	146,6
Nickel	2,0	111,6	122,4	124,8	105,2	134,1	122,1	116,3
Other metallic minerals	2,9	83,5	90,8	91,6	82,4	91,8	88,5	83,5
Diamonds	8,4	134,1	134,4	136,4	96,8	165,6	150,3	118,6
Coal	20,0	112,3	118,0	117,6	104,8	122,7	134,7	108,7
Building materials	2,6	113,0	106,8	106,8	90,4	122,4	125,8	102,7
Other non-metallic minerals	3,8	97,7	119,2	124,0	82,0	116,2	126,9	79,8

• 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 November 2004 to January 2005	Quarterly percentage change November 2004 to January 2005 compared with the preceding three months	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total mining production 1/
Gold	25,7	79,4	1,2	0,3
Non-gold minerals				
Iron ore	3,1	122,1	6,8	0,2
Copper	1,6	68,7	-4,4	-0,1
Manganese ore	1,3	139,4	12,3	0,2
Chromium	1,1	125,4	10,0	0,1
PGM's	27,6	146,5	8,3	2,3
Nickel	2,0	120,0	9,1	0,2
Other metallic minerals	2,9	90,8	3,9	0,1
Diamonds	8,3	153,1	2,6	0,2
Coal	20,0	126,3	16,3	3,3
Building materials	2,6	122,2	9,9	0,3
Other non-metallic minerals	3,8	119,1	-1,1	0,0
Total non-gold minerals	74,3	133,5	8,3	6,8
Total minerals	100	119,6	7,1	7,1

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.

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

Month	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Actual values							
J	5 577,2	6 098,8	6 244,1	9 241,5	11 387,0	9 868,8	9 801,1
F	5 316,4	5 763,6	7 115,7	9 711,7	10 634,4	10 236,5	9 564,9
M	5 547,6	6 445,1	8 958,5	8 134,9	11 639,2	9 829,3	10 418,5
A	5 662,1	5 706,5	7 521,3	8 554,2	11 194,9	9 294,1	9 795,0
M	5 433,1	5 702,9	8 222,7	9 675,9	12 145,3	9 104,1	10 361,1
J	6 017,2	6 391,3	8 222,5	10 640,7	11 637,2	9 745,9	10 847,5
J	6 669,1	5 996,1	7 640,3	10 146,3	10 779,9	10 403,7	10 768,1
A	6 318,5	6 852,9	8 223,4	9 586,4	11 633,5	9 612,0	9 716,3
S	6 066,8	6 548,3	8 568,9	8 711,5	12 115,1	10 008,1	11 579,2
O	6 446,0	6 005,9	8 317,6	9 999,6	12 514,2	9 989,4	10 476,3
N	5 994,9	7 573,0	9 828,5	9 627,7	11 059,4	9 535,8	11 274,6
D	6 343,0	7 346,9	9 474,9	11 327,7	10 764,4	9 899,2	10 885,2
Year	71 391,9	76 431,3	98 338,4	115 358,1	137 504,5	117 526,9	125 487,8
Seasonally adjusted values							
J	6 049,7	5 982,4	6 159,2	9 124,5	11 285,9	9 666,1	9 662,2
F	5 955,7	5 891,9	7 188,2	9 831,6	10 790,8	10 317,8	9 649,9
M	5 612,8	6 523,3	9 780,7	8 207,8	11 790,2	10 367,6	10 722,7
A	6 537,3	5 910,7	7 764,0	8 965,5	11 914,4	9 866,6	10 416,9
M	5 538,5	5 817,8	8 275,2	9 715,6	12 140,9	9 092,9	10 369,7
J	5 934,7	6 262,9	7 935,1	10 304,2	11 185,3	9 387,3	10 532,5
J	6 422,1	5 826,9	7 416,5	10 009,7	10 664,6	10 293,7	10 534,0
A	6 268,9	6 811,1	8 272,2	9 616,2	11 734,1	9 766,1	9 864,1
S	6 130,2	6 780,4	8 590,6	8 632,9	12 003,0	9 694,3	11 216,9
O	6 277,6	5 940,4	8 360,7	9 921,5	12 284,8	9 833,3	10 229,8
N	6 122,9	7 684,1	9 963,1	9 789,8	11 324,2	9 782,1	11 549,0
D	6 322,9	7 146,3	9 067,2	10 917,5	10 508,8	9 818,8	10 809,0

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

Month	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Actual values							
J	3 737,4	4 033,9	4 476,9	7 181,9	8 002,3	6 744,1	7 461,2
F	3 579,7	3 801,6	4 963,8	7 720,8	7 368,2	7 452,6	7 028,7
M	3 713,2	3 938,7	6 688,4	5 912,0	8 110,9	7 140,7	7 732,9
A	3 779,7	3 802,4	5 790,2	6 748,0	7 481,9	6 815,2	7 372,2
M	3 677,1	3 826,7	6 166,9	7 139,7	8 619,3	6 477,2	8 017,0
J	4 121,5	4 413,3	5 908,5	8 245,9	8 035,5	6 759,5	8 098,9
J	4 285,6	4 061,6	5 700,6	7 779,6	7 344,7	7 613,1	8 622,9
A	4 122,2	4 956,0	5 892,6	6 942,5	8 065,2	7 052,7	7 421,6
S	3 857,5	4 480,8	6 479,6	6 219,3	8 562,1	7 092,3	9 000,1
O	4 175,0	3 947,8	6 047,1	6 971,4	8 711,8	7 345,5	8 099,0
N	3 955,1	5 038,1	7 529,4	6 953,1	7 981,8	7 154,9	8 865,3
D	4 092,9	5 139,7	7 422,4	8 532,3	7 834,8	6 825,9	8 508,4
Year	47 096,9	51 440,6	73 066,4	86 346,5	96 118,5	84 473,7	96 228,2
Seasonally adjusted values							
J	4 237,9	3 935,7	4 402,5	7 096,9	7 990,5	6 650,4	7 415,4
F	4 078,1	3 811,9	4 937,8	7 773,1	7 423,1	7 447,5	7 031,4
M	3 772,1	4 048,3	7 567,4	6 041,2	8 341,2	7 725,3	8 071,8
A	4 601,6	3 874,9	5 849,0	6 937,7	7 739,7	7 103,3	7 738,4
M	3 707,9	3 849,7	6 124,9	7 075,9	8 494,2	6 380,0	7 952,9
J	3 934,3	4 251,2	5 665,7	8 022,8	7 821,1	6 627,6	7 999,8
J	4 217,6	3 996,9	5 532,3	7 654,4	7 200,7	7 458,9	8 351,9
A	4 138,8	4 978,7	6 015,1	7 051,9	8 244,8	7 243,7	7 584,4
S	3 931,4	4 722,7	6 535,5	6 208,1	8 594,4	6 934,1	8 800,3
O	4 265,6	4 076,4	6 272,3	7 103,6	8 732,7	7 349,6	7 987,9
N	3 975,9	5 059,6	7 583,6	7 016,7	8 111,7	7 285,8	9 010,7
D	4 049,1	4 923,8	6 981,0	8 035,6	7 443,3	6 577,6	8 297,0

* Revised

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

Minerals	Actual value					Seasonally adjusted value		
	2004	2004		2003 Dec.	2003 Dec.	2004		2003 Dec.
		Dec.	Nov. *			Dec.	Nov.	
Total, gold included	125 487,8	10 885,2	11 274,6	9 899,2	10 809,0	11 549,0	9 818,8	
Total, gold excluded	96 228,2	8 508,4	8 865,3	6 825,9	8 297,0	9 010,7	6 577,6	
Gold	29 259,8	2 376,8	2 409,3	3 073,3	2 512,0	2 538,3	3 241,2	
Iron ore	4 585,5	494,8	396,7	338,3	457,2	388,6	315,2	
Chrome	1 650,8	133,9	160,3	98,9	146,6	150,8	105,4	
Copper	2 014,0	151,6	151,0	135,6	159,2	148,8	140,8	
Manganese ore	1 724,8	145,4	163,1	95,1	152,1	190,6	98,4	
Platinum	33 216,6	2 902,5	2 436,1	2 212,8	2 829,7	2 596,3	2 153,0	
Nickel	3 635,6	333,6	252,9	273,8	320,8	258,0	264,6	
Other metallic minerals	2 877,8	208,7	350,2	257,5	179,1	316,6	222,9	
Coal	28 472,4	2 658,9	2 843,5	2 382,7	2 504,7	2 998,6	2 250,2	
Building materials	3 892,3	298,6	366,8	237,4	366,9	343,5	292,2	
- Granite or norite	445,9	37,3	44,5	30,3	36,9	33,2	29,8	
- Lime and limestone	1 265,6	105,7	114,7	91,6	121,4	110,9	105,5	
- Other building materials	2 180,7	155,6	207,6	115,5	208,6	199,4	156,9	
Other non-metallic minerals	14 158,5	1 180,5	1 744,7	793,8	1 180,7	1 618,9	734,9	

* Revised

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

Mining division	Percentage contribution to total mineral sales during October 2004 to December 2004	Percentage change between October 2003 to December 2003 and October 2004 to December 2004	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total value of mineral sales 1/	Difference in sales of mining divisions between October 2003 to December 2003 and October 2004 to December 2004 R million
Gold	27,5	-11,5	-3,2	-934,7
Non-gold minerals				
Iron ore	3,5	26,4	0,9	269,3
Copper	1,5	6,0	0,1	26,6
Manganese ore	1,2	28,5	0,4	104,3
Chromium	1,0	47,1	0,5	141,7
PGM's	24,3	9,0	2,2	643,8
Nickel	2,8	2,2	0,1	18,6
Other metallic minerals	2,7	14,1	0,4	110,7
Coal	22,8	17,4	4,0	1 163,5
Building materials	3,2	6,4	0,2	59,1
Other non-metallic minerals	9,5	55,7	5,3	1 608,9
Total non-gold minerals	72,5	19,4	14,1	4 146,4
Total minerals	100,0	10,9	10,9	3 211,7

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 October 2003 to December 2003, 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 January 2004	Actual estimates January 2005	% change between January 2004 and January 2005	Difference between January 2004 and January 2005
Gold	73,6	76,0	+3,3%	2,4
Non-gold minerals	110,0	126,1	+14,6%	16,1
Total	100,7	113,2	+12,4%	12,5

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

	Actual estimates November 2003 to January 2004	Actual estimates November 2004 to January 2005	% change between November 2003 to January 2004 and November 2004 to January 2005	Difference between November 2003 to January 2004 and November 2004 to January 2005
Gold	245,6	234,8	-4,4%	-10,8
Non-gold minerals	349,5	393,3	+12,5%	43,8
Total	322,8	352,6	+9,2%	29,8

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

	Seasonally adjusted December 2004	Seasonally adjusted January 2005	% change between December 2004 and January 2005	Difference between December 2004 and January 2005
Gold	75,7	83,3	+10,0%	7,6
Non-gold minerals	135,4	138,9	+2,6%	3,5
Total	120,1	124,6	+3,7%	4,5

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

	Seasonally adjusted August 2004 to October 2004	Seasonally adjusted November 2004 to January 2005	% change between August 2004 to October 2004 and November 2004 to January 2005	Difference between August 2004 to October 2004 and November 2004 to January 2005
Gold	235,3	238,2	+1,2%	2,9
Non-gold minerals	369,3	400,1	+8,3%	30,8
Total	334,8	358,5	+7,1%	23,7

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

	Actual estimates December 2003	Actual estimates December 2004	% change between December 2003 and December 2004	Difference between December 2003 and December 2004
Gold	3 073,3	2 376,8	-22,7%	-696,5
Non-gold minerals	6 825,9	8 508,4	+24,6%	1 682,5
Total	9 899,2	10 885,2	+10,0%	986

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

	Actual estimates October 2003 to December 2003	Actual estimates October 2004 to December 2004	% change between October 2003 to December 2003 and October 2004 to December 2004	Difference between October 2003 to December 2003 and October 2004 to December 2004
Gold	8 098,1	7 163,4	-11,5%	-934,7
Non-gold minerals	21 326,3	25 472,7	+19,4%	4 146,4
Total	29 424,4	32 636,1	+10,9%	3 211,7

Table 15 - Percentage change in actual value of mineral sales between the year 2003 and year 2004

	Actual estimates January 2003 to December 2003	Actual estimates January 2004 to December 2004	% change between January 2003 to December 2003 and January 2004 to December 2004	Difference between January 2003 to December 2003 and January 2004 to December 2004
Gold	33 053,0	29 260,0	-11,5%	-3 793,0
Non-gold minerals	84 473,7	96 228,2	+13,9%	11 754,5
Total	11 7526,9	12 5487,8	+6,8%	7960,9

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

	Seasonally adjusted estimates November 2004	Seasonally adjusted estimates December 2004	% change between November 2004 and December 2004	Difference between November 2004 and December 2004
Gold	2 538,3	2 512,0	-1,0%	-26,3
Non-gold minerals	9 010,7	8 297,0	-7,9%	-713,7
Total	11 549,0	10 809,0	-6,4%	-740,0

Table 17 - Percentage change in seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales between the current quarter and the previous quarter

	Seasonally adjusted July 2004 to September 2004	Seasonally adjusted October 2004 to December 2004	% change between July 2004 to September 2004 and October 2004 to December 2004	Difference between July 2004 to September 2004 and October 2004 to December 2004
Gold	6 878,4	7 292,2	+6,0%	413,8
Non-gold minerals	24 736,6	25 295,6	+2,3%	559,0
Total	31 615,0	32 587,8	+3,1%	972,8

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.

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 in the Stats SA Library, and in the following public 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 are available via on-line services, diskette, CD and computer printouts. For more details about our electronic data services, contact (012) 310 8600/8390/8351/4892/8496/8095.

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

Enquiries

Telephone number (012) 317 8494 (Emile Roux)
(012) 310 8600/ 8390/ 8351/ 4892/ 8496/ 8095 (user information services)
(012) 310 8220/ 8228 (technical enquiries)
(012) 310 8161 (orders)
(012) 310 8490 (library)

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

email: emile.roux@dme.gov.za (technical enquiries)
mpelim@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 Statistics South Africa and Department of Minerals and Energy