Statistics South Africa

The South Africa I know, the home I understand

Statistical release
P2041

Mining: Production and sales (Preliminary)

June 2016

The results in the next publication (July 2016) will be updated with weights based on national accounts value added data. Currently, the total mining production index is calculated using weights based on the value of mineral sales.

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Production: results for June 2016

Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of mining production

	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-5,9	-8,6	-17,9	-7,5	-3,9	-2,5
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-5,0	1,5	-1,9	2,4	2,7	1,9
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	-1,1	-2,4	-4,9	-2,8	-0,2	4,2

1/ Percentage change between the previous three months and the three months ending in the month indicated.

Mining production decreased by 2,5% year-on-year in June 2016. The main negative contributors were:

- manganese ore (-18,2% and contributing -1,3 percentage points);
- diamonds (-38,9% and contributing -1,3 percentage points);
- nickel (-26,1% and contributing -0,7 of a percentage point);
- copper (-50,8% and contributing -0,5 of a percentage point); and
- 'other' non-metallic minerals (-19,6% and contributing -0,5 of a percentage point).

Coal was a significant positive contributor (4,6% and contributing 1,1 percentage points) – see Tables 6 and 7.

Seasonally adjusted mining production increased by 1,9% in June 2016 compared with May 2016. This followed month-on-month changes of 2,7% in May 2016 and 2,4% in April 2016.

Table B – Seasonally adjusted index of the volume of mining production for the latest three months by mineral group and mineral (Base: 2010=100)

Mineral group and mineral	Weight (2012)	Jan – Mar 2016	Apr – Jun 2016	% change between Jan – Mar and Apr – Jun 2016	Contribution (% points) to the % change in total mining production
Gold	21,10	80,0	76,4	-4,5	-0,8
Iron ore	14,46	102,8	105,5	2,6	0,4
Chromium ore	2,27	131,7	128,1	-2,7	-0,1
Copper [1]	1,41	67,1	59,9	-10,7	-0,1
Manganese ore [1]	2,97	170,6	185,8	8,9	0,5
PGMs	19,01	85,1	107,0	25,7	4,4
Nickel [1]	1,77	130,9	123,8	-5,4	-0,1
Other metallic minerals [1]	2,98	76,1	79,9	5,0	0,1
Diamonds [1]	2,75	79,9	77,3	-3,3	-0,1
Coal	26,45	98,0	98,2	0,2	0,1
Building materials	1,54	111,5	112,4	0,8	0,0
Other non-metallic minerals	3,29	69,8	63,7	-8,7	-0,2
Total	**100,00**	**93,6**	**97,5**	**4,2**	**4,2**

[1] Not seasonally adjusted, because the presence of seasonality is not significant. See notes 4 and 5 on page 11.

Seasonally adjusted mining production increased by 4,2% in the second quarter of 2016 compared with the previous quarter. PGMs (contributing 4,4 percentage points) was the largest positive contributor – see Table B.

Figure 1 – Volume of mining production (Base: 2010=100)

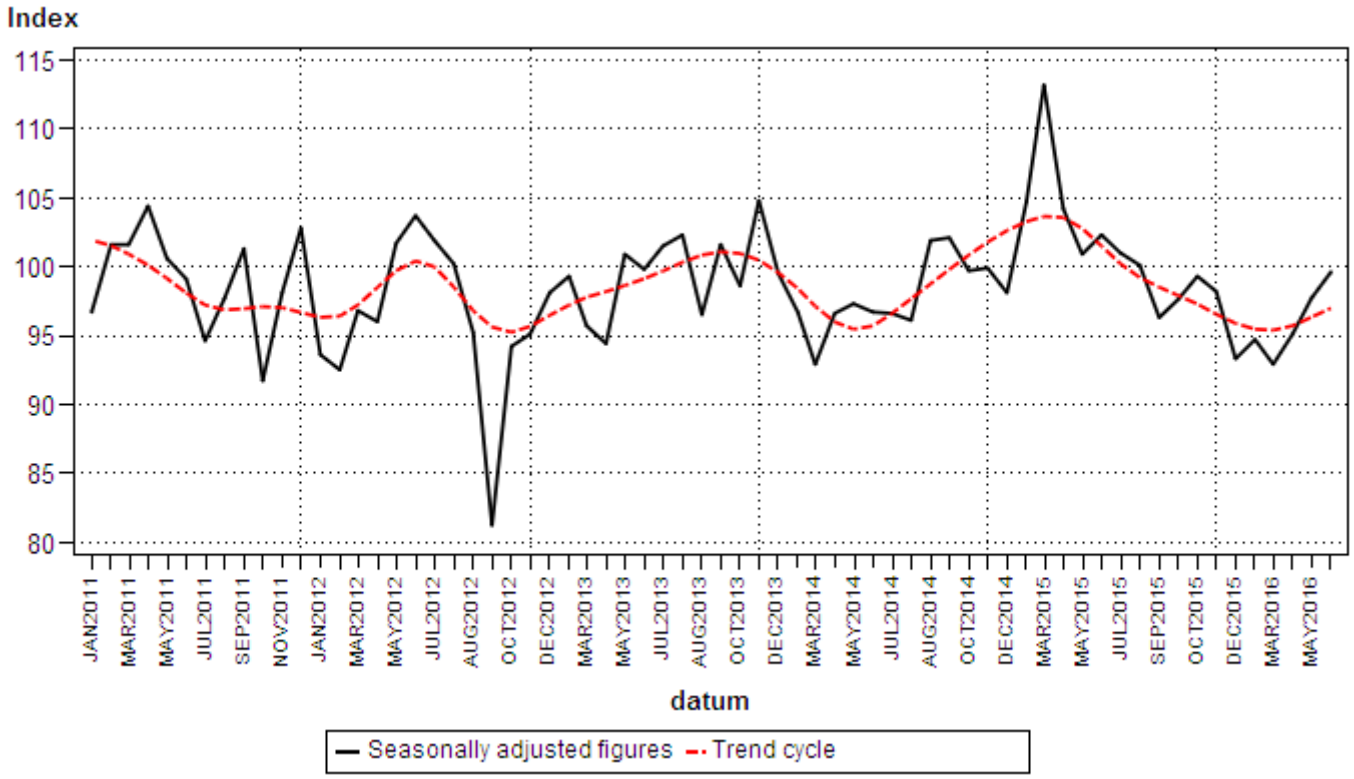
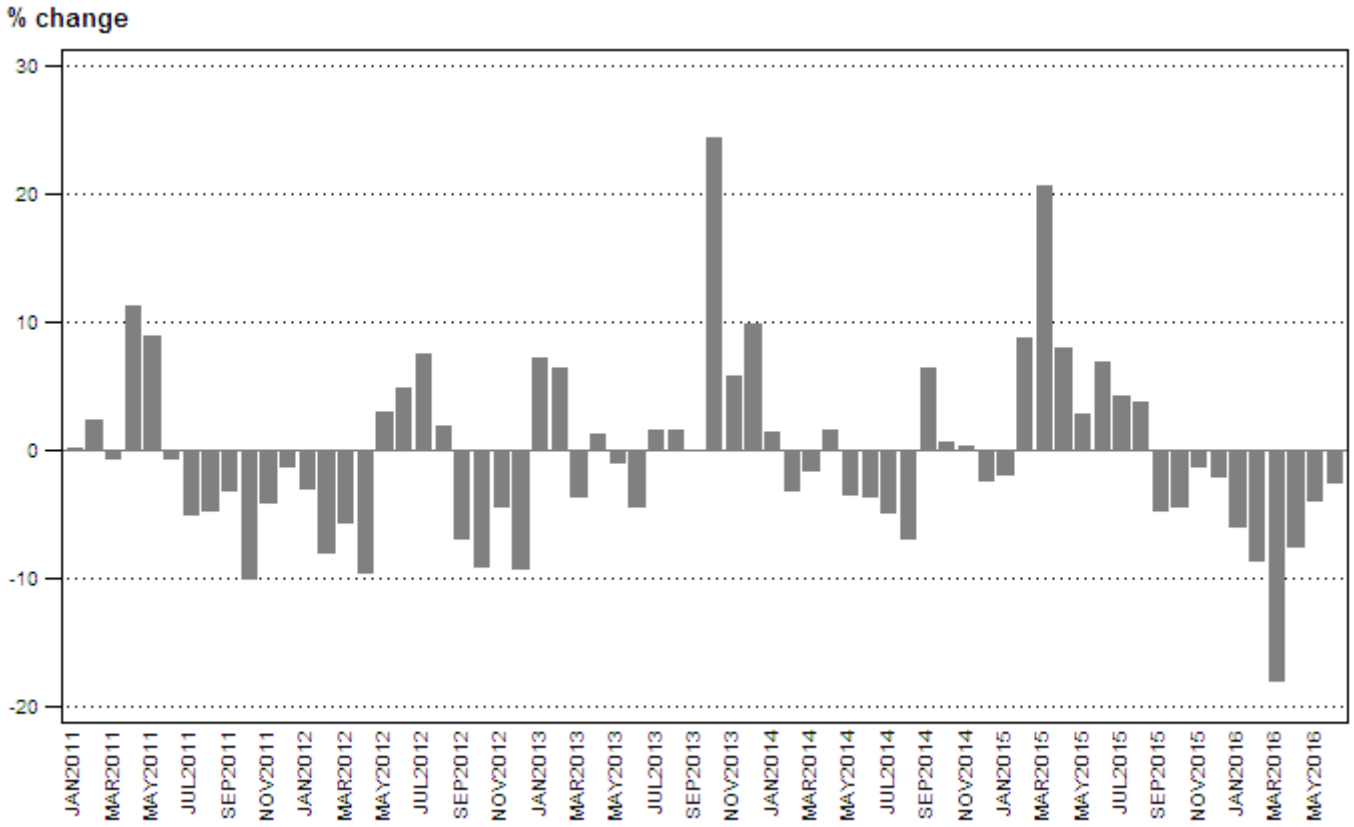


Figure 2 – Volume of mining production (Base: 2010=100): year-on-year percentage change



Sales: results for May 2016

Table C – Key growth rates in mineral sales at current prices

	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	2,4	-2,6	1,4	-0,8	-4,2	17,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	2,9	-4,2	4,8	-0,7	1,2	20,6
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	2,5	-0,1	0,6	-0,2	2,7	8,8

1/ Percentage change between the previous three months and the three months ending in the month indicated.

Mineral sales increased by 17,4% year-on-year in May 2016. The largest positive contributors to the increase of 17,4% were:

- gold (44,1% and contributing 6,7 percentage points);
- PGMs (20,1% and contributing 5,5 percentage points);
- coal (13,8% and contributing 3,3 percentage points);
- manganese ore (82,6% and contributing 2,7 percentage points); and
- iron ore (14,5% and contributing 1,4 percentage points) – see Tables 12 and 13.

Seasonally adjusted mineral sales at current prices increased by 20,6% in May 2016 compared with April 2016. This followed month-on-month changes of 1,2% in April 2016 and -0,7% in March 2016.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Index of the volume of mining production (Base: 2010=100)

Month	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 1/	2016 1/
Jan	86,2	86,4	83,9	89,9	91,2	89,6	84,3
Feb	88,1	90,2	83,0	88,3	85,6	93,1	85,1
Mar	102,8	102,2	96,5	93,0	91,6	110,5	90,7
Apr	90,4	100,5	91,0	92,2	93,7	101,2	93,6
May	91,5	99,6	102,6	101,6	98,0	100,7	96,8
Jun	103,8	103,2	108,2	103,5	99,8	106,7	104,0
Jul	101,7	96,6	103,8	105,4	100,3	104,5	
Aug	107,8	102,8	104,6	106,2	98,9	102,6	
Sep	109,5	106,1	98,8	98,8	105,1	100,2	
Oct	103,7	93,3	84,8	105,4	106,0	101,4	
Nov	108,5	104,0	99,4	105,2	105,5	104,1	
Dec	106,1	104,7	95,1	104,4	102,0	100,0	
Year	**100,0**	**99,1**	**96,0**	**99,5**	**98,1**	**101,2**	

1/ Preliminary.

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in the volume of mining production

Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	*2016 year-to-date*
Jan	0,2	-2,9	7,2	1,4	-1,8	-5,9	*-5,9*
Feb	2,4	-8,0	6,4	-3,1	8,8	-8,6	*-7,3*
Mar	-0,6	-5,6	-3,6	-1,5	20,6	-17,9	*-11,3*
Apr	11,2	-9,5	1,3	1,6	8,0	-7,5	*-10,3*
May	8,9	3,0	-1,0	-3,5	2,8	-3,9	*-9,0*
Jun	-0,6	4,8	-4,3	-3,6	6,9	-2,5	*-7,9*
Jul	-5,0	7,5	1,5	-4,8	4,2		
Aug	-4,6	1,8	1,5	-6,9	3,7		
Sep	-3,1	-6,9	0,0	6,4	-4,7		
Oct	-10,0	-9,1	24,3	0,6	-4,3		
Nov	-4,1	-4,4	5,8	0,3	-1,3		
Dec	-1,3	-9,2	9,8	-2,3	-2,0		
Year	**-0,9**	**-3,1**	**3,6**	**-1,4**	**3,2**		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted volume of total mining production

Month	Index (Base: 2010=100)				Month-on-month % change			
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2013	2014	2015	2016
Jan	98,1	99,5	98,1	93,3	3,2	-5,1	-1,8	-5,0
Feb	99,3	96,7	104,7	94,7	1,2	-2,8	6,7	1,5
Mar	95,7	92,9	113,2	92,9	-3,6	-3,9	8,1	-1,9
Apr	94,4	96,6	104,2	95,1	-1,4	4,0	-8,0	2,4
May	100,9	97,3	100,9	97,7	6,9	0,7	-3,2	2,7
Jun	99,8	96,7	102,3	99,6	-1,1	-0,6	1,4	1,9
Jul	101,5	96,6	101,0		1,7	-0,1	-1,3	
Aug	102,3	96,1	100,1		0,8	-0,5	-0,9	
Sep	96,5	101,9	96,3		-5,7	6,0	-3,8	
Oct	101,6	102,1	97,6		5,3	0,2	1,3	
Nov	98,6	99,7	99,3		-3,0	-2,4	1,7	
Dec	104,8	99,9	98,2		6,3	0,2	-1,1	

Table 4 – Index of the volume of mining production by mineral group and mineral (Base: 2010=100) 1/

Mineral group and mineral	Weight (2012)	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16
Gold	21,10	60,7	78,0	78,8	69,0	77,5	82,3
Iron ore	14,46	97,9	90,0	101,7	98,6	94,4	131,2
Chromium ore	2,27	100,5	135,1	124,5	129,9	131,5	140,3
Copper	1,41	58,0	80,0	63,2	79,7	64,3	35,6
Manganese ore	2,97	160,8	167,9	183,1	180,2	174,5	202,8
PGMs	19,01	72,4	49,8	84,6	97,9	111,1	105,9
Nickel	1,77	136,3	130,8	125,7	133,6	122,5	115,4
Other metallic minerals	2,98	74,5	80,8	73,1	74,1	74,2	91,5
Diamonds	2,75	75,1	90,6	73,9	75,5	77,9	78,6
Coal	26,45	96,2	97,3	89,6	98,6	99,0	102,3
Building materials	1,54	82,6	108,7	106,8	112,2	119,3	120,2
Other non-metallic minerals	3,29	68,3	70,0	71,3	68,2	62,6	60,0
Total	**100,00**	**84,3**	**85,1**	**90,7**	**93,6**	**96,8**	**104,0**

1/ All index values in this table are preliminary.

Table 5 – Seasonally adjusted index of the volume of mining production by mineral group and mineral (Base: 2010=100)

Mineral group and mineral	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Month-on-month % change
Gold	77,6	86,2	76,3	76,7	76,9	75,5	-1,8
Iron ore	101,7	102,8	104,0	100,8	96,7	119,0	23,1
Chromium ore	122,4	145,4	127,3	126,7	127,4	130,2	2,2
Copper [1]	58,0	80,0	63,2	79,7	64,3	35,6	-44,6
Manganese ore [1]	160,8	167,9	183,1	180,2	174,5	202,8	16,2
PGMs	86,0	80,4	88,8	99,4	118,1	103,5	-12,4
Nickel [1]	136,3	130,8	125,7	133,6	122,5	115,4	-5,8
Other metallic minerals [1]	74,5	80,8	73,1	74,1	74,2	91,5	23,3
Diamonds [1]	75,1	90,6	73,9	75,5	77,9	78,6	0,9
Coal	101,2	97,4	95,3	96,2	97,3	101,0	3,8
Building materials	113,4	109,9	111,3	110,2	113,7	113,4	-0,3
Other non-metallic minerals	69,5	70,6	69,4	68,8	64,0	58,2	-9,1
Total	**93,3**	**94,7**	**92,9**	**95,1**	**97,7**	**99,6**	**1,9**

[1] Not seasonally adjusted, because the presence of seasonality is not significant. See notes 4 and 5 on page 11.

Table 6 – Year-on-year percentage change in the volume of mining production by mineral group and mineral

Mineral group and mineral	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16
Gold	26,2	11,3	-6,9	-1,4	3,3	-2,6
Iron ore	-27,9	-32,9	-22,0	-23,4	-26,4	1,0
Chromium ore	-15,3	6,6	-13,2	-9,4	-12,0	-12,1
Copper	-43,8	-6,9	-38,3	-11,5	-25,8	-50,8
Manganese ore	-22,3	-26,4	-25,7	-20,0	-25,8	-18,2
PGMs	3,3	-18,1	-23,7	-4,4	23,2	4,9
Nickel	5,5	16,6	-16,6	4,9	-9,4	-26,1
Other metallic minerals	-2,2	-2,3	-26,4	-13,4	-25,7	14,5
Diamonds	-14,7	14,2	-18,0	-2,3	14,1	-38,9
Coal	-0,1	0,2	-15,6	0,1	0,5	4,6
Building materials	-2,8	-5,3	-13,3	2,5	-0,6	-0,7
Other non-metallic minerals	-9,2	-4,1	-7,9	-8,1	-14,7	-19,6
Total	**-5,9**	**-8,6**	**-17,9**	**-7,5**	**-3,9**	**-2,5**

Table 7 – Contribution of each mineral group and mineral to the year-on-year percentage change in the volume of mining production (percentage points)

Mineral group and mineral	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16
Gold	3,0	1,8	-1,1	-0,2	0,5	-0,4
Iron ore	-6,1	-6,9	-3,8	-4,3	-4,9	0,2
Chromium ore	-0,5	0,2	-0,4	-0,3	-0,4	-0,4
Copper	-0,7	-0,1	-0,5	-0,1	-0,3	-0,5
Manganese ore	-1,5	-1,9	-1,7	-1,3	-1,8	-1,3
PGMs	0,5	-2,2	-4,5	-0,8	3,9	0,9
Nickel	0,1	0,4	-0,4	0,1	-0,2	-0,7
Other metallic minerals	-0,1	-0,1	-0,7	-0,3	-0,8	0,3
Diamonds	-0,4	0,3	-0,4	0,0	0,3	-1,3
Coal	0,0	0,1	-4,0	0,0	0,1	1,1
Building materials	0,0	-0,1	-0,2	0,0	0,0	0,0
Other non-metallic minerals	-0,3	-0,1	-0,2	-0,2	-0,4	-0,5
Total	**-5,9**	**-8,6**	**-17,9**	**-7,5**	**-3,9**	**-2,5**

Table 8 – Mineral sales at current prices (R million)

Month	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 1/	2016 1/
Jan	19 185,1	25 341,3	28 079,4	28 977,1	32 608,8	27 681,7	26 951,0
Feb	20 408,4	27 573,2	29 335,5	30 361,5	35 488,2	30 394,0	30 810,5
Mar	23 860,1	31 547,4	30 912,0	34 761,4	35 172,2	34 521,0	34 260,6
Apr	23 551,4	27 370,2	26 772,5	31 865,2	31 647,7	32 227,3	30 865,8
May	25 535,2	27 870,5	31 257,0	30 402,1	30 932,4	32 457,0	38 095,5
Jun	25 882,9	33 940,1	33 958,2	35 088,5	31 630,8	35 562,5	
Jul	25 588,6	27 947,7	30 899,0	32 847,9	31 517,7	30 430,0	
Aug	25 897,8	30 300,9	31 402,3	35 523,4	32 124,1	31 288,4	
Sep	27 994,7	35 700,1	30 367,0	34 731,0	35 345,8	33 362,1	
Oct	27 535,5	33 393,7	28 258,6	34 544,7	34 101,5	33 157,9	
Nov	27 114,9	35 268,1	29 921,3	34 122,6	32 274,1	31 162,5	
Dec	27 737,9	34 027,5	32 954,5	34 452,5	33 434,3	34 223,2	
Total	**300 292,5**	**370 280,7**	**364 117,3**	**397 677,9**	**396 277,6**	**386 467,6**	

1/ Preliminary.

Table 9 – Year-on-year percentage change in mineral sales at current prices

Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	*2016 year-to-date*
Jan	32,1	10,8	3,2	12,5	-15,1	-2,6	*-2,6*
Feb	35,1	6,4	3,5	16,9	-14,4	1,4	*-0,5*
Mar	32,2	-2,0	12,5	1,2	-1,9	-0,8	*-0,6*
Apr	16,2	-2,2	19,0	-0,7	1,8	-4,2	*-1,6*
May	9,1	12,2	-2,7	1,7	4,9	17,4	*2,4*
Jun	31,1	0,1	3,3	-9,9	12,4		
Jul	9,2	10,6	6,3	-4,0	-3,5		
Aug	17,0	3,6	13,1	-9,6	-2,6		
Sep	27,5	-14,9	14,4	1,8	-5,6		
Oct	21,3	-15,4	22,2	-1,3	-2,8		
Nov	30,1	-15,2	14,0	-5,4	-3,4		
Dec	22,7	-3,2	4,5	-3,0	2,4		
Total	**23,3**	**-1,7**	**9,2**	**-0,4**	**-2,5**		

Table 10 – Seasonally adjusted total mineral sales at current prices

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2013	2014	2015	2016
Jan	31 946,1	36 460,6	30 634,4	31 012,8	-0,6	7,5	-6,3	-4,2
Feb	32 157,8	37 473,2	32 047,1	32 500,4	0,7	2,8	4,6	4,8
Mar	33 915,7	33 786,7	33 612,1	32 269,0	5,5	-9,8	4,9	-0,7
Apr	33 305,0	33 345,5	32 943,3	32 660,1	-1,8	-1,3	-2,0	1,2
May	30 903,9	30 994,7	33 688,6	39 380,6	-7,2	-7,0	2,3	20,6
Jun	32 397,4	29 400,6	32 881,2		4,8	-5,1	-2,4	
Jul	33 787,8	31 535,6	30 848,2		4,3	7,3	-6,2	
Aug	34 405,3	32 348,2	31 020,7		1,8	2,6	0,6	
Sep	33 040,5	33 499,9	31 741,3		-4,0	3,6	2,3	
Oct	33 507,3	33 456,4	32 148,5		1,4	-0,1	1,3	
Nov	34 395,1	32 244,8	31 444,3		2,6	-3,6	-2,2	
Dec	33 920,9	32 707,6	32 371,6		-1,4	1,4	2,9	

Table 11 – Mineral sales at current prices by mineral group and mineral (R million) 1/

Mineral group and mineral	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16
Gold	6 270,2	4 732,0	6 180,6	7 109,5	5 574,0	7 091,2
Iron ore	3 039,4	2 725,6	2 687,9	3 686,8	3 755,3	3 544,8
Chromium ore	1 112,9	761,7	929,2	1 300,2	1 129,4	1 428,2
Copper	513,6	350,8	275,3	374,5	299,4	322,8
Manganese ore	947,6	683,9	909,8	904,3	1 452,0	1 921,7
PGMs	8 112,2	5 821,1	6 391,1	6 809,3	6 184,5	10 618,6
Nickel	741,8	675,4	591,9	670,7	540,3	622,6
Other metallic minerals	1 013,4	458,5	566,3	848,9	639,2	672,0
Coal	9 693,2	8 215,8	8 180,5	8 732,7	8 556,8	8 870,1
Building materials	636,1	667,1	843,0	866,2	930,3	955,0
Other non-metallic minerals	2 142,7	1 859,2	3 254,8	2 957,5	1 804,5	2 048,5
Total	**34 223,2**	**26 951,0**	**30 810,5**	**34 260,6**	**30 865,8**	**38 095,5**

1/ All values in this table are preliminary.

Table 12 – Year-on-year percentage change in mineral sales at current prices by mineral group and mineral

Mineral group and mineral	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16
Gold	18,2	31,0	43,9	24,3	13,6	44,1
Iron ore	-26,4	-38,0	-31,7	2,6	9,9	14,5
Chromium ore	-2,3	-32,0	-16,9	-10,6	-18,4	-3,2
Copper	34,8	-0,7	-26,4	-36,0	-14,1	-35,4
Manganese ore	-41,7	-60,0	-36,4	-17,2	28,9	82,6
PGMs	-0,3	12,4	7,1	-17,1	-30,9	20,1
Nickel	-22,2	4,1	-11,5	5,0	-36,9	-16,4
Other metallic minerals	12,3	-20,5	-22,9	-25,6	-19,2	-10,2
Coal	6,7	1,4	-1,4	2,7	3,4	13,8
Building materials	-2,5	-4,6	-2,8	-8,7	8,0	1,0
Other non-metallic minerals	89,9	44,9	20,2	12,4	37,4	-12,4
Total	**2,4**	**-2,6**	**1,4**	**-0,8**	**-4,2**	**17,4**

Table 13 – Contribution of each mineral group and mineral to the year-on-year percentage change in mineral sales at current prices (percentage points)

Mineral group and mineral	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16
Gold	2,9	4,0	6,2	4,0	2,1	6,7
Iron ore	-3,3	-6,0	-4,1	0,3	1,0	1,4
Chromium ore	-0,1	-1,3	-0,6	-0,4	-0,8	-0,1
Copper	0,4	0,0	-0,3	-0,6	-0,2	-0,5
Manganese ore	-2,0	-3,7	-1,7	-0,5	1,0	2,7
PGMs	-0,1	2,3	1,4	-4,1	-8,6	5,5
Nickel	-0,6	0,1	-0,3	0,1	-1,0	-0,4
Other metallic minerals	0,3	-0,4	-0,6	-0,8	-0,5	-0,2
Coal	1,8	0,4	-0,4	0,7	0,9	3,3
Building materials	0,0	-0,1	-0,1	-0,2	0,2	0,0
Other non-metallic minerals	3,0	2,1	1,8	0,9	1,5	-0,9
Total	**2,4**	**-2,6**	**1,4**	**-0,8**	**-4,2**	**17,4**

Survey information

Introduction

1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) publishes monthly mining production indices and mineral sales based on the information furnished by the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR). Data in this release are presented by mineral group and mineral.

2 In accordance with international practice, the indices are usually re-based every five years to a new base year. The current base year of the index of the volume of mining production is 2010=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 had to be 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 conducted by the DMR, covering all mining establishments operating in the South African economy. The results of this survey are used to calculate the 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 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. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the establishment. Statistics in this publication are presented by mineral group and mineral.

Statistical unit

9 The statistical unit for the collection of information is the mining establishment. An establishment is the smallest economic unit that functions as a separate entity.

Rounding-off of figures

10 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.

Historical data and past publications

11 Historical mining data and past publications are available on the Stats SA website. Click on the following link (Time series data) or (Past publications) to access the data and releases electronically.

Technical notes

Index of the volume of mining production

1 The index of the volume of mining production, also known as the 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 2010. The production in the base period is set at 100.

Index weighting

2 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 improvements and changes in relative prices. New weights will be calculated annually.

3 The weights, which are used to aggregate minerals to mineral groups and mineral groups to total mining, are based on the value of sales derived from detailed information for a specific year supplied by the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR). The latest weights are based on 2012 data.

Seasonal adjustment

4 Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month using the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by the US Bureau of the Census, 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 recognised more clearly. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month.

5 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. The X-12-ARIMA procedure for mining production and sales is described in more detail on the Stats SA website at:
http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P2041/Seasonal_adjustment_X12.pdf

Trend cycle

6 The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimate the underlying trend cycle.

Reliability of estimates

7 Figures for the latest 2 calendar years are preliminary.

Month-on-month percentage change

8 The month-on-month percentage change in a variable for any given month is the change between that month and the previous month, expressed as a percentage of the latter.

Year-on-year percentage change

9 The year-on-year percentage change in a variable for any given period is the change between that period and the corresponding period of the previous year, expressed as a percentage of the latter.

Index contribution (percentage points)

10 The contribution (percentage points) of a mineral group or mineral to the percentage change in the total mining production for a given period is calculated by multiplying the difference in the index for each mineral group or mineral by the weight of the mineral group or mineral and then dividing by the previous period's total index.

Sales contribution (percentage points)

11 The contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in total sales for a given period is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each mineral group or mineral with its percentage contribution to total mineral sales of the previous period, divided by 100.

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 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 transport by sea.

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 of all Economic Activities* (SIC), 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 of primary minerals at the first point of saleability by the mining establishment.

Symbols and abbreviations

DMR	Department of Mineral Resources
GDP	Gross domestic product
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification
PGMs	Platinum group metals
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities
SNA	System of National Accounts
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
*	Revised

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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.

Advance release calendar

An advance 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:

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

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