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Contents	Page
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS: MINING PRODUCTION AND MINERAL SALES	2
Detailed results: Tables	7
Table 1 – Index of the physical volume of mining production including gold	7
Table 2 – Index of the physical volume of mining production excluding gold	7
Table 3 – Indices of the physical volume of mining production according to mineral groups and minerals	8
Table 4 – Contribution of the mineral groups and minerals to the quarterly growth in total mining production (seasonally adjusted)	8
Table 5 – Total value of mineral sales including gold (R million)	9
Table 6 – Total value of mineral sales excluding gold (R million)	9
Table 7 – Total value of mineral sales according to mineral groups and minerals (R million)	10
Table 8 – Contribution of the mineral groups and minerals to the quarterly growth in total value of mineral sales	10
Table 9 – Percentage change in the indices of mining production between the current month and the corresponding month of the previous year	11
Table 10 – Percentage change in the indices of mining production between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year	11
Table 11 – Percentage change in the seasonally adjusted indices of mining production between the current month and the previous month	11
Table 12 – Percentage change in the seasonally adjusted indices of mining production between the current quarter and the previous quarter	11
Table 13 – Percentage change in the actual value of mineral sales between the current month and the corresponding month of the previous year	12
Table 14 – Percentage change in the actual value of mineral sales between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year	12
Table 15 – Percentage change in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales between the current month and the previous month	12
Table 16 – Percentage change in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales between the current quarter and the previous quarter	12
Explanatory notes	13
Glossary	15
General information	16

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS: MINING PRODUCTION AND MINERAL SALES

Key findings regarding mining production for May 2009

Seasonally adjusted mining production decreases

The total mining production for the three months ended May 2009, after seasonal adjustment, decreased by 1,5% compared with the previous three months. PGM (platinum group metal) production was the main contributor (-1,5 percentage points) to the 1,5% decrease (see Table 4).

The total mining production for the three months ended May 2009 decreased by 9,8% compared with the three months ended May 2008. Mining production for May 2009 decreased by 14,5% compared with May 2008, reflected by gold and non-gold minerals production decreasing by 10,5% and 15,1% respectively (see Table A).

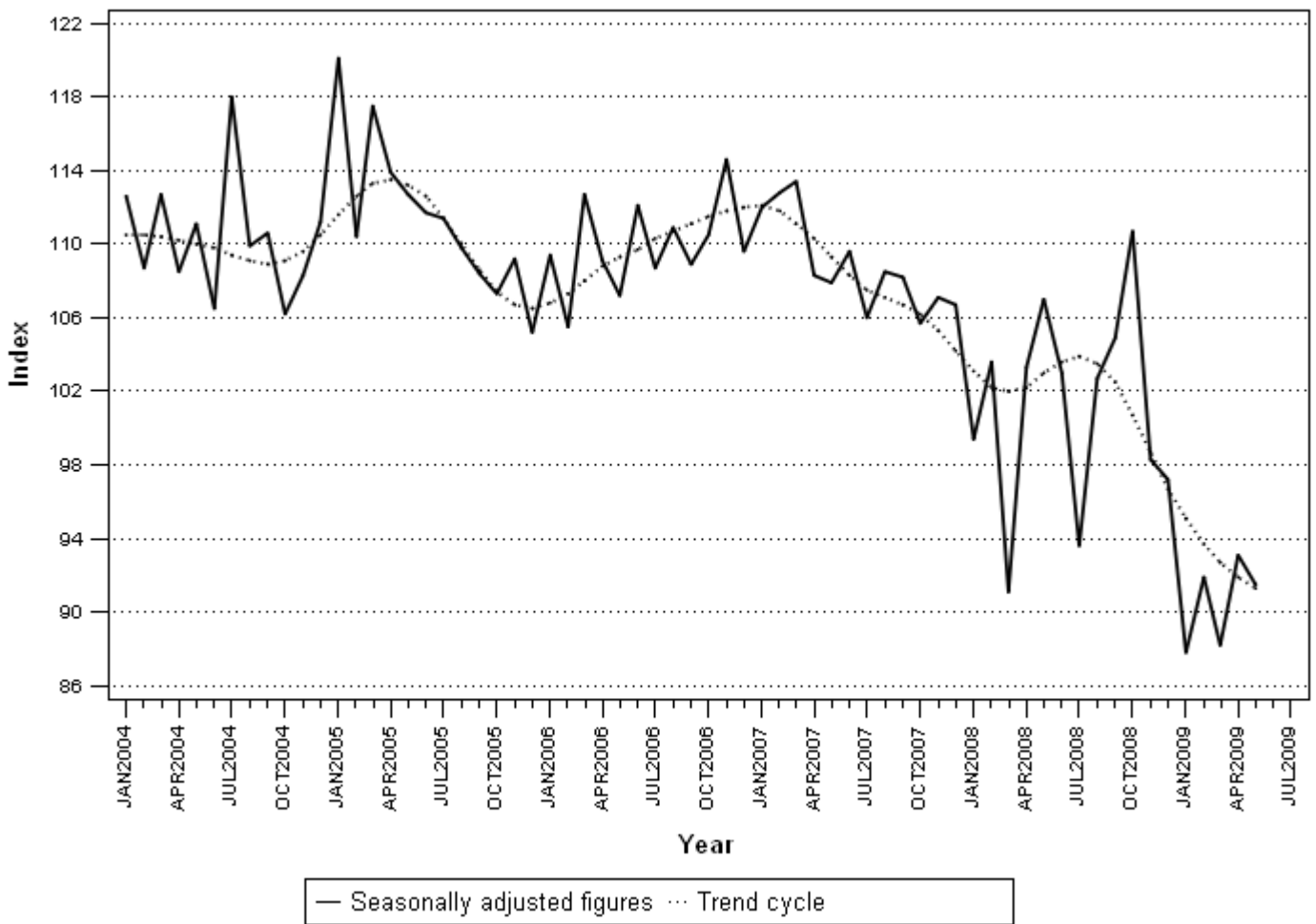
Table A – Selected key figures regarding mining production for May 2009

Actual estimates	Base : 2000=100		
	May 2009	% change between May 2008 and May 2009	% change between March to May 2008 and March to May 2009
Index of the physical volume of mining production			
Gold	45,8	-10,5	-10,2
Non-gold	109,1	-15,1	-9,7
Total	92,8	-14,5	-9,8

Shorter term seasonally adjusted estimates	Base : 2000=100		
	May 2009	% change between April and May 2009	% change between December 2008 to February 2009 and March to May 2009
Index of the physical volume of mining production			
Gold	46,3	1,5	-1,7
Non-gold	107,1	-2,2	-1,5
Total	91,5	-1,7	-1,5

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

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



Key findings regarding mineral sales for April 2009

Seasonally adjusted mineral sales decrease

The total seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended April 2009 reflected a decrease of 1,0% compared with the previous three months. This decrease of 1,0% (R630,5 million) was a result of a decrease of 4,8% (R2 474,8 million) in the sale of non-gold minerals (see Table B and Table 16).

The actual estimated total value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended April 2009 decreased by 15,5% compared with the three months ended April 2008. The major contributors to this decrease of 15,5%, year-on-year, were PGMs (-12,8 percentage points or R9 363,0 million), manganese ore (-3,9 percentage points or R2 881,3 million), other non-metallic minerals (-1,9 percentage points or R1 373,8 million) and copper (-1,2 percentage points or R835,2 million). The two minerals that made substantial positive contributions to the change were iron ore (4,4 percentage points or R3 178,2 million) and gold (3,1 percentage points or R2 261,2 million) (see Table 8).

Table B – Selected key figures regarding mineral sales for April 2009

Actual estimates	April 2009	% change between April 2008 and April 2009	% change between February to April 2008 and February to April 2009
	R million		
Mineral sales			
Gold	3 899,4	6,5	20,3
Non-gold	16 659,3	-23,8	-21,9
Total	20 558,7	-19,4	-15,5

Shorter term seasonally adjusted estimates	April 2009	% change between March and April 2009	% change between November 2008 to January 2009 and February to April 2009
	R million		
Mineral sales			
Gold	4 307,1	-1,6	16,0
Non-gold	17 169,7	4,2	-4,8
Total	21 476,8	3,0	-1,0

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

Figure 2 – Total value of mineral sales

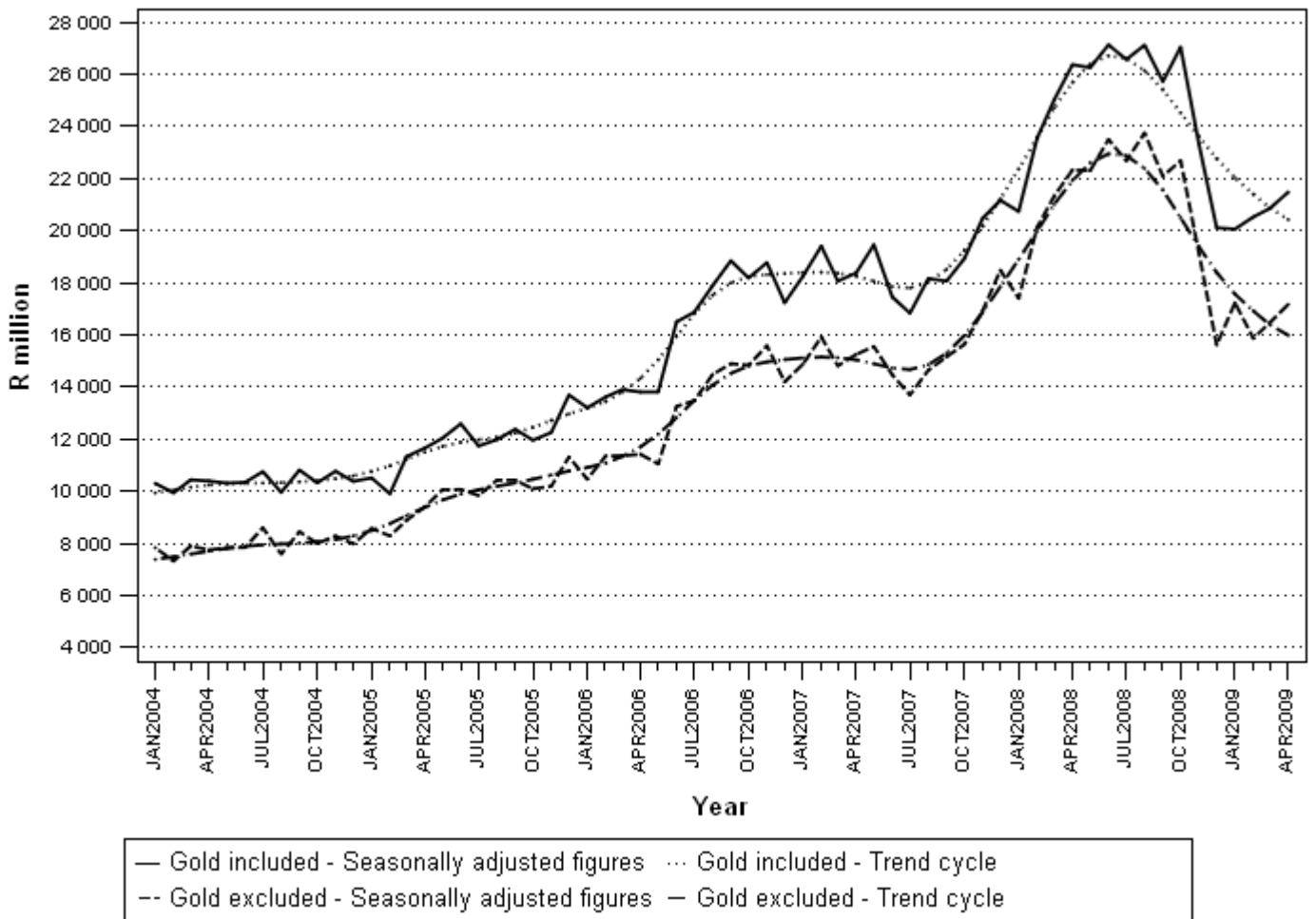
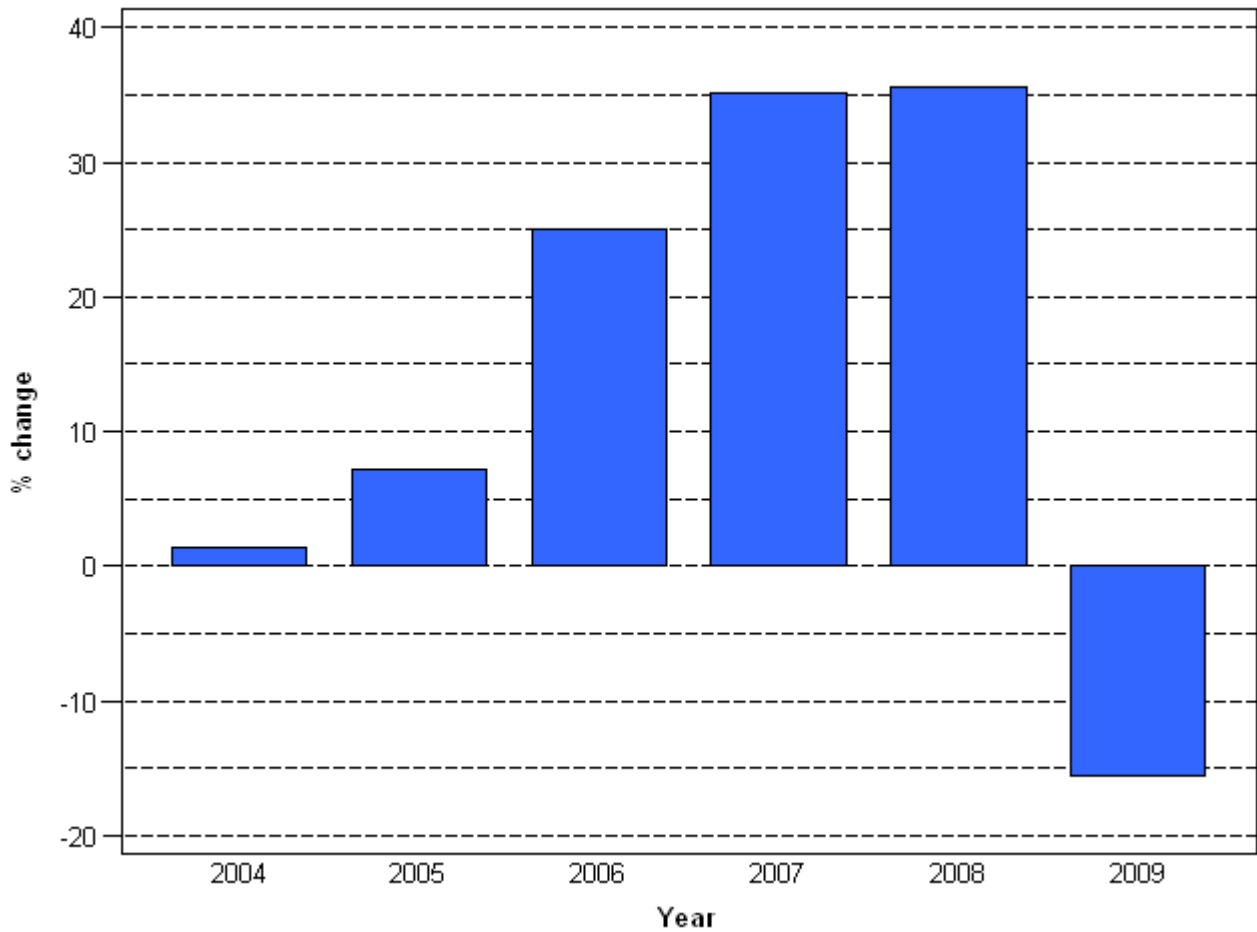


Figure 3 shows the -15,5% annual growth rate in the value of mineral sales for the three months ended April 2009 compared with the three months ended April 2008. The decrease for 2009 represents the lowest growth rate compared to the other years for the same period since the growth rate of 1,4% in 2004.

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



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Detailed results: Tables

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

		Base : 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	75,5
	February	101,7	97,8	98,6	93,6	99,1	90,7	79,3
	March	101,8	112,9	119,9	114,3	115,0	92,2	89,3
	April	101,0	105,0	110,2	105,2	104,7	99,8	89,1
	May	107,1	113,0	115,2	109,0	109,8	108,6	92,8
	June	108,6	111,1	116,8	117,6	115,5	* 108,9	
	July	110,7	119,5	113,1	110,2	107,1	94,9	
	August	109,1	114,3	114,8	116,3	113,9	107,6	
	September	114,6	117,4	116,7	115,2	118,3	114,5	
	October	114,5	108,2	108,2	110,9	105,9	110,2	
	November	108,6	110,1	111,4	117,3	110,5	101,6	
	December	113,5	113,3	107,4	113,1	109,8	101,2	
	Year	106,4	110,3	111,7	110,0	109,0	101,3	
Seasonally adjusted indices	January	91,7	112,6	120,1	109,4	112,0	99,4	87,8
	February	111,6	108,7	110,4	105,5	112,8	103,6	91,9
	March	101,9	112,7	117,5	112,7	113,4	91,1	88,2
	April	103,9	108,5	113,9	109,1	108,3	103,3	93,1
	May	104,5	111,1	112,7	107,2	107,9	107,0	91,5
	June	103,1	106,5	111,7	112,1	109,6	103,0	
	July	108,7	118,0	111,4	108,7	106,0	93,6	
	August	105,3	109,9	109,8	110,9	108,5	102,7	
	September	109,3	110,6	108,4	108,9	108,2	104,9	
	October	111,8	106,2	107,3	110,5	105,7	110,7	
	November	106,9	108,3	109,2	114,6	107,1	98,3	
	December	110,8	111,2	105,2	109,6	106,7	97,2	

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

		Base : 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	87,1
	February	107,3	104,0	108,7	104,1	111,7	106,6	90,9
	March	106,2	123,6	136,2	130,9	134,4	106,0	103,4
	April	106,3	115,0	127,0	119,7	121,6	117,3	105,2
	May	114,7	124,9	131,3	126,1	127,4	* 128,5	109,1
	June	116,4	121,1	132,3	135,7	134,2	127,8	
	July	118,8	133,1	129,2	127,1	124,0	* 110,9	
	August	116,3	125,5	132,2	134,0	131,8	128,4	
	September	122,9	130,0	132,4	131,7	137,3	135,6	
	October	124,2	119,7	122,3	127,7	122,3	131,2	
	November	116,2	121,3	126,2	136,2	129,7	120,0	
	December	123,3	127,0	120,0	131,9	128,2	119,7	
	Year	113,2	121,3	126,6	126,3	126,3	119,3	
Seasonally adjusted indices	January	91,6	123,6	135,6	124,9	129,2	115,9	101,8
	February	119,6	117,8	123,8	119,1	129,4	123,5	107,2
	March	106,8	123,6	133,2	128,9	132,5	104,7	102,0
	April	109,1	118,6	131,0	123,6	125,4	121,0	109,5
	May	110,4	121,6	127,5	123,3	124,6	126,1	107,1
	June	110,0	115,9	126,5	129,2	127,1	120,7	
	July	115,6	130,9	126,8	124,8	122,2	108,8	
	August	112,3	120,7	126,4	127,8	125,5	122,5	
	September	117,6	122,6	123,0	124,9	125,5	124,2	
	October	120,6	117,2	121,5	127,5	122,4	132,3	
	November	114,5	119,5	123,9	132,9	125,4	115,8	
	December	120,4	124,5	117,3	127,3	124,0	114,4	

1/ Preliminary.
* Revised.

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

	Base : 2000=100							
	Weights	Actual indices				Seasonally adjusted indices		
		2008	2008	1/ 2009		2008	2009	
			May	Apr	May	May	Apr	May
Total, gold included	100,0	101,3	108,6	89,1	92,8	107,0	93,1	91,5
Total, gold excluded	74,3	119,3	128,5	105,2	109,1	126,1	109,5	107,1
Gold	25,7	49,4	51,2	42,8	45,8	51,9	45,6	46,3
Iron ore	3,1	145,6	129,9	138,3	173,8	133,4	140,4	180,0
Chromium	1,1	145,5	156,2	86,5	100,6	149,5	87,7	96,2
Copper	1,6	71,8	76,9	72,9	73,7	75,2	73,3	72,8
Manganese ore	1,3	183,1	192,3	91,4	100,2	185,6	94,1	96,8
PGMs	27,6	133,3	143,9	129,6	129,7	144,1	137,1	130,4
Nickel	2,0	86,5	92,7	117,4	113,4	88,0	120,5	108,1
Other metallic minerals	2,9	84,4	91,2	79,5	75,8	90,3	80,5	75,3
Diamonds	8,3	114,9	132,5	50,3	49,8	135,9	47,9	50,6
Coal	20,0	* 112,2	121,3	103,7	111,8	113,5	108,5	104,6
Building materials	2,6	* 133,9	142,6	116,9	122,8	132,4	122,1	114,0
Other non-metallic minerals	3,8	* 67,4	74,3	57,4	56,4	73,4	57,7	55,4

1/ Preliminary.

*Revised

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

	Base : 2000=100				
	Percentage contribution to the total mining production using the weights according to the value of production in the base year	Average seasonally adjusted production index for March to May 2009	Quarterly percentage change March to May 2009 compared with the preceding three months	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total mining production 1/	
Gold	25,7	46,7	-1,7	-0,2	
Non-gold minerals	Iron ore	3,1	153,7	-4,8	-0,3
	Chromium	1,1	97,1	84,1	0,5
	Copper	1,6	76,9	-2,8	0,0
	Manganese ore	1,3	102,2	-17,3	-0,3
	PGMs	27,6	127,2	-3,8	-1,5
	Nickel	2,0	105,7	34,2	0,6
	Other metallic minerals	2,9	80,2	-4,0	-0,1
	Diamonds	8,3	50,7	1,9	0,1
	Coal	20,0	107,5	0,2	0,0
	Building materials	2,6	118,0	-3,6	-0,1
Other non-metallic minerals	3,8	58,0	-8,6	-0,2	
Total non-gold minerals	74,3	106,2	-1,5	-1,3	
Total minerals	100,0	90,9	-1,5	-1,5	

1/ 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.

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	16 974,6
	February	10 236,5	9 576,1	9 383,8	12 680,8	17 928,6	21 737,4	19 476,6
	March	9 829,3	10 396,0	11 477,1	14 179,9	18 555,2	25 894,1	21 772,2
	April	9 294,1	9 789,3	11 034,0	13 042,6	17 447,8	25 520,6	20 558,7
	May	9 104,1	10 373,3	12 239,8	14 046,8	19 841,6	26 737,6	
	June	9 745,9	10 856,0	13 360,1	17 809,8	19 033,2	29 879,9	
	July	10 403,7	10 844,2	12 001,8	17 614,8	17 449,4	27 163,6	
	August	9 612,0	9 841,7	11 687,6	17 339,2	17 890,4	27 068,3	
	September	10 008,1	11 693,2	13 524,1	20 586,6	19 619,7	27 635,8	
	October	9 989,4	10 466,3	12 074,8	18 031,0	18 713,7	26 806,2	
	November	9 535,8	10 815,6	12 453,2	18 918,2	20 674,4	23 796,2	
	December	9 899,2	10 585,6	13 994,2	17 584,7	21 590,8	20 425,6	
	Year	117 526,9	125 057,8	142 817,9	193 589,5	224 437,7	300 107,5	
Seasonally adjusted values	January	10 033,9	10 307,6	10 516,5	13 208,4	18 255,4	20 735,3	20 059,9
	February	10 495,9	9 944,0	9 908,4	13 618,4	19 406,0	23 532,7	20 524,6
	March	9 911,1	10 443,8	11 335,3	13 901,3	18 064,0	25 013,6	20 851,1
	April	9 849,8	10 398,4	11 657,9	13 812,0	18 380,0	26 365,9	21 476,8
	May	9 068,1	10 315,0	12 042,3	13 813,7	19 459,7	26 251,8	
	June	9 314,4	10 344,1	12 595,4	16 502,8	17 458,1	27 126,2	
	July	10 437,0	10 759,4	11 742,4	16 871,1	16 834,3	26 562,1	
	August	9 757,1	9 964,1	11 984,4	17 889,1	18 161,8	27 113,8	
	September	9 458,0	10 818,6	12 382,2	18 846,5	18 064,5	25 717,4	
	October	9 847,5	10 326,5	11 963,6	18 183,3	18 924,1	27 037,8	
	November	9 621,5	10 773,5	12 258,2	18 776,0	20 470,5	23 317,0	
	December	9 697,9	10 383,3	13 698,0	17 232,3	21 163,4	20 106,1	

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	14 498,2
	February	7 452,6	7 039,8	7 813,9	10 469,6	14 498,1	18 341,8	14 811,0
	March	7 140,7	7 710,4	8 840,3	11 403,2	14 955,5	21 803,3	16 928,2
	April	6 815,2	7 366,5	8 963,2	10 850,3	14 595,8	21 859,1	16 659,3
	May	6 477,2	8 029,3	10 372,9	11 445,0	16 150,6	22 997,9	
	June	6 759,5	8 107,4	10 562,0	14 217,3	15 745,9	25 898,7	
	July	7 613,1	8 699,0	10 082,3	14 114,1	14 154,8	23 029,7	
	August	7 052,7	7 546,9	10 210,5	14 152,3	14 647,2	23 970,6	
	September	7 092,3	9 114,1	11 390,1	16 333,3	16 531,7	23 789,2	
	October	7 345,5	8 089,0	10 186,0	14 646,2	15 351,6	22 330,0	
	November	7 154,9	8 406,4	10 436,1	15 781,8	17 188,8	19 697,0	
	December	6 825,9	8 138,7	11 549,8	14 455,8	18 846,7	15 871,1	
	Year	84 473,7	95 728,1	118 216,7	157 184,9	185 401,1	254 115,3	
Seasonally adjusted values	January	6 829,4	7 837,5	8 579,4	10 467,4	14 883,0	17 404,0	17 233,4
	February	7 627,0	7 327,9	8 291,3	11 355,5	15 918,4	20 118,6	15 869,1
	March	7 334,1	7 905,0	8 888,6	11 366,8	14 815,2	21 322,4	16 472,5
	April	7 120,0	7 752,3	9 404,0	11 422,6	15 255,6	22 327,3	17 169,7
	May	6 323,9	7 841,8	10 061,7	11 052,1	15 552,9	22 301,1	
	June	6 571,2	7 849,6	10 072,6	13 259,1	14 471,1	23 495,7	
	July	7 596,7	8 604,8	9 842,8	13 477,4	13 697,3	22 677,1	
	August	7 174,3	7 595,7	10 427,9	14 480,8	14 645,2	23 742,1	
	September	6 735,1	8 451,9	10 427,7	14 898,9	15 163,2	22 086,0	
	October	7 322,7	8 003,3	10 098,8	14 839,4	15 637,7	22 683,6	
	November	7 161,9	8 288,3	10 195,4	15 587,6	16 926,4	19 135,9	
	December	6 648,5	7 989,9	11 321,0	14 198,9	18 482,4	15 616,8	

1/ Preliminary.
* Revised.

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

	Actual values				Seasonally adjusted values		
	* 2008	2008	1/ 2009		2008	2009	
		April	March	April	April	March	April
Total, gold included	300 107,5	25 520,6	21 772,2	20 558,7	26 365,9	20 851,1	21 476,8
Total, gold excluded	254 115,3	21 859,1	16 928,2	16 659,3	22 327,3	16 472,5	17 169,7
Gold	45 992,1	3 661,4	4 844,0	3 899,4	4 038,6	4 378,6	4 307,1
Iron ore	22 241,7	1 800,0	2 616,5	2 661,2	1 864,4	2 426,0	2 757,2
Chromium	5 408,1	459,4	294,0	223,2	447,3	290,0	217,7
Copper	5 627,9	615,1	326,0	254,0	655,1	334,5	268,4
Manganese ore	17 343,6	2 033,8	343,6	488,4	1 686,3	386,4	400,1
PGMs	91 352,4	7 909,5	5 195,8	5 390,8	8 459,7	4 997,7	5 715,9
Nickel	5 255,8	687,9	250,2	244,5	630,2	257,0	222,2
Other metallic minerals	5 875,5	434,1	311,6	231,2	482,4	334,8	264,1
Coal	72 255,4	5 630,9	5 333,9	5 125,4	5 704,8	5 520,9	5 187,9
Building materials	6 908,8	597,9	585,0	540,5	623,1	557,6	563,6
- Granite or norite	684,9	61,6	47,3	41,1	65,9	48,4	43,7
- Lime and limestone	1 907,6	158,3	162,9	154,0	162,0	160,9	157,8
- Other building materials	4 316,1	378,0	374,8	345,4	395,2	348,3	362,1
Other non-metallic minerals	21 846,3	1 690,7	1 671,5	1 500,0	1 774,0	1 367,6	1 572,6

1/ Preliminary.
* Revised.

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

		Percentage contribution to total mineral sales during February to April 2008	Percentage change between February to April 2008 and February to April 2009	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total value of mineral sales 1/	Difference in sales of mining divisions between February to April 2008 and February to April 2009
					R million
Gold		15,2	20,3	3,1	2 261,2
Non-gold minerals	Iron ore	6,6	66,2	4,4	3 178,2
	Chromium	1,7	-36,2	-0,6	-451,9
	Copper	2,3	-50,1	-1,2	-835,2
	Manganese ore	5,2	-75,9	-3,9	-2 881,3
	PGMs	32,8	-39,1	-12,8	-9 363,0
	Nickel	2,3	-58,7	-1,4	-1 004,2
	Other metallic minerals	2,0	-45,2	-0,9	-660,9
	Coal	22,1	-1,1	-0,2	-185,6
	Building materials	2,3	-1,7	0,0	-28,5
	Other non-metallic minerals	7,5	-25,2	-1,9	-1 373,8
Total non-gold minerals		84,8	-21,9	-18,6	-13 605,7
Total minerals		100,0	-15,5	-15,5	-11 344,6

1/ The contribution to the percentage change in sales is calculated by multiplying the quarterly percentage change of each mineral with the percentage contribution to total mineral sales during February 2008 to April 2008, divided by 100. Figures have been rounded off.

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 May 2008	Actual estimates May 2009	% change between May 2008 and May 2009	Difference between May 2008 and May 2009
	Percentage points			
Gold	51,2	45,8	-10,5	-5,4
Non-gold minerals	128,5	109,1	-15,1	-19,4
Total	108,6	92,8	-14,5	-15,8

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 March to May 2008	Actual estimates March to May 2009	% change between March to May 2008 and March to May 2009	Difference between March to May 2008 and March to May 2009
	Percentage points			
Gold	50,9	45,7	-10,2	-5,2
Non-gold minerals	117,3	105,9	-9,7	-11,4
Total	100,2	90,4	-9,8	-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 April 2009	Seasonally adjusted May 2009	% change between April and May 2009	Difference between April and May 2009
	Percentage points			
Gold	45,6	46,3	1,5	0,7
Non-gold minerals	109,5	107,1	-2,2	-2,4
Total	93,1	91,5	-1,7	-1,6

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 December 2008 to February 2009	Seasonally adjusted March to May 2009	% change between December 2008 to February 2009 and March to May 2009	Difference between December 2008 to February 2009 and March to May 2009
	Percentage points			
Gold	47,5	46,7	-1,7	-0,8
Non-gold minerals	107,8	106,2	-1,5	-1,6
Total	92,3	90,9	-1,5	-1,4

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 April 2008	Actual estimates April 2009	% change between April 2008 and April 2009	Difference between April 2008 and April 2009
	R million	R million		R million
Gold	3 661,4	3 899,4	6,5	238,0
Non-gold minerals	21 859,1	16 659,3	-23,8	-5 199,8
Total	25 520,6	20 558,7	-19,4	-4 961,9

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 February to April 2008	Actual estimates February to April 2009	% change between February to April 2008 and February to April 2009	Difference between February to April 2008 and February to April 2009
	R million	R million		R million
Gold	11 147,8	13 409,0	20,3	2 261,2
Non-gold minerals	62 004,2	48 398,5	-21,9	-13 605,7
Total	73 152,1	61 807,5	-15,5	-11 344,6

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

	Seasonally adjusted estimates March 2009	Seasonally adjusted estimates April 2009	% change between March and April 2009	Difference between March and April 2009
	R million	R million		R million
Gold	4 378,6	4 307,1	-1,6	-71,5
Non-gold minerals	16 472,5	17 169,7	4,2	697,2
Total	20 851,1	21 476,8	3,0	625,7

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

	Seasonally adjusted estimates November 2008 to January 2009	Seasonally adjusted estimates February to April 2009	% change between November 2008 to January 2009 and February to April 2009	Difference between November 2008 to January 2009 and February to April 2009
	R million	R million		R million
Gold	11 496,9	13 341,2	16,0	1 844,3
Non-gold minerals	51 986,1	49 511,3	-4,8	-2 474,8
Total	63 483,0	62 852,5	-1,0	-630,5

Explanatory notes

Introduction	1	<p>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.</p>
	2	<p>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.</p>
	3	<p>Due to mining production figures being available earlier than mineral sales figures, mining production indices are published one month earlier than mineral sales.</p>
	4	<p>The value of mineral sales is calculated, in general, on a free-on-rail/free-on-board basis.</p>
	5	<p>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.</p>
Purpose of the survey	6	<p>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.</p>
Scope of the survey	7	<p>This survey covers mining establishments conducting activities regarding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extracting, dressing and beneficiating of minerals occurring naturally, for example solids such as coal and ores.
Classification	8	<p>The 1993 edition of the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC)</i>, Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 <i>International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC)</i> with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC division, major group and subgroup level. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the establishment.</p>
Statistical unit	9	<p>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).</p>
Weighting	10	<p>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.</p>

Seasonal adjustment	11	<p>Seasonally adjusted estimates of all items are generated each month, using the X-11 Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by US Bureau of the Census Economic Research and Analyses Division, 1968. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month.</p> <p>Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variations. This means the month-to-month movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.</p>
Reliability of estimates	12	<p>Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. Figures for the latest month are preliminary.</p>
Historical data	13	<p>More comprehensive detail on the method of calculation and historical data in respect of the production indices according to mining mineral groups for the period February 1990 to November 2002 is available in statistical release P2041.1, entitled <i>Mining statistics: Indices of the physical volume of mining production, Base: 2000=100, February 1990 to November 2002</i>, published on 11 February 2003 on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za</p>
Related publications	14	<p>Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bulletin of Statistics.</i> • <i>SA Statistics.</i>
Unpublished statistics	15	<p>In some cases Stats SA can also make available statistics not included in standard publications. The statistics can be made available via computer printouts or diskette or CD. Generally, a charge is made for providing unpublished statistics.</p>
Rounding-off of figures	16	<p>The figures in the tables have, where necessary, been rounded off to the nearest digit shown. There may, therefore, be slight discrepancies between the sums of the constituent items and the totals shown.</p>

Glossary

Free-on-rail	Free-on-rail relates to goods sold on the local market where no railage or road transport costs are involved.
Free-on-board basis	Free-on-board relates to goods destined for the export market. Railage, road transport and docking charges are involved but no charges are made for the transport by sea.
Index of physical volume of mining production	The index of physical volume of mining production or a production index is a statistical measure of the change in the volume of production. The production index of a mineral group is the ratio between the volume of production of a mineral group in a given period and the volume of production of the same mineral group in the base period. The current base period is 2000. The production in the base period is set at 100.
Industry	An industry consists of a group of establishments engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity. Industries are defined in the <i>System of National Accounts (SNA)</i> in the same way as in the <i>Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) of all Economic Activities</i> , Fifth Edition of January 1993.
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.

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