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Mining: Production and sales (Preliminary)

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Key results for May 2011

Table A – Total mining production

Actual estimate	Base: 2005=100			
	May 2011	% change between May 2010 and May 2011	% change between March to May 2010 and March to May 2011	% change between January to May 2010 and January to May 2011
Physical volume of mining production index	89,8	9,6	6,7	5,3

Seasonally adjusted estimate	Base: 2005=100		
	May 2011	% change between April and May 2011	% change between December 2010 to February 2011 and March to May 2011
Physical volume of mining production index	92,1	-5,9	0,4

Table B – Contribution of the mineral groups and minerals to the total three-monthly seasonally adjusted growth in mining production

Mineral groups and minerals	Base: 2005=100					
	Weights 2005	December 2010 to February 2011	March to May 2011	% change between December 2010 to February 2011 and March to May 2011	Difference between December 2010 to February 2011 and March to May 2011	Contribution (% points) to the % change in total mining production 1/
Gold	17,2	64,2	63,3	-1,4	-0,9	-0,2
Iron ore	5,3	129,0	151,5	17,4	22,5	1,3
Chromium ore	1,3	145,8	138,1	-5,3	-7,7	-0,1
Copper	1,8	86,2	88,3	2,4	2,1	0,0
Manganese ore	1,5	161,9	213,2	31,7	51,3	0,8
PGMs	27,0	105,4	104,7	-0,7	-0,7	-0,2
Nickel	2,8	104,5	103,1	-1,3	-1,4	0,0
Other metallic minerals	2,8	96,8	97,6	0,8	0,8	0,0
Diamonds	7,6	57,6	47,2	-18,1	-10,4	-0,8
Coal	24,9	104,9	103,8	-1,0	-1,1	-0,3
Building materials	2,1	92,7	89,1	-3,9	-3,6	-0,1
Other non-metallic minerals	5,7	69,1	69,2	0,1	0,1	0,0
Total	100,0	94,3	94,7	0,4	0,4	0,4

1/ The contribution (percentage points) of a mineral or mineral group to the percentage change in the total seasonally adjusted mining production is calculated by multiplying the difference in the index for the mineral or mineral group by the weight of the mineral or mineral group and then dividing by the previous period's total index. Figures have been rounded off.

Key findings regarding mining production for May 2011

Seasonally adjusted mining production increased by 0,4% for the three months ended May 2011 compared with the three months ended February 2011. The main contributor to the 0,4% increase was iron ore (contributing 1,3 percentage points) (see Table B).

Actual mining production increased by 6,7% for the three months ended May 2011 compared with the three months ended May 2010 (see Tables A and 6). A year-on-year increase of 9,6% was recorded in May 2011 compared with a revised 12,0% increase in April 2011 (see Table 2).

Figure 1 – Monthly indices of physical volume of total mining production (base: 2005=100)

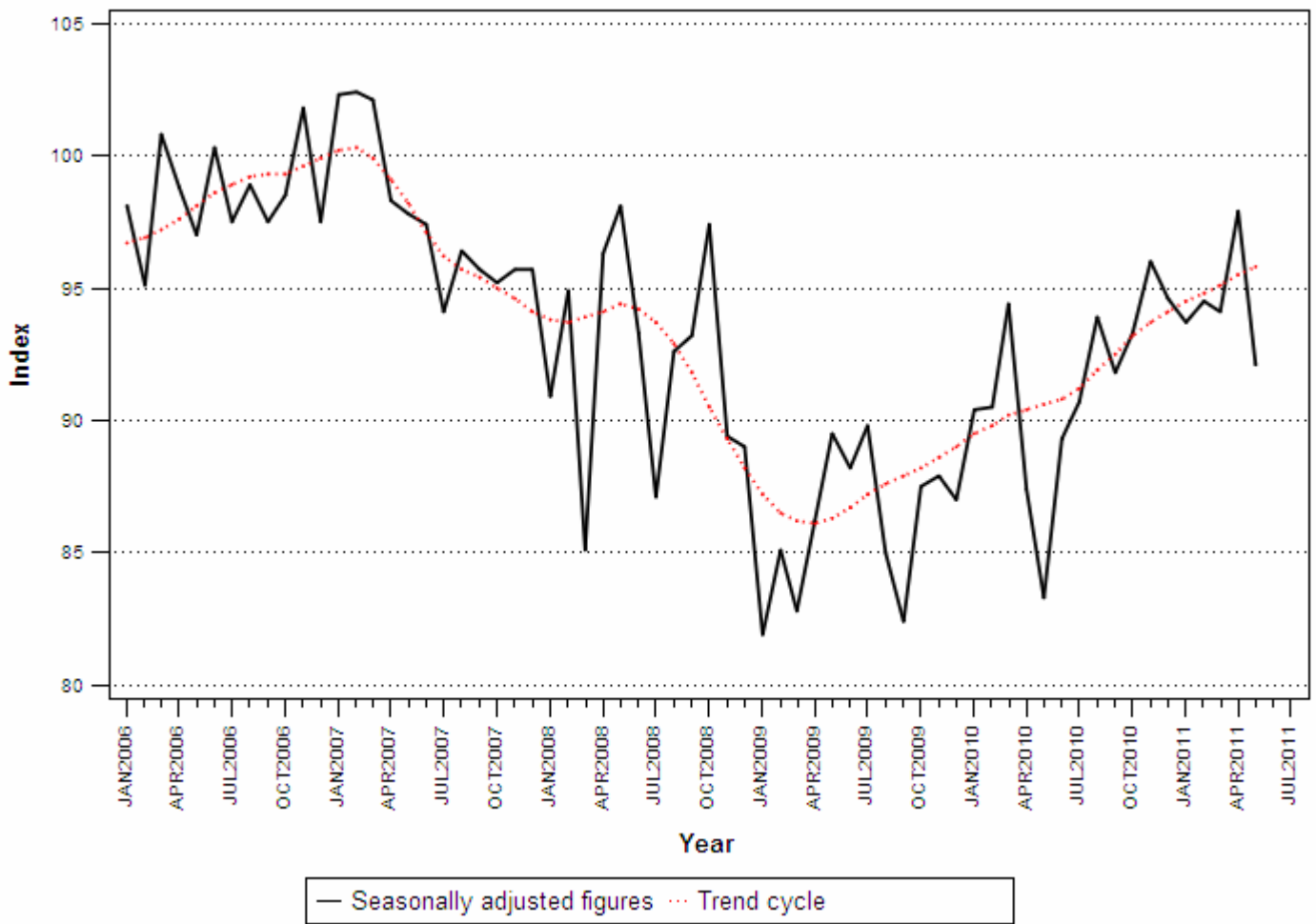


Table C – Total value of mineral sales

Actual estimate	April 2011	% change between April 2010 and April 2011	% change between February to April 2010 and February to April 2011	% change between January to April 2010 and January to April 2011
	R million			
Total value of mineral sales	27 635,5	16,0	28,0	29,2

Seasonally adjusted estimate	April 2011	% change between March and April 2011	% change between November 2010 to January 2011 and February to April 2011
	R million		
Total value of mineral sales	28 428,0	-4,0	4,4

Table D – Contribution of the mineral groups and minerals to the seasonally adjusted three-monthly growth in the total value of mineral sales (R million)

Mineral groups and minerals	% contribution to total mineral sales during November 2010 to January 2011	November 2010 to January 2011	February to April 2011	% change between November 2010 to January 2011 and February to April 2011	Contribution to the % change in the total value of mineral sales 1/	Difference between November 2010 to January 2011 and February to April 2011
		R million	R million		% points	R million
Gold	16,8	14 131,5	14 156,5	0,2	0,0	25,0
Iron ore	16,3	13 776,1	13 435,5	-2,5	-0,4	-340,6
Chromium ore	2,4	2 038,5	2 347,6	15,2	0,4	309,1
Copper	1,5	1 233,1	1 405,7	14,0	0,2	172,6
Manganese ore	3,8	3 165,2	2 583,9	-18,4	-0,7	-581,3
PGMs	25,4	21 400,0	21 571,4	0,8	0,2	171,4
Nickel	2,0	1 652,4	2 001,2	21,1	0,4	348,8
Other metallic minerals	2,1	1 803,5	1 907,1	5,7	0,1	103,6
Coal	22,9	19 279,8	21 461,4	11,3	2,6	2 181,6
Building materials	2,0	1 707,8	1 761,8	3,2	0,1	54,0
Other non-metallic minerals	4,9	4 158,0	5 390,2	29,6	1,5	1 232,2
Total	100,0	84 345,9	88 022,3	4,4	4,4	3 676,4

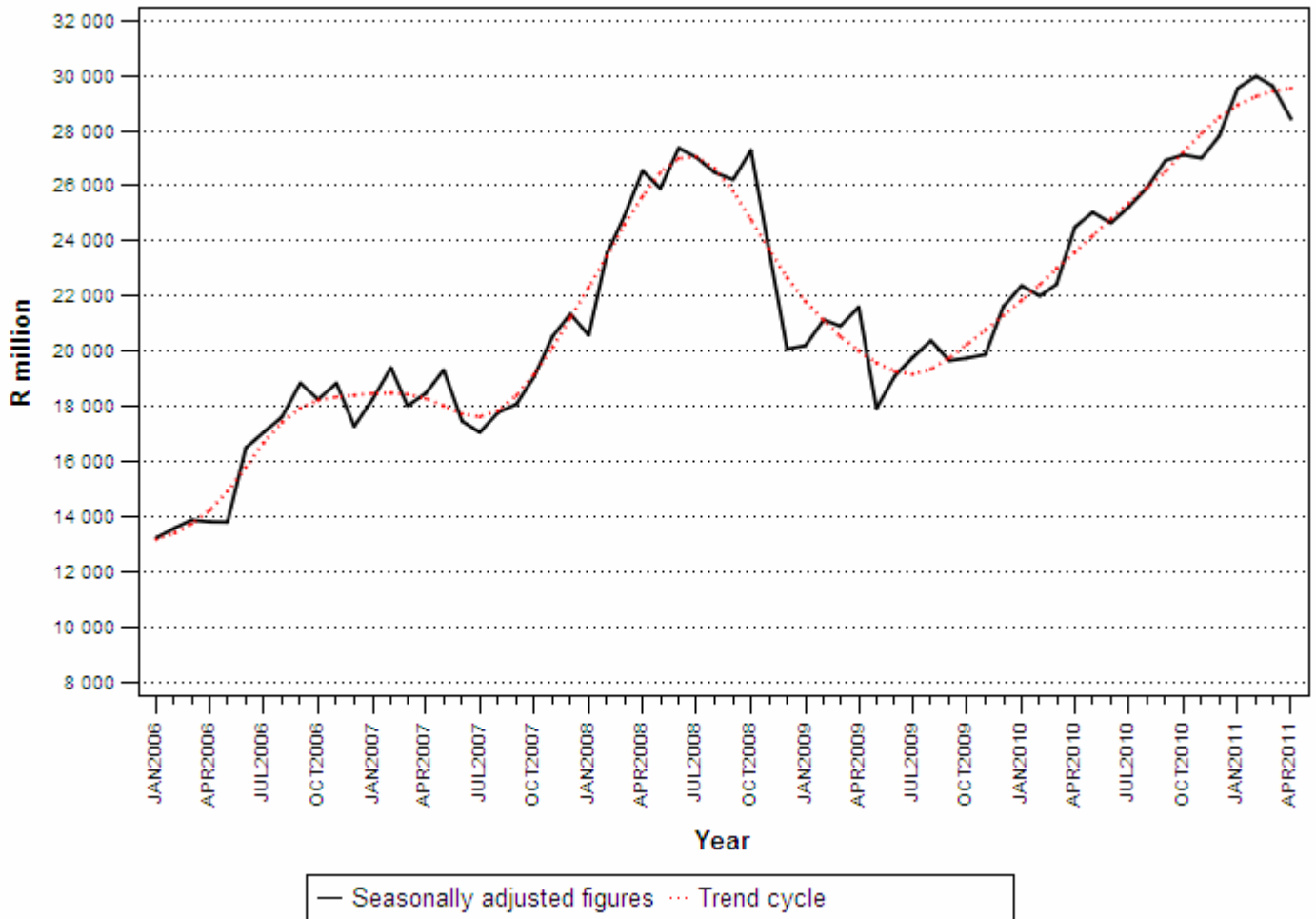
1/ The contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in sales is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each mineral with the percentage contribution to total mineral sales during November 2010 to January 2011, divided by 100. Figures have been rounded off.

Key findings regarding mineral sales for April 2011

The seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales at current prices reflected an increase of 4,4% for the three months ended April 2011 compared with the three months ended January 2011. The 4,4% (R3 676,4 million) increase was mainly due to increases in the sales value of coal (contributing 2,6 percentage points or R2 181,6 million) and other non-metallic minerals (contributing 1,5 percentage points or R1 232,2 million (see Table D).

The actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended April 2011 increased by 28,0% compared with the three months ended April 2010. The major contributors to this increase were iron ore (contributing 7,3 percentage points or R4 970,8 million), coal (contributing 6,8 percentage points or R4 618,9 million), PGMs (contributing 6,7 percentage points or R4 514,2 million) and gold (contributing 3,9 percentage points or R2 609,7 million) (see Table 13).

Figure 2 – Total value of mineral sales



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Detailed results:

Table 1 – Total index of the physical volume of mining production: 2005 – 2011

Month	Base: 2005=100						
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 1/	2011 1/
January	97,1	87,7	90,1	79,0	71,4	78,3	80,6
February	90,4	85,2	90,8	83,6	74,6	79,9	82,6
March	104,8	101,7	102,9	85,6	83,7	94,8	94,3
April	99,2	94,8	93,9	91,4	81,3	82,5	92,4
May	102,7	98,7	99,0	98,1	88,6	81,9	89,8
June	104,0	104,9	102,6	98,4	93,0	94,2	
July	101,4	99,4	96,0	89,4	92,4	93,5	
August	102,8	103,7	101,6	97,5	89,5	99,2	
September	103,1	105,1	104,5	102,3	90,2	101,7	
October	98,5	100,2	97,0	99,0	89,2	95,1	
November	100,4	104,2	98,6	92,4	91,0	99,6	
December	95,7	98,9	96,8	90,7	89,0	96,8	
Year	100,0	98,7	97,8	92,3	86,2	91,5	

1/ Preliminary.

Table 2 – Annual percentage change in the index of the physical volume of mining production: 2005 – 2011

Month	Percentage change 2/						
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	7,7	-9,7	2,7	-12,4	-9,6	9,7	2,9
February	3,2	-5,7	6,5	-7,9	-10,8	7,1	3,4
March	3,6	-3,0	1,2	-16,8	-2,2	13,3	-0,5
April	5,5	-4,4	-1,0	-2,6	-11,0	1,5	12,0
May	1,4	-3,9	0,3	-0,9	-9,7	-7,6	9,6
June	4,6	0,9	-2,2	-4,1	-5,5	1,3	
July	-5,2	-2,0	-3,4	-6,8	3,3	1,2	
August	0,4	0,9	-2,0	-4,0	-8,2	10,8	
September	-1,9	2,0	-0,6	-2,1	-11,8	12,7	
October	1,7	1,7	-3,2	2,1	-9,9	6,6	
November	1,9	3,7	-5,3	-6,3	-1,5	9,5	
December	-5,8	3,4	-2,1	-6,3	-1,9	8,8	
Year	1,3	-1,3	-0,9	-5,6	-6,6	6,2	

2/ The annual percentage change is the change in the index of the physical volume of mining production of the relevant month of the current year compared with the corresponding month of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Table 3 – Total seasonally adjusted index of the physical volume of total mining production: 2005 – 2011

Month	Base: 2005=100						
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	107,0	98,1	102,3	90,9	81,9	90,4	93,7
February	100,2	95,1	102,4	94,9	85,1	90,5	94,5
March	104,4	100,8	102,1	85,1	82,8	94,4	94,1
April	103,0	98,8	98,3	96,3	86,2	87,4	97,9
May	100,8	97,0	97,8	98,1	89,5	83,3	92,1
June	100,0	100,3	97,4	93,3	88,2	89,3	
July	99,7	97,5	94,1	87,1	89,8	90,7	
August	98,3	98,9	96,4	92,6	85,0	93,9	
September	96,7	97,5	95,7	93,2	82,4	91,8	
October	96,6	98,5	95,2	97,4	87,5	93,3	
November	98,4	101,8	95,7	89,4	87,9	96,0	
December	95,0	97,5	95,7	89,0	87,0	94,6	

Table 4 – Indices of the physical volume of mining production according to mineral groups and minerals

Mineral groups and minerals	Base: 2005=100					% change between May 2010 and May 2011
	Weights 2005	Average for 2010 1/	May 2010 1/	April 2011 1/	May 2011 1/	
Gold	17,2	64,0	65,9	60,2	62,1	-5,8
Iron ore	5,3	148,5	148,3	150,7	148,6	0,2
Chromium ore	1,3	144,7	151,8	136,2	145,1	-4,4
Copper	1,8	80,5	80,0	89,5	86,6	8,3
Manganese ore	1,5	155,5	154,3	215,6	231,6	50,1
PGMs	27,0	94,5	73,3	100,3	88,3	20,5
Nickel	2,8	94,3	86,5	112,1	96,4	11,4
Other metallic minerals	2,8	94,0	86,1	94,6	98,8	14,8
Diamonds	7,6	56,2	38,7	44,9	50,5	30,5
Coal	24,9	103,5	93,7	101,6	101,5	8,3
Building materials	2,1	98,1	106,6	86,5	88,3	-17,2
Other non-metallic minerals	5,7	70,3	66,3	70,2	69,6	5,0
Total	100,0	91,5	81,9	92,4	89,8	9,6

1/ Preliminary.

Table 5 – Seasonally adjusted indices of the physical volume of mining production according to mineral groups and minerals

Mineral groups and minerals	Base: 2005=100				% change between April and May 2011
	Weights 2005	May 2010	April 2011	May 2011	
Gold	17,2	65,7	64,2	61,9	-3,6
Iron ore	5,3	151,5	161,1	151,5	-6,0
Chromium ore	1,3	143,5	136,7	136,2	-0,4
Copper	1,8	78,8	89,4	85,5	-4,4
Manganese ore	1,5	155,7	227,1	233,3	2,7
PGMs	27,0	80,0	108,3	97,6	-9,9
Nickel	2,8	86,1	114,9	96,3	-16,2
Other metallic minerals	2,8	86,9	99,3	100,2	0,9
Diamonds	7,6	39,5	48,9	50,9	4,1
Coal	24,9	91,8	107,0	100,3	-6,3
Building materials	2,1	102,6	92,0	85,2	-7,4
Other non-metallic minerals	5,7	67,8	69,3	71,2	2,7
Total	100,0	83,3	97,9	92,1	-5,9

Table 6 – Annual percentage change in the three-monthly physical volume of mining production according to mineral groups and minerals

Mineral groups and minerals	Base: 2005=100					
	Weights 2005	March to May 2010	March to May 2011	% change between March to May 2010 and March to May 2011	Difference between March to May 2010 and March to May 2011	Contribution (% points) to the % change in total mining production 1/
Gold	17,2	62,8	62,2	-1,0	-0,6	-0,1
Iron ore	5,3	148,5	145,7	-1,9	-2,8	-0,2
Chromium ore	1,3	141,2	136,9	-3,0	-4,3	-0,1
Copper	1,8	73,6	90,0	22,3	16,4	0,3
Manganese ore	1,5	142,1	203,1	42,9	61,0	1,1
PGMs	27,0	84,2	98,4	16,9	14,2	4,4
Nickel	2,8	90,8	103,5	14,0	12,7	0,4
Other metallic minerals	2,8	94,2	97,2	3,2	3,0	0,1
Diamonds	7,6	52,7	44,6	-15,4	-8,1	-0,7
Coal	24,9	97,9	103,7	5,9	5,8	1,7
Building materials	2,1	103,6	90,5	-12,6	-13,1	-0,3
Other non-metallic minerals	5,7	69,5	69,4	-0,1	-0,1	0,0
Total	100,0	86,4	92,2	6,7	5,8	6,7

1/ The contribution (percentage points) of a mineral or mineral group to the percentage change in the total mining production is calculated by multiplying the difference in the index for the mineral or mineral group by the weight of the mineral or mineral group and then dividing by the previous period's total index. Figures have been rounded off.

Table 7 – Annual percentage change in the cumulative physical volume of mining production according to mineral groups and minerals

Mineral groups and minerals	Base: 2005=100					
	Weights 2005	January to May 2010	January to May 2011	% change between January to May 2010 and January to May 2011	Difference between January to May 2010 and January to May 2011	Contribution (% points) to the % change in total mining production 2/
Gold	17,2	59,6	60,3	1,2	0,7	0,1
Iron ore	5,3	149,3	134,0	-10,2	-15,3	-1,0
Chromium ore	1,3	130,1	129,0	-0,8	-1,1	0,0
Copper	1,8	74,1	86,7	17,0	12,6	0,3
Manganese ore	1,5	136,5	178,4	30,7	41,9	0,8
PGMs	27,0	78,5	92,7	18,1	14,2	4,6
Nickel	2,8	94,2	103,5	9,9	9,3	0,3
Other metallic minerals	2,8	92,3	95,9	3,9	3,6	0,1
Diamonds	7,6	51,1	43,1	-15,7	-8,0	-0,7
Coal	24,9	96,8	100,1	3,4	3,3	1,0
Building materials	2,1	95,8	86,0	-10,2	-9,8	-0,2
Other non-metallic minerals	5,7	67,0	67,3	0,4	0,3	0,0
Total	100,0	83,5	87,9	5,3	4,4	5,3

2/ The contribution (percentage points) of a mineral or mineral group to the percentage change in the total mining production is calculated by multiplying the difference in the index for the mineral or mineral group by the weight of the mineral or mineral group and then dividing by the previous period's total index. Figures have been rounded off.

Table 8 – Total value of mineral sales (R million): 2005 – 2011

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 1/	2011 1/
January	9 587,4	11 755,1	15 692,9	17 442,2	17 263,9	19 144,4	25 533,3
February	9 383,8	12 680,8	17 928,6	21 737,4	19 906,3	20 335,7	27 632,2
March	11 477,1	14 179,9	18 555,2	25 894,1	22 093,9	23 621,3	31 477,6
April	11 034,0	13 042,6	17 447,8	25 520,6	20 733,6	23 815,3	27 635,5
May	12 239,8	14 046,8	19 841,6	26 737,6	18 463,5	25 785,7	
June	13 360,1	17 809,8	19 033,2	29 881,0	20 337,3	26 174,6	
July	12 001,8	17 614,8	17 449,4	27 164,7	20 019,7	25 556,5	
August	11 687,6	17 339,2	17 890,4	27 064,3	20 144,0	26 010,1	
September	13 524,1	20 586,6	19 619,7	27 830,7	20 737,7	28 065,4	
October	12 074,8	18 031,0	18 713,7	27 191,4	19 909,8	27 409,4	
November	12 453,2	18 918,2	20 674,4	23 991,0	20 128,7	27 260,3	
December	13 994,2	17 584,7	21 590,8	20 259,5	21 626,2	27 789,5	
Year	142 817,9	193 589,5	224 437,7	300 714,5	241 364,6	300 968,2	

1/ Preliminary.

Table 9 – Annual percentage change in the total value of mineral sales: 2005 – 2011

Month	Percentage change 2/						
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	-2,4	22,6	33,5	11,1	-1,0	10,9	33,4
February	-2,0	35,1	41,4	21,2	-8,4	2,2	35,9
March	10,4	23,5	30,9	39,6	-14,7	6,9	33,3
April	12,7	18,2	33,8	46,3	-18,8	14,9	16,0
May	18,0	14,8	41,3	34,8	-30,9	39,7	
June	23,1	33,3	6,9	57,0	-31,9	28,7	
July	10,7	46,8	-0,9	55,7	-26,3	27,7	
August	18,8	48,4	3,2	51,3	-25,6	29,1	
September	15,7	52,2	-4,7	41,9	-25,5	35,3	
October	15,4	49,3	3,8	45,3	-26,8	37,7	
November	15,1	51,9	9,3	16,0	-16,1	35,4	
December	32,2	25,7	22,8	-6,2	6,7	28,5	
Year	14,2	35,5	15,9	34,0	-19,7	24,7	

2/ The annual percentage change is the change in the value of mineral sales of the relevant month of the current year compared with the corresponding month of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Table 10 – Seasonally adjusted total value of mineral sales (R million): 2005 – 2011

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	10 547,4	13 234,3	18 254,5	20 584,7	20 203,4	22 377,9	29 532,6
February	9 887,0	13 584,0	19 397,6	23 551,4	21 138,0	22 005,7	29 976,4
March	11 332,6	13 872,9	18 018,5	24 887,5	20 909,7	22 427,4	29 617,9
April	11 656,9	13 811,3	18 479,4	26 543,3	21 604,5	24 498,1	28 428,0
May	12 061,2	13 804,5	19 318,7	25 903,2	17 929,1	25 039,5	
June	12 585,7	16 497,3	17 465,0	27 369,2	19 101,7	24 649,9	
July	11 813,2	17 057,1	17 053,6	27 024,6	19 767,9	25 231,2	
August	11 881,7	17 613,5	17 782,3	26 480,7	20 383,5	25 934,3	
September	12 384,2	18 847,4	18 079,9	26 222,6	19 660,9	26 918,4	
October	11 981,5	18 247,6	19 083,1	27 283,4	19 750,4	27 121,4	
November	12 273,2	18 840,2	20 537,8	23 606,6	19 880,8	26 999,7	
December	13 701,6	17 277,0	21 351,6	20 077,9	21 609,5	27 813,6	

Table 11 – Estimated actual value of mineral sales according to mineral groups and minerals

Mineral groups and minerals	Value of sales for 2010 1/	Value of sales for April 2010 1/	Value of sales for March 2011 1/	Value of sales for April 2011 1/	% change between April 2010 and April 2011
	R million	R million	R million	R million	
Gold	53 093,2	4 101,5	5 201,4	4 650,3	13,4
Iron ore	43 418,6	4 301,6	5 543,0	4 999,8	16,2
Chromium ore	6 596,5	466,5	827,9	728,1	56,1
Copper	4 369,0	466,9	581,0	331,5	-29,0
Manganese ore	10 660,5	1 129,2	657,5	873,0	-22,7
PGMs	73 786,9	4 962,0	7 259,3	5 807,0	17,0
Nickel	5 984,9	543,8	812,2	553,7	1,8
Other metallic minerals	7 534,2	848,2	707,7	425,6	-49,8
Coal	72 021,6	5 448,1	7 530,5	6 920,8	27,0
Building materials	6 954,5	572,7	621,9	567,5	-0,9
Other non-metallic minerals	16 548,1	974,8	1 735,1	1 778,0	82,4
Total	300 968,2	23 815,3	31 477,6	27 635,5	16,0

1/ Preliminary.

Table 12 – Seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales according to mineral groups and minerals

Mineral groups and minerals	Value of sales for April 2010	Value of sales for March 2011	Value of sales for April 2011	% change between March and April 2011
	R million	R million	R million	
Gold	4 311,2	4 752,8	4 872,8	2,5
Iron ore	3 692,8	4 882,5	4 213,9	-13,7
Chromium ore	489,7	781,7	767,9	-1,8
Copper	514,4	532,6	371,5	-30,2
Manganese ore	892,8	829,5	687,0	-17,2
PGMs	5 623,3	6 812,0	6 657,3	-2,3
Nickel	570,9	799,2	588,4	-26,4
Other metallic minerals	1 093,5	659,3	557,7	-15,4
Coal	5 698,9	7 468,6	7 285,1	-2,5
Building materials	594,1	584,5	588,0	0,6
Other non-metallic minerals	1 016,5	1 515,2	1 838,4	21,3
Total	24 498,1	29 617,9	28 428,0	-4,0

Table 13 – Annual percentage change in the three-monthly value of mineral sales according to mineral groups and minerals

Mineral groups and minerals	% contribution to total mineral sales during February to April 2010	Value of sales for February to April 2010	Value of sales for February to April 2011	% change between February to April 2010 and February to April 2011	Contribution to the % change in the total value of mineral sales 1/	Difference in sales between February to April 2010 and February to April 2011
		R million	R million		% points	R million
Gold	17,2	11 668,5	14 278,2	22,4	3,9	2 609,7
Iron ore	14,2	9 608,3	14 579,1	51,7	7,3	4 970,8
Chromium ore	2,1	1 443,1	2 278,7	57,9	1,2	835,6
Copper	1,5	1 013,6	1 362,8	34,5	0,5	349,2
Manganese ore	3,6	2 445,8	2 435,2	-0,4	0,0	-10,6
PGMs	23,1	15 639,4	20 153,6	28,9	6,7	4 514,2
Nickel	2,3	1 561,4	1 920,1	23,0	0,5	358,7
Other metallic minerals	2,9	1 978,7	1 769,0	-10,6	-0,3	-209,7
Coal	24,2	16 430,1	21 049,0	28,1	6,8	4 618,9
Building materials	2,7	1 803,0	1 757,3	-2,5	-0,1	-45,7
Other non-metallic minerals	6,2	4 180,3	5 162,1	23,5	1,5	981,8
Total	100,0	67 772,3	86 745,3	28,0	28,0	18 973,0

1/ The contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in sales is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each mineral with the percentage contribution to total mineral sales during February to April 2010, divided by 100. Figures have been rounded off.

Table 14 – Annual percentage change in the cumulative value of mineral sales according to mineral groups and minerals

Mineral groups and minerals	% contribution to total mineral sales during January to April 2010	Value of sales for January to April 2010	Value of sales for January to April 2011	% change between January to April 2010 and January to April 2011	Contribution to the % change in the total value of mineral sales 2/	Difference in sales between January to April 2010 and January to April 2011
		R million	R million		% points	R million
Gold	16,5	14 365,7	18 187,8	26,6	4,4	3 822,1
Iron ore	13,5	11 715,3	19 294,6	64,7	8,7	7 579,3
Chromium ore	2,2	1 913,5	2 789,4	45,8	1,0	875,9
Copper	1,5	1 299,8	1 685,8	29,7	0,4	386,0
Manganese ore	3,5	3 062,7	3 192,4	4,2	0,1	129,7
PGMs	24,2	21 017,0	26 759,8	27,3	6,6	5 742,8
Nickel	2,3	1 988,2	2 464,7	24,0	0,6	476,5
Other metallic minerals	2,8	2 417,3	2 337,9	-3,3	-0,1	-79,4
Coal	25,2	21 880,0	27 308,7	24,8	6,2	5 428,7
Building materials	2,6	2 286,2	2 204,0	-3,6	-0,1	-82,2
Other non-metallic minerals	5,7	4 970,9	6 053,3	21,8	1,2	1 082,4
Total	100,0	86 916,7	112 278,6	29,2	29,2	25 361,9

2/ The contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in sales is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each mineral with the percentage contribution to total mineral sales during January to April 2010, divided by 100. Figures have been rounded off.

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 Department of Mineral Resources (DMR). 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 mineral groups and minerals 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 2005=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 Department of Mineral Resources (DMR), 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. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the establishment. Statistics in this publication are presented according to mineral groups and minerals.</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 2005 supplied by the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR).</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>Figures for the latest 12 months 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 January 1998 to September 2009 is available in the statistical release P2041, entitled <i>Mining: Production and sales (Preliminary)</i>, published on 12 November 2009 and is available 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; and</i> • <i>SA Statistics.</i> 																
Rounding-off of figures	15	<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>																
Symbols and abbreviations	16	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>DMR</td> <td>Department of Mineral Resources</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GDP</td> <td>Gross domestic product</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ISIC</td> <td>International Standard Industrial Classification</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PGMs</td> <td>Platinum group metals</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SIC</td> <td>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SNA</td> <td>System of National Accounts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stats SA</td> <td>Statistics South Africa</td> </tr> <tr> <td>*</td> <td>Revised</td> </tr> </table>	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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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 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 2005. 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. The current weights that are being used are based on the total value of mineral sales for 2005.

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