

Mining: production and sales

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Actual estimates	November 1999	% change between November 1998	% change between September 1998 to November	% change between January 1998 to November 1998
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		and November 1999	1998 and September 1999 to November 1999	and January 1999 to November 1999
Physical volume of mining production index	100,1	-4,0	-3,3	-1,8

Seasonally adjusted estimates	November 1999	% change between October 1999 and November 1999	% change between June 1999 to August 1999 and September 1999 to November 1999
Physical volume of mining production index	96,6	-1,4	2,3

MINING PRODUCTION AND SALES INCREASE

The total mining production for the three months up to November 1999 reflected an increase of 2,3% after seasonal adjustment compared with the previous three months. The seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales for the three months up to October 1999 reflected an increase of 5,3% compared with the previous three months.

The increase of 2,3% after seasonal adjustment in the total mining production was due to an increase of 4,6% in the production of non-gold minerals during the three months up to November 1999 compared with the previous three months. The major contributors to the increase of 4,6% after seasonal adjustment in the production of non-gold minerals were the production of copper (+0,9 of a percentage point), coal (+0,7 of a percentage point) and nickel (+0,5 of a percentage point) minerals.

The increase of 5,3% in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales was due to an increase of 9,9% (R1 175,9 million) in non-gold mineral sales during the three months up to October 1999 compared with the previous three months. The increase of 9,9% in the seasonally adjusted value of non-gold mineral sales was mainly due to an increase in other non-metallic minerals during this period.

Notes

Forthcoming issues Issue Expected release date

December 1999 8 February 2000

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

Additional information

Explanatory Notes

Introduction 1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) publishes monthly information regarding the mining industry covering a sample of mining establishments (branches). This statistical release contains detailed information regarding indices of the physical volume of mining and the total value of mineral sales according to manufacturing divisions and major groups on a monthly basis.

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

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

4 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 the next statistical release(s) as soon as better information is available.

5 The value of mineral sales is calculated, in general, on a free-on-rail/free-on-board basis.

6 Due to mining production figures being available earlier than mining sales figures, mining production indices are published one month earlier than mining sales.

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. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC division, major group and subgroup level. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the establishment (branch).

Statistical unit 9 The basic statistical unit for the collection of information is the mining establishment. An establishment is the smallest economic unit that functions as a separate entity. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry (cf. paragraph 4).

Weighting 10 The weights which are used to aggregate minerals to mineral groups and mineral groups to total mining, are based on the value of production derived from detailed information for 1995 supplied by the Minerals Bureau.

Seasonal adjustment 11 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. Influences that are volatile or

unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variations. This means the quarter-to-quarter movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

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

- Bulletin of Statistics.
- SA Statistics.

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

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

Glossary

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

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

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

Free-on-board Free-on-board relates to goods destined for the export market. Railage, road transport and **basis** docking charges are involved but no charges are made for the transport by sea.

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

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

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

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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SUMMARY - TOTAL MINING

Period	Production indices	Percentage change
	1995 = 100	Production indices
Actual figures:		
Sep. 1999 - Nov. 1999	99,3	-3,3
Sep. 1998 - Nov. 1998	102,7	
Seasonally adjusted figures:		
Sep. 1999 - Nov. 1999	97,5	+2,3
Jun. 1999 - Aug. 1999	95,3	

Period	Mineral sales	Percentage change
	R million	Mineral sales
Actual figures:		
Aug. 1999 - Oct. 1999	19 217,2	+2,2
Aug. 1998 - Oct. 1998	18 804,2	
Seasonally adjusted figures:		
Aug. 1999 - Oct. 1999	18 643,0	+5,3
May 1999 - Jul. 1999	17 702,0	

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

Base 1995 = 100

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Actual indices							
J	96,4	99,8	95,0	96,0	93,6	91,6	93,7
F	102,1	101,9	99,3	98,3	98,8	97,7	96,7
M	102,0	101,0	101,1	99,1	97,6	99,7	97,7
A	100,7	99,8	95,9	93,3	96,7	96,5	94,9
M	100,8	95,6	96,2	97,6	101,9	95,7	98,5
J	103,3	101,5	105,1	100,8	105,7	104,2	98,4
J	104,0	100,0	100,2	98,6	100,6	96,5	97,3
A	104,8	104,4	104,4	99,5	103,1	99,4	95,3
S	103,5	103,6	104,6	98,8	102,6	99,1	99,0
O	103,3	100,1	98,9	98,7	100,6	104,6	98,7
N	105,0	104,3	100,1	100,3	104,4	104,3	100,1
D	101,6	98,2	99,2	98,9	98,6	100,5	
Year	102,3	100,9	100,0	98,3	100,4	99,2	
Seasonally adjusted indices							
J	101,3	104,8	99,3	100,5	98,1	96,3	98,5
F	103,3	102,5	99,7	99,1	100,0	99,1	98,2
M	102,6	101,3	100,8	98,6	97,1	99,3	97,4
A	103,5	102,9	99,0	96,8	100,4	100,1	98,4
M	102,9	97,1	97,2	98,5	102,6	96,2	98,9
J	102,2	99,9	102,2	97,4	101,4	99,6	94,1
J	104,0	100,0	100,1	98,7	100,8	96,8	97,5
A	102,2	101,7	101,7	97,3	101,3	98,1	94,3
S	102,3	102,2	102,6	97,1	101,0	97,9	97,9
O	103,2	100,1	98,7	98,5	100,1	103,0	98,0
N	103,6	102,4	97,6	97,5	101,0	100,7	96,6
D	104,9	100,4	100,5	99,8	99,5	101,1	

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

Base 1995 = 100

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Actual indices							
J	84,5	1994	94,2	98,4	99,8	94,9	100,0
F	89,4	95,8	97,0	97,0	103,3	103,0	102,6
M	89,1	91,7	98,9	100,1	97,7	106,3	103,2
A	89,1	93,0	95,4	95,3	101,8	104,4	101,3

M	89,7	89,8	99,1	100,0	107,0	106,5	109,1
J	94,9	95,0	108,1	104,9	114,4	113,4	105,9
J	95,4	94,3	100,1	103,6	107,5	104,1	109,3
A	96,2	99,3	105,4	102,3	107,7	106,0	105,8
S	93,9	96,5	106,1	104,0	104,7	104,6	106,0
O	92,8	93,8	96,9	101,5	105,6	114,9	109,8
N	96,1	99,9	100,2	102,1	106,0	109,0	111,6
D	90,8	91,8	98,8	99,7	100,4	101,5	
Year	91,8	94,4	100,0	100,7	104,7	105,7	
Seasonally adjusted indices							
J	88,0	95,8	97,5	101,9	103,4	98,7	104,2
F	89,9	96,4	97,9	98,3	105,1	105,2	104,8
M	90,3	92,6	99,6	100,6	98,0	106,6	103,5
A	90,4	95,2	98,0	98,2	104,9	107,7	104,3
M	90,5	90,5	99,6	100,3	106,8	105,9	108,4
J	91,9	91,2	102,9	99,0	107,3	106,1	98,9
J	93,5	92,6	98,3	101,9	105,6	102,0	107,1
A	91,7	95,3	101,8	99,6	105,8	104,9	104,9
S	91,9	94,8	104,5	103,1	104,2	104,6	106,4
O	93,4	94,5	97,5	101,7	105,2	114,0	108,9
N	94,7	98,7	99,0	101,0	104,6	107,3	109,7
D	95,5	95,9	102,9	103,5	104,3	105,4	

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

Base 1995=100

Divisions and major groups	Weights	Actual indices				Seasonally adjusted indices		
		1998	1999		1998	1999		1998
			Nov.	Oct. *		Nov.	Nov.	
Total, gold included	100,0	99,1	100,1	98,7	104,3	96,6	98,0	100,7
Total, gold excluded	57,5	105,7	111,6	109,8	109,0	109,7	108,9	107,3
Gold	42,5	90,0	84,5	83,6	98,0	78,9	83,4	91,8
Iron ore	3,0	104,1	103,6	102,1	108,9	101,0	103,6	106,3
Chrome	1,1	119,8	122,5	120,8	126,3	112,5	115,2	116,2
Copper	3,1	100,3	100,5	106,2	95,5	95,6	98,0	90,9
Manganese ore	1,3	97,9	104,9	93,1	108,7	101,3	92,3	105,3
Platinum	11,9	109,0	118,7	120,6	118,3	116,0	124,1	116,1
Nickel	1,5	117,8	171,1	154,1	107,3	175,3	155,3	110,5
Other metallic minerals	2,4	107,2	92,6	94,7	111,5	92,2	94,0	111,6
Diamonds	4,4	105,0	121,7	98,9	111,3	108,3	100,4	99,9
Coal	23,2	106,7	112,4	111,3	108,6	112,0	107,8	108,2
Building materials	3,5	88,8	88,0	85,2	85,1	93,7	88,8	89,9
Other non-metallic minerals	2,1	101,4	92,8	110,7	113,8	88,8	109,0	109,1

* Revised

Table 4 - Total value of sales - gold included

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Actual values (R million)							
J	3 748,6	4 428,8	4 669,2	5 165,8	6 447,8	5 462,5	6 145,9
F	3 108,1	3 619,4	4 234,8	4 604,2	5 159,4	5 082,6	5 959,8
M	3 585,3	4 201,9	4 700,0	5 002,8	4 936,6	5 428,5	6 027,6
A	4 529,3	4 001,4	4 413,4	5 380,9	5 576,8	5 668,8	5 960,7
M	3 554,3	4 325,1	4 704,9	5 345,1	5 309,0	5 590,3	5 544,5
J	3 705,1	4 115,8	4 525,2	4 994,8	5 445,9	6 072,5	6 481,2
J	4 422,7	4 669,5	4 777,7	5 795,5	5 780,3	6 597,5	6 053,1
A	4 273,8	4 415,7	4 667,3	5 478,0	5 546,2	6 200,0	6 908,8
S	4 078,4	4 526,6	4 840,0	5 124,5	5 568,2	6 160,6	6 371,0
O	3 948,7	4 343,9	5 133,4	6 227,7	6 026,1	6 443,6	5 937,4
N	3 815,3	4 153,1	4 538,8	5 117,2	5 130,8	6 021,7	
D	4 107,9	3 910,4	3 805,3	4 868,2	5 386,9	6 319,0	
Year	46 877,5	50 711,6	55 010,0	63 104,7	66 314,0	71 047,6	
Seasonally adjusted values (R million)							
J	3 647,0	4 274,0	4 511,3	4 970,0	6 198,7	5 307,5	5 959,4
F	3 492,5	4 035,5	4 651,1	4 989,8	5 514,6	5 400,7	6 336,1
M	3 606,2	4 231,6	4 758,8	5 112,0	5 077,6	5 622,6	6 283,0
A	4 479,2	3 928,0	4 318,3	5 269,7	5 503,3	5 631,4	5 929,6
M	3 585,0	4 325,2	4 685,2	5 337,5	5 343,1	5 679,5	5 668,6
J	3 798,4	4 255,0	4 615,0	5 038,6	5 398,4	5 944,3	6 306,6
J	3 975,5	4 231,9	4 385,5	5 365,7	5 392,1	6 213,4	5 726,8
A	4 010,6	4 210,7	4 509,7	5 340,3	5 438,9	6 085,1	6 785,0
S	3 941,2	4 407,1	4 741,6	5 038,8	5 489,1	6 061,9	6 266,8
O	3 742,8	4 082,6	4 828,0	5 851,7	5 638,1	6 054,2	5 591,2
N	4 036,8	4 435,9	4 835,7	5 444,0	5 432,6	6 361,3	
D	4 646,9	4 372,0	4 136,1	5 258,2	5 763,2	6 729,3	

Table 5 - Total value of mineral sales - gold excluded

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Actual values (R million)							
J	1 911,1	2 106,9	2 612,9	2 764,4	3 394,4	3 622,7	4 033,8
F	1 727,0	1 965,1	2 454,0	2 613,0	3 280,4	3 346,0	3 839,0

M	1 826,1	2 095,5	2 678,6	3 031,1	3 172,6	3 594,1	3 920,4
A	1 953,5	2 165,1	2 390,1	2 828,6	3 441,4	3 757,0	3 849,7
M	1 917,0	2 118,6	2 716,5	3 078,3	3 245,0	3 735,9	3 679,8
J	2 146,7	2 239,9	2 751,4	3 104,1	3 663,5	4 176,9	4 504,1
J	1 981,2	2 266,1	2 727,9	3 229,8	3 429,2	4 214,0	4 118,6
A	2 067,0	2 319,0	2 577,6	3 066,1	3 555,0	4 003,7	5 017,1
S	2 137,5	2 333,5	2 695,9	3 088,7	3 573,9	3 955,1	4 318,6
O	1 992,1	2 076,3	2 635,1	3 539,1	3 566,2	4 183,0	3 933,4
N	1 961,8	2 029,1	2 819,6	3 130,9	3 332,1	3 987,2	
D	2 017,0	2 043,2	2 615,1	3 148,1	3 583,1	4 192,4	
Year	23 638,0	25 758,3	31 674,7	36 622,2	41 236,8	46 768,0	
Seasonally adjusted values (R million)							
J	1 964,0	2 136,9	2 619,3	2 750,5	3 372,2	3 600,1	4 006,4
F	1 832,1	2 077,4	2 586,0	2 740,6	3 443,5	3 519,1	4 049,9
M	1 794,4	2 069,0	2 664,5	3 038,0	3 201,0	3 660,8	4 024,4
A	1 924,3	2 132,4	2 360,6	2 807,5	3 445,0	3 785,8	3 885,0
M	1 928,9	2 112,0	2 695,8	3 061,9	3 248,2	3 771,2	3 740,6
J	2 025,2	2 105,0	2 591,1	2 920,6	3 437,6	3 891,1	4 179,9
J	1 930,2	2 197,0	2 627,8	3 120,2	3 311,7	4 091,8	4 007,3
A	1 954,2	2 236,7	2 523,3	3 031,9	3 524,7	3 967,7	4 954,4
S	2 041,7	2 250,9	2 629,0	3 041,1	3 546,0	3 932,9	4 292,7
O	2 024,3	2 122,8	2 684,0	3 558,1	3 539,2	4 114,4	3 856,6
N	2 068,2	2 141,4	2 972,6	3 283,8	3 475,1	4 143,5	
D	2 184,6	2 175,5	2 741,8	3 242,1	3 643,7	4 227,6	

* Revised

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

R million								
Divisions and major groups	Actual value				Seasonally adjusted value			
	1998	1999		1998	1999		1998	
		Oct.	Oct.	Sep. *	Oct.	Oct.	Sep.	Oct.
Total, gold included	71 047,6	5 937,7	6 371,0	6 443,6	5 591,2	6 266,8	6 054,2	
Total, gold excluded	46 768,0	3 933,4	4 318,6	4 183,0	3 856,6	4 292,7	4 114,4	
Gold	24 279,6	2 004,4	2 052,4	2 260,6	1 734,6	1 974,2	1 939,7	
Iron ore	2 531,0	210,3	146,6	181,1	209,7	155,2	181,2	
Chrome	863,3	54,2	68,7	83,2	53,9	65,8	81,6	
Copper	1 554,8	127,2	163,2	112,5	127,9	142,0	113,9	
Manganese ore	962,2	68,2	66,9	94,5	69,7	67,4	97,8	
Platinum	12 162,2	1 076,7	1 192,0	1 102,3	1 121,7	1 103,9	1 154,9	
Nickel	921,5	132,0	122,6	79,5	144,9	119,2	88,6	

Other metallic minerals	2 506,0	180,0	174,0	203,5	179,9	177,4	205,1
Coal	17 826,5	1 463,6	1 363,3	1 645,3	1 384,5	1 354,0	1 562,3
Building materials	2 269,9	220,6	224,1	186,6	213,6	217,4	180,2
- Granite or norite	472,8	54,1	55,1	29,6	54,2	49,6	29,6
- Lime and limestone	719,1	78,7	80,7	56,9	77,4	78,3	55,6
- Other building materials	1 077,9	87,8	88,3	100,1	82,4	87,1	93,6
Other non-metallic minerals	5 170,7	400,6	797,2	494,5	289,1	1 079,4	352,2

* Revised

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