

Mining: production and sales

November 2003

Co-operation between Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), the citizens of the country, the private sector and government institutions is essential for a successful statistical system. Without continued co-operation and goodwill, the timely release of relevant and reliable official statistics will not be possible.

Stats SA publishes approximately three hundred different 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.

This data in this statistical release adheres to the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which sets out standards on coverage, periodicity and timeliness of data; access by the public; integrity; and quality of the disseminated data.

**Embargoed until: 11:00
Date: 13 January 2004**

NB The compilation of statistics on mining production and sales is currently undergoing a methodological review.

This review may lead to a revision of some of the data in the series.

Key figures regarding mining production as at the end of November 2003

Actual estimates

	November 2003	% change between November 2002 and November 2003	% change between September 2002 to November 2002 and September 2003 to November 2003	% change between January 2002 to November 2002 and January 2003 to November 2003
Index of the physical volume of mining production (2000=100)				
Gold	87,2	-4,0%	-6,5%	-6,2%
Non-gold minerals	123,1	+8,6%	+11,3%	+9,2%
Total	113,8	+5,9%	+7,3%	+5,6%

Seasonally adjusted estimates

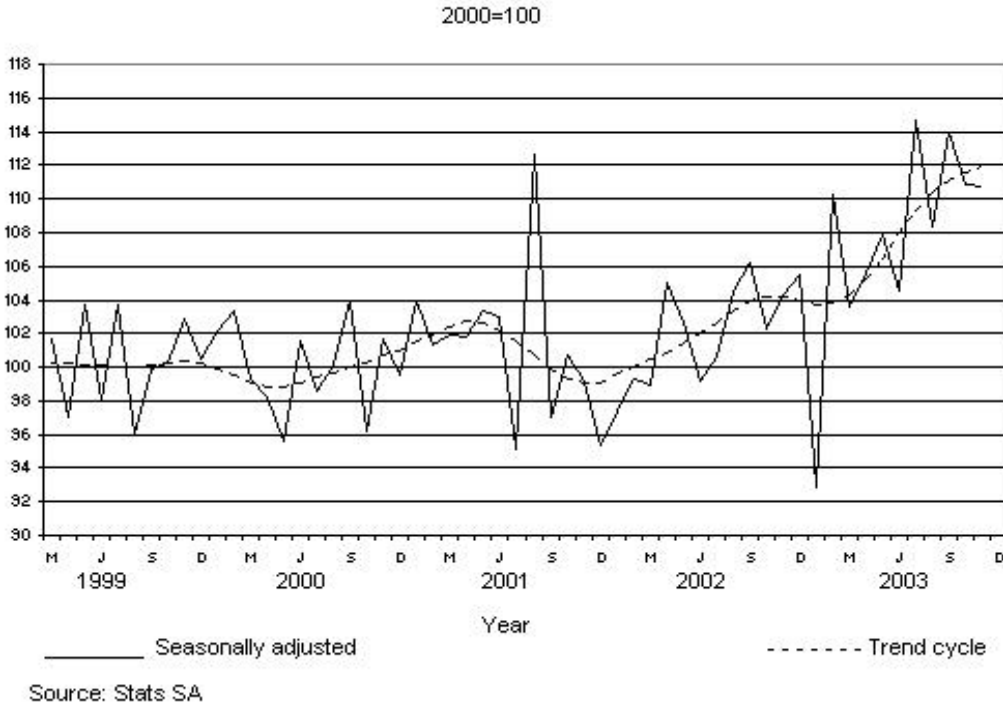
	November 2003	% change between October 2003 and November 2003	% change between June 2003 to August 2003 and September 2003 to November 2003
Index of the physical volume of mining production (2000=100)			
Gold	86,6	+0,7%	+0,3%
Non-gold minerals	119,0	-0,3%	+3,0%
Total	110,7	-0,1%	+2,4%

Key findings regarding mining production as at the end of November 2003

Mining production increases

Total mining production for the three months ended November 2003, after seasonal adjustment, reflected an increase of 2,4% compared with the previous three months.

The increase of 2,4% after seasonal adjustment in the total mining production was mainly due to a seasonally adjusted increase of 3,0% in the production of non-gold minerals during the three months ended November 2003 compared with the previous three months. Furthermore, a slight seasonally adjusted increase of 0,3% in gold production was reflected during the same period. The major contributor to the seasonally adjusted increase of 3,0% in the production of non-gold minerals, after seasonal adjustment, was the production of coal (contributing 1,3 percentage points), followed by diamonds (contributing 0,6 of a percentage point) and iron (contributing 0,4 of a percentage point).

Figure 1 - Indices of physical volume of total mining production including gold**Key figures regarding mineral sales as at the end of October 2003****Actual estimates**

	October 2003 R million	% change between October 2002 and October 2003	% change between August 2002 to October 2002 and August 2003 to October 2003	% change between January 2002 to October 2002 and January 2003 to October 2003
Mineral sales				
Gold	2 630,8	-30,8%	-25,5%	-21,7%
Non-gold minerals	7 173,7	-17,6%	-16,8%	-13,8%
Total	9 804,5	-21,6%	-19,5%	-16,2%

Seasonally adjusted estimates

	October 2003 R million	% change between September 2003 and October 2003	% change between May 2003 to July 2003 and August 2003 to October 2003
Mineral sales			
Gold	2 408,1	-15,7%	-7,1%
Non-gold minerals	7 350,2	+4,3%	+5,5%
Total	9 758,3	-1,5%	+1,8%

Key findings regarding mineral sales as at the end of October 2003

Mineral sales increase

The seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended October 2003 reflected an increase of 1,8% compared with the previous three months of 2003. However, the actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended October 2003 reflected a decrease of 19,5% compared with the corresponding three months of 2002.

The increase of 1,8% in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales for the three months ended October 2003 compared with the previous three months can be attributed to an increase of 5,5% (+R1 117,1 million) in sales of non-gold minerals. This increase was partially counteracted by decreases in sales of gold minerals of 7,1% (-R589,9 million) during the same period.

The major contributors to the decrease of 19,5% in the actual value of mineral sales at current prices for the three months ended October 2003 compared with the three months ended October 2002 were gold (-7,7 percentage points or -R2 789 million), other non-metallic minerals (-4,2 percentage points or -R1 536,6 million), coal (-3,0 percentage points or -R1 103,1 million) and PGM's ^{1/} (-2,1 percentage points or -R761,1 million) (see table A).

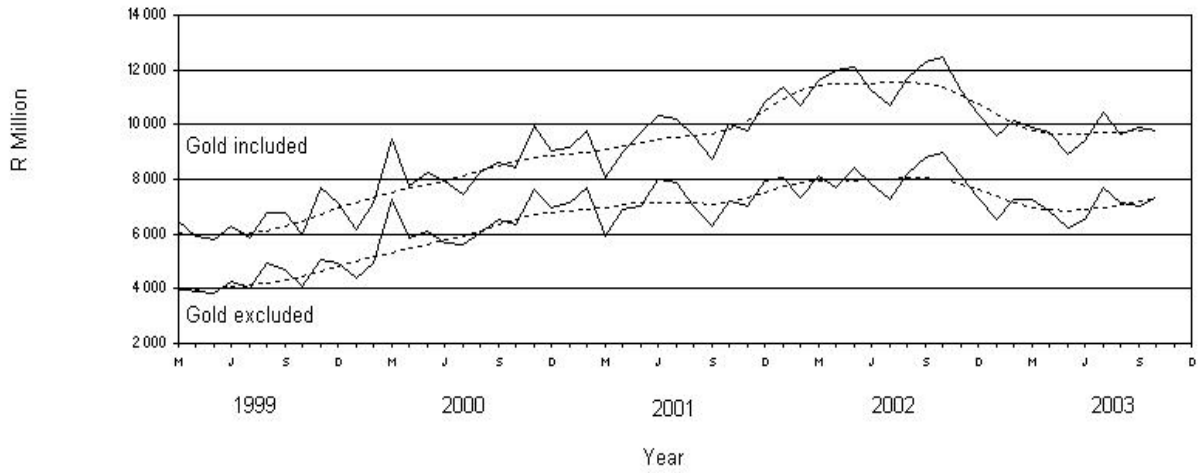
Table A - Contribution of the mining divisions to the total value of mineral sales

Mining division	Percentage contribution to total mineral sales during August 2002 to October 2002	Percentage change between August 2002 to October 2002 and August 2003 to October 2003	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in the total value of mineral sales ^{2/}	Difference in sales of mining divisions between August 2002 to October 2002 and August 2003 to October 2003 R million
Gold	30,1	-25,5	-7,7	-2 789,0
Non-gold minerals				
Iron ore	3,2	-13,4	-0,4	-155,1
Copper	1,6	-31,9	-0,5	-188,4
Manganese ore	1,2	-8,5	-0,1	-35,9
Chromium	0,8	-6,1	0,0	+17,0
PGM's ^{1/}	23,3	-9,0	-2,1	-761,1
Nickel	2,1	-2,0	-0,0	-15,5
Other metallic minerals	3,5	-42,8	-1,5	-538,5
Coal	20,5	-14,9	-3,0	-1 103,1
Building materials	2,5	5,7	0,1	+51,1
Other non-metallic	11,3	-37,5	-4,2	-1 536,6
Total non-gold minerals	69,9	-16,8	-11,8	-4 266,1
Total minerals	100,0	-19,5	-19,5	-7 055,1

^{1/} PGM's - Platinum Group Metals includes platinum; tridium; osmiridium; palladium; rhodium; ruthenium and osmium.

^{2/} 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 August 2002 to October 2002, divided by 100.

Figure 2 - Total value of mineral sales including gold



Source: Stats SA

_____ Seasonally adjusted

----- Trend cycle

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Forthcoming issues	Issue	Expected date of publication
	December 2003	10 February 2004
	January 2004	9 March 2004
	February 2004	6 April 2004

Purpose of the survey The monthly mining production and sales survey is a survey conducted by the Minerals Bureau, covering all mining establishments operating in the South African economy. The results of this survey are used to calculate physical volume of mining production indices in order to estimate the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components, which in turn are used to develop and monitor Government policy.

Table 1 - Index of the physical volume of mining production including gold
Base 2000 = 100

Month	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Actual indices							
J	97,6	99,1	92,6	93,8	95,0	89,0	85,3
F	103,1	101,5	99,0	99,3	96,8	94,2	103,7
M	101,8	103,8	104,8	100,0	102,3	99,1	103,5
A	100,9	99,8	96,2	95,0	98,9	102,0	103,0
M	106,3	100,3	104,5	95,7	103,6	102,9	108,5*
J	110,2	108,8	103,7	106,8	108,4	104,1	110,0*
J	105,0	101,8	102,5	96,9	93,5	99,0	112,0
A	107,5	104,1	98,4	102,1	115,2	107,2	111,1*
S	107,1	104,2	104,4	104,9	98,4	108,1	116,2
O	105,0	109,3	104,2	100,0	105,1	106,7	115,8*
N	108,9	106,8	107,0	105,5	102,6	107,5	113,8 1/
D	102,8	103,2	100,9	100,2	97,2	107,1	
Year	104,7	103,6	101,5	100,0	101,4	102,2	
Seasonally adjusted indices							
J	100,1	101,7	97,9	102,1	104,0	97,4	92,9
F	99,4	101,1	100,0	103,4	101,3	99,3	110,2
M	96,5	99,7	101,7	99,3	101,9	98,9	103,6
A	101,1	101,7	97,0	98,2	101,8	105,0	105,6
M	103,8	98,5	103,7	95,6	103,4	102,6	107,9
J	102,6	103,6	98,1	101,6	103,0	99,2	104,5
J	102,3	99,0	103,7	98,6	95,1	100,6	114,7
A	101,6	98,7	96,0	100,1	112,6	104,5	108,3
S	100,7	99,9	99,9	104,0	97,0	106,2	114,0
O	99,0	105,2	100,3	96,2	100,7	102,3	110,8
N	102,1	101,2	102,9	101,7	99,2	104,3	110,7
D	100,0	101,9	100,5	99,5	95,4	105,5	

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

Month	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Actual indices							
J	94,0	94,5	90,6	94,4	98,3	89,6	86,0
F	97,3	97,8	96,1	96,4	98,6	95,8	110,0
M	92,0	101,5	98,6	97,9	104,4	101,0	108,5
A	95,9	98,6	91,6	94,1	102,2	105,3	109,0
M	100,8	99,5	105,1	96,6	108,9	107,0	116,5
J	107,7	106,4	100,7	107,5	112,5	107,3	118,5*
J	101,3	99,4	103,5	97,6	93,7	102,4	120,7
A	101,5	100,3	97,1	101,7	124,5	111,2	119,3*
S	98,7	99,7	100,6	105,1	99,7	111,4	125,4*
O	99,4	110,8	104,6	100,6	110,2	111,9	126,1
N	99,9	104,5	107,7	107,4	106,8	113,3	123,1 1/
D	94,6	96,3	97,2	100,8	97,7	111,3	
Year	98,6	100,8	99,5	100,0	104,8	105,6	
Seasonally adjusted indices							
J	95,8	96,4	95,3	102,4	107,6	98,2	93,6
F	94,4	98,3	98,0	101,0	103,8	101,7	117,8
M	89,7	98,0	98,1	98,0	104,7	101,5	109,2
A	96,4	100,1	93,1	97,2	105,3	108,5	111,8
M	98,6	96,3	102,5	95,1	107,4	105,6	114,7
J	99,2	101,4	95,7	101,9	106,5	101,9	112,1
J	98,3	95,6	103,7	98,8	94,7	103,7	123,6
A	97,1	95,7	95,5	100,0	121,9	108,5	116,3
S	95,5	97,7	98,2	105,8	99,6	110,5	124,0
O	94,1	105,0	99,4	95,5	104,3	106,1	119,4
N	96,0	99,3	103,0	103,0	102,6	109,3	119,0
D	95,8	99,1	99,9	101,3	96,6	110,5	

* Revised

1/ Preliminary

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

Base 2000=100

Minerals	Weights	Actual indices				Seasonally adjusted indices		
		2002	2003		2002 Nov.	2003		2002 Nov.
			Nov.1/	Oct. *		Nov.	Nov.	
Total, gold included	100,0	102,2	113,8	115,8	107,5	110,7	110,8	104,3
Total, gold excluded	74,3	105,6	123,1	126,1	113,3	119,0	119,4	109,3
Gold	25,7	92,4	87,2	86,0	90,8	86,6	86,0	89,9
Iron ore	3,1	109,2	122,0	124,4	107,6	118,5	118,0	103,7
Chrome	1,1	96,6	121,2	120,4	105,2	117,3	112,2	101,5
Copper	1,6	94,7	90,4	93,6	92,4	86,6	84,6	87,2
Manganese ore	1,3	92,3	90,4	90,4	102,0	86,7	88,1	97,3
PGM's 2/	27,6	115,9	142,4	148,8	126,8	137,2	140,8	122,2
Nickel	2,0	105,3	114,8	118,4	106,0	113,6	117,1	104,2
Other metallic minerals	2,9	99,6	80,8	78,4	99,2	83,9	79,7	103,0
Diamonds	8,4	100,6	136,0	117,2	108,4	130,3	112,3	102,2
Coal	20,0	99,8	112,8	119,6	107,6	109,0	112,4	103,9
Building materials	2,6	99,3	102,0	104,4	107,6	96,8	96,0	102,0
Other non-metallic minerals	3,8	90,6	87,2	94,8	94,4	84,4	92,2	91,4

1/ Preliminary

2/ PGM's - Platinum Group Metals includes platinum; tridium; osmiridium; palladium; rhodium; ruthenium and osmium.

* Revised

Table 4 - Total value of mineral sales including gold
R million

Month	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002*	2003*
Actual values							
J	6 447,8	5 577,2	6 098,8	6 244,1	9 241,5	11 387,0	9 745,0
F	5 159,4	5 316,4	5 763,6	7 115,7	9 711,7	10 634,4	10 143,7
M	4 936,6	5 547,6	6 445,1	8 958,5	8 134,9	11 639,2	9 698,3
A	5 576,8	5 662,1	5 706,5	7 521,3	8 554,2	11 194,9	9 108,4
M	5 309,0	5 433,1	5 702,9	8 222,7	9 675,9	12 145,3	9 002,0
J	5 445,9	6 017,2	6 391,3	8 222,5	10 640,7	11 637,2	9 728,9
J	5 780,3	6 669,1	5 996,1	7 640,3	10 146,3	10 773,2	10 325,4
A	5 546,2	6 318,5	6 852,9	8 223,4	9 586,4	11 632,5	9 575,4
S	5 568,2	6 066,8	6 548,3	8 568,9	8 711,5	12 111,4	9 821,1
O	6 026,1	6 446,0	6 005,9	8 317,6	9 999,6	12 512,2	9 804,5 1/
N	5 130,8	5 994,9	7 573,0	9 828,5	9 627,7	11 040,3	
D	5 386,9	6 343,0	7 346,9	9 474,9	11 327,7	10 762,3	
Year	66 314,0	71 391,9	76 431,3	98 338,4	115 358,1	137 469,9	
Seasonally adjusted values							
J	6 192,7	6 067,9	5 987,9	6 165,3	9 159,2	11 363,6	9 593,3
F	5 373,6	5 950,8	5 884,0	7 172,0	9 775,2	10 711,6	10 117,9
M	4 933,4	5 589,8	6 487,7	9 464,3	8 088,7	11 601,6	9 888,8
A	5 606,6	6 544,1	5 915,9	7 770,2	8 969,8	11 954,6	9 707,0
M	5 362,1	5 538,1	5 816,7	8 258,8	9 686,9	12 108,5	8 936,8
J	5 489,8	5 938,3	6 264,5	7 931,4	10 313,4	11 243,5	9 408,9
J	5 553,8	6 428,1	5 847,6	7 469,1	10 225,1	10 711,3	10 461,7
A	5 472,0	6 269,9	6 803,4	8 274,8	9 587,0	11 680,3	9 670,6
S	5 629,6	6 136,3	6 775,1	8 618,3	8 718,7	12 259,1	9 905,7
O	5 690,6	6 285,1	5 955,7	8 415,3	9 998,7	12 459,3	9 758,3
N	5 282,8	6 123,7	7 690,0	9 971,9	9 781,0	11 257,0	
D	5 528,4	6 311,9	7 139,9	9 024,5	10 818,5	10 358,8	

Table 5 - Total value of mineral sales excluding gold
R million

Month	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002*	2003*
Actual values							
J	3 394,4	3 737,4	4 033,9	4 476,9	7 181,9	8 002,3	6 610,1
F	3 280,4	3 579,7	3 801,6	4 963,8	7 720,8	7 368,2	7 337,6
M	3 172,6	3 713,2	3 938,7	6 688,4	5 912,0	8 110,9	6 997,0
A	3 441,4	3 779,7	3 802,4	5 790,2	6 748,0	7 481,9	6 614,1
M	3 245,0	3 677,1	3 826,7	6 166,9	7 139,7	8 619,3	6 368,5
J	3 663,5	4 121,5	4 413,3	5 908,5	8 245,9	8 035,5	6 727,0
J	3 429,2	4 285,6	4 061,6	5 700,6	7 779,6	7 337,9	7 523,5
A	3 555,0	4 122,2	4 956,0	5 892,6	6 942,5	8 064,1	6 999,4
S	3 573,9	3 857,5	4 480,8	6 479,6	6 219,3	8 558,4	6 893,2
O	3 566,2	4 175,0	3 947,8	6 047,1	6 971,4	8 709,8	7 173,7 1/
N	3 332,1	3 955,1	5 038,1	7 529,4	6 953,1	7 962,6	
D	3 583,1	4 092,9	5 139,7	7 422,4	8 532,3	7 832,6	
Year	41 236,8	47 096,9	51 440,6	73 066,4	86 346,5	96 083,5	
Seasonally adjusted values							
J	3 240,1	4 256,0	3 941,4	4 409,9	7 133,4	8 063,9	6 553,4
F	3 296,7	4 071,9	3 802,2	4 920,8	7 719,3	7 352,3	7 236,9
M	3 134,6	3 746,3	4 008,4	7 247,0	5 918,1	8 144,3	7 236,5
A	3 476,0	4 611,9	3 882,1	5 852,8	6 922,8	7 697,7	6 834,3
M	3 240,7	3 706,1	3 846,3	6 104,2	7 043,5	8 458,3	6 219,2
J	3 540,0	3 935,8	4 249,2	5 655,2	8 010,4	7 820,2	6 560,5
J	3 425,9	4 229,1	4 024,3	5 590,1	7 889,3	7 292,2	7 669,5
A	3 540,3	4 138,3	4 969,2	6 015,0	7 028,9	8 213,6	7 168,0
S	3 648,1	3 936,3	4 716,5	6 559,5	6 276,0	8 792,6	7 048,1
O	3 551,3	4 275,1	4 094,5	6 332,1	7 209,3	8 965,9	7 350,2
N	3 363,8	3 977,7	5 068,2	7 606,9	7 031,4	8 093,0	
D	3 678,2	4 037,4	4 917,9	6 943,7	7 951,9	7 323,6	

* Revised

1/ Preliminary

Table 6 - Total value of mineral sales according to major divisions, major groups and minerals
R million

Minerals	Actual value					Seasonally adjusted value		
	2002	2003		2002	2003		2002	
		Oct.1/	Sep. *	Oct.	Oct.	Sep.	Oct.	
Total, gold included	137 469,9	9 804,5	9 821,1	12 512,2	9 758,3	9 905,7	12 459,3	
Total, gold excluded	96 083,5	7 173,7	6 893,2	8 709,8	7 350,2	7 048,1	8 965,9	
Gold	41 386,1	2 630,8	2 927,9	3 802,4	2 408,1	2 857,6	3 493,4	
Iron ore	5 313,6	346,3	361,1	337,3	384,1	432,6	365,4	
Chrome	1 101,2	104,4	102,5	78,3	114,9	96,6	86,4	
Copper	2 143,3	162,2	112,5	206,5	141,7	116,6	181,7	
Manganese ore	1 626,4	116,6	78,7	91,5	142,3	75,2	111,1	
PGM's 2/	34 828,7	2 495,7	2 798,6	2 789,9	2 724,6	2 684,5	3 066,5	
Nickel	2 639,0	281,4	195,1	247,1	299,7	208,4	263,2	
Other metallic minerals	4 480,1	281,8	156,4	371,2	261,5	152,3	347,1	
Coal	28 558,2	2 106,2	2 020,2	2 385,7	2 037,2	2 019,8	2 305,7	
Building materials	3 233,8	292,1	366,5	293,9	268,8	347,0	271,9	
- Granite or norite	885,1	49,8	128,3	66,9	46,9	121,6	63,5	
- Lime and limestone	1 061,9	109,3	107,0	100,5	100,5	102,4	92,7	
- Other building materials	1 286,7	133,0	131,2	126,5	121,4	123,0	115,7	
Other non-metallic minerals	12 158,6	987,0	701,7	1 908,2	975,4	915,1	1 966,9	

1/ Preliminary

2/ PGM's - Platinum Group Metals includes platinum; tridium;osmiridium; palladium; rhodium; ruthenium and osmium.

* Revised

Explanatory notes

- Introduction**
- 1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) publishes monthly information regarding the mining industry on the basis of mining production figures and mineral sales furnished by the Minerals Bureau, Department of Minerals and Energy. This statistical release contains detailed information regarding indices of the physical volume of mining production and the total value of mineral sales according to mining divisions and mineral groups on a monthly basis.
 - 2 In accordance with international practice, the indices have to be re-based every five years to a new base year. The base year of the index of the physical volume of mining production is currently 2000=100. Both actual and seasonally adjusted figures are presented.
 - 3 Due to mining production figures being available earlier than mineral sales figures, mining production indices are published one month earlier than mineral sales.
 - 4 The value of mineral sales is calculated, in general, on a free-on-rail/free-on-board basis.
 - 5 In order to improve timeliness, some information for the current month may have been estimated due to late response. These estimates will be revised in future statistical release(s) as soon as more up-to-date information is available.
- Scope of the survey**
- 6 This survey covers mining establishments conducting activities regarding -
 - the extracting, dressing and beneficiating of minerals occurring naturally, for example solids such as coal and ores.
- Classification**
- 7 The 1993 edition of the *Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC)*, Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 *International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC)* with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC division, major group and subgroup level. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the establishment.
- Statistical unit**
- 8 The basic statistical unit for the collection of information is the mining establishment. An establishment is the smallest economic unit that functions as a separate entity. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry (see paragraph 7).
- Weighting**
- 9 The weights which are used to aggregate minerals to mineral groups and mineral groups to total mining, are based on the value of production derived from detailed information for 2000 supplied by the Minerals Bureau, Department of Minerals and Energy.
- Seasonal adjustment**
- 10 Seasonally adjusted estimates of all items are generated each month, using the X-11 Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by US Bureau of the Census Economic Research and Analyses Division, 1968. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month.
- Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variations. This means the month-to-month movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

Reliability of estimates	11	Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. Figures for the latest month are preliminary.
Historical data	12	More comprehensive detail on the method of calculation and historical data in respect of the production indices according to mining mineral groups for the period January 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, January 1990 to November 2002</i> , published on 11 February 2003 on the Stats SA website www.statssa.gov.za .
Related publications	13	Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA - <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Bulletin of Statistics</i>.• <i>SA Statistics</i>.
Unpublished statistics	14	In some cases Stats SA can also make available statistics which are not published. The statistics can be made available via: computer printouts or diskette or CD. Generally a charge is made for providing unpublished statistics.
Rounding-off of figures	15	The figures in the tables have, where necessary, been rounded off to the nearest digit shown. There may, therefore, be slight discrepancies between the sums of the constituent items and the totals shown.

Glossary

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