

Mining: production and sales

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MINING PRODUCTION CONTINUES TO DECREASE

The seasonally adjusted total mining production for the third quarter of 1999 decreased by 1,7% compared with the previous quarter. However, the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales for the three months up to August 1999 increased by 4,3% (R775,5 million) compared with the previous three months.

The seasonally adjusted decrease of 1,7% in the total mining production was mainly due to a decrease of 5,6% in gold production during the third quarter of 1999 compared with the second quarter of 1999. The seasonally adjusted production of non-gold minerals reflected an increase of 0,8% during this period, mainly due to iron and steel (+0,4 of a percentage point) and platinum (+0,6 of a percentage point) production.

The increase of 4,3% in the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales was due to an increase of 11,9% (+R1 388,6) reported by non-gold mines during the three months up to August 1999 compared with the previous three months. However, the seasonally adjusted value of sales of gold decreased by 9,8% during this period.

NOTES

1. This statistical release contains information of the RSA. Data shown in the tables are compiled by Statistics South Africa on the basis of information furnished by the Minerals Bureau, Department of Minerals and Energy.
2. The value of mineral sales is calculated, in general, on a free-on-rail/free-on-board basis.
3. In accordance with international practice, the indices were recalculated on the basis of 1995=100. The weighting factors for aggregating minerals to mineral groups and mineral groups to total mining, were simultaneously revised on the basis of the value of production derived from detailed information for 1995 supplied by the Minerals Bureau.
4. The indices of the physical volume of mining production and sales of minerals are currently published in the Bulletin of Statistics.
5. In order to improve timeliness, some information for the current month has been estimated due to late response. The information for the latest month is therefore preliminary and subject to revision.
6. Due to mining production figures being available earlier than mining sales figures, mining production indices are published one month earlier than mining sales.

SUMMARY - TOTAL MINING

| Period | Production indices | Percentage change |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | 1995 = 100 | Production indices |
| Actual figures: | | |
| Jul. 1999 - Sep. 1999 | 95,9 | -2,4 |
| Jul. 1998 - Sep. 1998 | 98,3 | |
| Seasonally adjusted figures: | | |
| Jul. 1999 - Sep. 1999 | 95,3 | -1,7 |

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Apr. 1999 - Jun. 1999 | 96,9 |
|-----------------------|------|

| Period | Mineral sales | Percentage change |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | R million | Mineral sales |
| Actual figures: | | |
| Jun. 1999 - Aug. 1999 | 19 385,5 | +2,7 |
| Jun. 1998 - Aug. 1998 | 18 870,0 | |
| Seasonally adjusted figures: | | |
| Jun. 1999 - Aug. 1999 | 18 667,7 | +4,3 |
| Mar. 1999 - May 1999 | 17 892,2 | |

Table 1.1 - Indices of the physical volume of mining production - TOTAL, GOLD INCLUDED

Historical table
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 | 95,2 |
| O | 103,3 | 100,1 | 98,9 | 98,7 | 100,6 | 104,6 | |
| N | 105,0 | 104,3 | 100,1 | 100,3 | 104,4 | 104,3 | |
| 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 | 99,2 | 98,2 |
| M | 102,6 | 101,3 | 100,8 | 98,7 | 97,2 | 99,4 | 97,4 |
| A | 103,5 | 102,9 | 99,0 | 96,8 | 100,4 | 100,1 | 98,4 |
| M | 102,9 | 97,1 | 97,2 | 98,4 | 102,3 | 95,7 | 98,3 |
| J | 102,2 | 99,9 | 102,2 | 97,4 | 101,3 | 99,5 | 94,0 |
| J | 104,0 | 100,0 | 100,1 | 98,8 | 101,0 | 97,0 | 97,8 |
| A | 102,2 | 101,7 | 101,7 | 97,2 | 101,0 | 97,7 | 93,8 |
| S | 102,3 | 102,2 | 102,5 | 97,1 | 101,0 | 97,9 | 94,2 |
| O | 103,3 | 100,2 | 98,7 | 98,6 | 100,6 | 103,6 | |
| N | 103,6 | 102,4 | 97,6 | 97,4 | 101,1 | 101,0 | |
| D | 104,8 | 100,3 | 100,5 | 99,8 | 99,4 | 101,0 | |

Table 1.2 - Indices of the physical volume of mining production - TOTAL, GOLD EXCLUDED

| 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 | 100,7 |
| O | 92,8 | 93,8 | 96,9 | 101,5 | 105,6 | 114,9 | |
| N | 96,1 | 99,9 | 100,2 | 102,1 | 106,0 | 109,0 | |
| 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 | 98,6 | 104,1 |
| F | 89,9 | 96,4 | 97,9 | 98,3 | 105,2 | 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 | 105,0 | 107,7 | 104,4 |
| M | 90,5 | 90,4 | 99,6 | 100,0 | 106,2 | 105,0 | 107,4 |
| J | 91,9 | 91,2 | 102,9 | 98,9 | 107,2 | 105,9 | 98,7 |
| J | 93,5 | 92,6 | 98,4 | 102,0 | 105,9 | 102,4 | 107,6 |
| A | 91,7 | 95,3 | 101,8 | 99,4 | 105,3 | 104,1 | 104,1 |
| S | 91,9 | 94,8 | 104,5 | 103,2 | 104,3 | 104,8 | 101,3 |
| O | 93,5 | 94,6 | 97,6 | 101,9 | 105,8 | 115,0 | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| N | 94,8 | 98,7 | 99,1 | 101,0 | 105,0 | 107,9 |
| D | 95,4 | 95,8 | 102,8 | 103,4 | 104,2 | 105,3 |

* Revised
1/ Preliminary

Table 2 - Indices of physical volume of mining production - Minerals

| Minerals | Weights | 1995=100 | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------------|-------|--------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|
| | | Actual indices | | | | Seasonally adjusted indices | | |
| | | 1998 | 1999 | | 1998 | 1999 | | |
| | | | Sep. | Aug. * | | Sep. | Sep. | Aug. |
| Total, gold included | 100,0 | 99,1 | 95,2 | 95,3 | 99,1 | 94,2 | 93,8 | 97,9 |
| Total, gold excluded | 57,5 | 105,7 | 100,7 | 105,8 | 104,6 | 101,3 | 104,1 | 104,8 |
| Gold | 42,5 | 90,0 | 87,8 | 81,1 | 91,7 | 84,7 | 79,9 | 88,5 |
| Iron ore | 3,0 | 104,1 | 85,3 | 95,7 | 97,0 | 87,8 | 95,6 | 98,9 |
| Chrome | 1,1 | 119,8 | 123,5 | 127,8 | 134,8 | 115,7 | 119,4 | 126,2 |
| Copper | 3,1 | 100,3 | 105,1 | 70,3 | 108,5 | 104,7 | 64,4 | 108,1 |
| Manganese ore | 1,3 | 97,9 | 100,1 | 103,0 | 98,7 | 100,4 | 99,1 | 99,6 |
| Platinum | 11,9 | 109,0 | 104,2 | 123,6 | 100,9 | 111,0 | 120,7 | 106,8 |
| Nickel | 1,5 | 117,8 | 107,8 | 113,7 | 114,2 | 108,0 | 111,8 | 114,7 |
| Other metallic minerals | 2,4 | 107,2 | 119,9 | 111,6 | 109,5 | 120,3 | 105,9 | 109,5 |
| Diamonds | 4,4 | 105,0 | 84,0 | 102,2 | 119,9 | 82,4 | 97,5 | 117,0 |
| Coal | 23,2 | 106,7 | 100,9 | 103,4 | 104,0 | 99,0 | 101,7 | 101,4 |
| Building materials | 3,5 | 88,8 | 91,2 | 90,3 | 91,4 | 91,7 | 88,7 | 91,4 |
| Other non-metallic minerals | 2,1 | 101,4 | 114,7 | 118,3 | 90,1 | 118,8 | 115,2 | 92,8 |

1/ Preliminary
* Revised

Table 3.1 - Mining : Value of mineral sales - TOTAL, GOLD INCLUDED

Historical table
R million

| Month | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Actual values | | | | | | | |
| 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 | 6 851,2 |
| S | 4 078,4 | 4 526,6 | 4 840,0 | 5 124,5 | 5 568,2 | 6 160,6 | |
| O | 3 948,7 | 4 343,9 | 5 133,4 | 6 227,7 | 6 026,1 | 6 443,6 | |
| 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 | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| J | 3 647,6 | 4 275,6 | 4 515,2 | 4 979,5 | 6 219,2 | 5 321,8 | 5 977,2 |
| F | 3 493,0 | 4 036,6 | 4 652,4 | 4 991,4 | 5 515,1 | 5 397,6 | 6 330,9 |
| M | 3 603,7 | 4 228,4 | 4 754,2 | 5 106,1 | 5 069,5 | 5 608,2 | 6 266,6 |
| A | 4 481,1 | 3 929,5 | 4 319,8 | 5 269,9 | 5 497,1 | 5 617,9 | 5 916,0 |
| M | 3 586,3 | 4 327,6 | 4 688,5 | 5 349,5 | 5 363,7 | 5 716,1 | 5 709,6 |
| J | 3 799,0 | 4 255,7 | 4 615,2 | 5 035,1 | 5 386,6 | 5 923,2 | 6 282,0 |
| J | 3 975,3 | 4 231,1 | 4 384,4 | 5 360,4 | 5 380,1 | 6 192,3 | 5 706,2 |
| A | 4 011,0 | 4 210,7 | 4 509,1 | 5 329,9 | 5 415,6 | 6 042,3 | 6 679,5 |
| S | 3 941,7 | 4 406,7 | 4 740,5 | 5 052,4 | 5 534,0 | 6 153,0 | |
| O | 3 740,5 | 4 079,0 | 4 821,6 | 5 830,6 | 5 619,3 | 6 031,6 | |
| N | 4 037,6 | 4 436,2 | 4 836,6 | 5 446,0 | 5 434,5 | 6 363,8 | |
| D | 4 645,7 | 4 372,7 | 4 138,3 | 5 267,5 | 5 776,0 | 6 747,8 | |

Table 3.2 - Mining : Value of mineral sales - TOTAL, GOLD EXCLUDED

| Month | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Actual values | | | | | | | |
| 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 | 4 959,5 |
| S | 2 137,5 | 2 333,5 | 2 695,9 | 3 088,7 | 3 573,9 | 3 955,1 | |
| O | 1 992,1 | 2 076,3 | 2 635,1 | 3 539,1 | 3 566,2 | 4 183,0 | |
| 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 | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| J | 1 964,4 | 2 137,5 | 2 619,9 | 2 750,8 | 3 372,2 | 3 597,9 | 4 002,6 |
| F | 1 832,4 | 2 077,8 | 2 586,0 | 2 739,0 | 3 439,0 | 3 510,1 | 4 036,6 |
| M | 1 791,6 | 2 064,4 | 2 657,1 | 3 027,0 | 3 185,9 | 3 637,3 | 3 994,8 |
| A | 1 924,2 | 2 132,2 | 2 359,6 | 2 803,3 | 3 434,0 | 3 767,4 | 3 863,4 |
| M | 1 929,8 | 2 113,6 | 2 698,1 | 3 071,9 | 3 267,1 | 3 806,1 | 3 779,1 |
| J | 2 025,5 | 2 105,3 | 2 591,2 | 2 918,2 | 3 429,1 | 3 875,5 | 4 161,0 |
| J | 1 930,5 | 2 197,5 | 2 628,5 | 3 119,1 | 3 306,0 | 4 079,0 | 3 993,3 |
| A | 1 954,5 | 2 237,3 | 2 524,6 | 3 030,2 | 3 515,9 | 3 949,1 | 4 871,6 |
| S | 2 042,2 | 2 251,6 | 2 630,9 | 3 046,2 | 3 564,6 | 3 964,3 | |
| O | 2 024,9 | 2 123,8 | 2 686,5 | 3 564,1 | 3 559,3 | 4 150,1 | |
| N | 2 069,0 | 2 142,8 | 2 975,9 | 3 289,6 | 3 481,5 | 4 151,0 | |
| D | 2 183,3 | 2 174,5 | 2 741,2 | 3 243,5 | 3 645,8 | 4 231,0 | |

* Revised
1/ Preliminary

Table 4 - Mining: Mineral Sales

| Minerals | R million | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---------|---------|---------|---------------------------|---------|---------|--|
| | Actual value | | | | Seasonally adjusted value | | | |
| | 1998 | 1999 | | 1998 | 1999 | | 1998 | |
| | Aug. | Jul. * | Aug. | Aug. | Jul. | Aug. | | |
| Total, gold included | 71 047,6 | 6 851,2 | 6 053,1 | 6 200,0 | 6 679,5 | 5 706,2 | 6 042,3 | |
| Total, gold excluded | 46 768,0 | 4 959,5 | 4 118,6 | 4 003,7 | 4 871,6 | 3 993,3 | 3 949,1 | |
| Gold | 24 279,6 | 1 891,6 | 1 934,4 | 2 196,3 | 1 807,8 | 1 713,0 | 2 093,2 | |
| Iron ore | 2 531,0 | 248,4 | 173,1 | 214,3 | 237,2 | 171,2 | 205,8 | |
| Chrome | 863,3 | 63,8 | 54,0 | 59,3 | 71,8 | 54,6 | 65,0 | |
| Copper | 1 554,8 | 104,2 | 80,0 | 120,1 | 95,0 | 83,4 | 110,8 | |
| Manganese ore | 962,2 | 75,9 | 60,6 | 40,5 | 78,1 | 67,3 | 40,2 | |
| Platinum | 12 162,2 | 1 102,5 | 1 450,3 | 1 024,9 | 1 173,5 | 1 188,6 | 1 095,4 | |
| Nickel | 921,5 | 96,4 | 86,7 | 88,0 | 87,2 | 78,3 | 80,6 | |
| Other metallic minerals | 2 506,0 | 214,9 | 238,6 | 239,7 | 215,2 | 231,0 | 241,5 | |
| Coal | 17 826,5 | 1 440,9 | 1 348,4 | 1 544,2 | 1 344,2 | 1 391,2 | 1 443,2 | |
| Building materials | 2 269,9 | 228,4 | 213,2 | 197,2 | 215,4 | 207,2 | 186,6 | |
| - Granite or norite | 472,8 | 57,1 | 57,9 | 49,7 | 48,6 | 49,4 | 43,0 | |
| - Lime and limestone | 719,1 | 75,0 | 67,4 | 61,6 | 69,8 | 65,5 | 57,4 | |
| - Other building materials | 1 077,9 | 96,3 | 87,9 | 85,9 | 90,8 | 83,4 | 81,2 | |
| Other non-metallic minerals | 5 170,7 | 1 384,3 | 413,9 | 475,6 | 1 275,6 | 390,1 | 449,0 | |

|-----|-----|-----|
1/ Preliminary
* Revised

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