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Department:
Statistics South Africa
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Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa, ISibalo House, Koch Street, Salvokop, Pretoria, 0002
www.statssa.gov.za, info@statssa.gov.za, Tel +27 12 310 8911

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Mining: Production and sales (Preliminary)

September 2023

This is the first publication with weights based on national accounts value added data for 2018–2020. Previously, the total mining production index was calculated using weights based on national accounts value added data for 2017–2019.

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ENQUIRIES:
Juan-Pierre Terblanche
Tel: (012) 310 2965

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Production: results for September 2023

Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of mining production

	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	1,8	-1,3	0,9	-4,1	-2,0	-1,9
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,6	-2,8	0,9	-1,8	1,2	-0,3
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	0,8	3,0	1,2	-0,3	-1,7	-1,6

¹ Percentage change between the previous three months and the three months ending in the month indicated.

Mining production decreased by 1,9% year-on-year in September 2023. The largest negative contributors were:

- diamonds (-61,4% and contributing -2,9 percentage points);
- 'other' metallic minerals (-17,1% and contributing -0,5 of a percentage point); and
- manganese ore (-5,6% and contributing -0,4 of a percentage point).

PGMs (3,8% and contributing 1,0 percentage point) were a significant positive contributor – see Tables 6 and 7.

Seasonally adjusted mining production decreased by 0,3% in September 2023 compared with August 2023. This followed month-on-month changes of 1,2% in August 2023 and -1,8% in July 2023.

Table B – Seasonally adjusted index of the volume of mining production for the latest three months by mineral group and mineral (Base: 2019=100)

Mineral group and mineral	Weight *	Apr – Jun 2023	Jul – Sep 2023	% change between Apr – Jun 2023 and Jul – Sep 2023	Contribution (% points) to the % change in total mining production
Gold	14,57	96,1	89,1	-7,3	-1,1
Iron ore	12,99	85,7	93,0	8,5	1,0
Chromium ore	3,55	106,5	111,9	5,1	0,2
Copper ¹	0,66	92,9	108,0	16,3	0,1
Manganese ore	6,29	110,9	108,3	-2,3	-0,2
PGMs	26,05	95,6	91,3	-4,5	-1,2
Nickel ¹	1,11	74,2	69,2	-6,7	-0,1
Other metallic minerals ¹	2,48	109,2	101,9	-6,7	-0,2
Diamonds ¹	2,73	78,0	74,6	-4,4	-0,1
Coal	25,69	88,7	88,2	-0,6	-0,1
Building materials	3,15	87,9	88,9	1,1	0,0
Other non-metallic minerals	0,73	88,1	95,2	8,1	0,1
Total	100,00	93,3	91,8	-1,6	-1,6

¹ Unadjusted. See notes 4, 5 and 6 on page 13.

* Revised due to reweighting. See note on page 5.

Seasonally adjusted mining production decreased by 1,6% in the third quarter of 2023 compared with the second quarter of 2023. The largest negative contributors were:

- PGMs (-4,5% and contributing -1,2 percentage points); and
- gold (-7,3% and contributing -1,1 percentage points).

Iron ore (8,5% and contributing 1,0 percentage point) was a significant positive contributor – see Table B.

Figure 1 – Volume of mining production (Base: 2019=100)

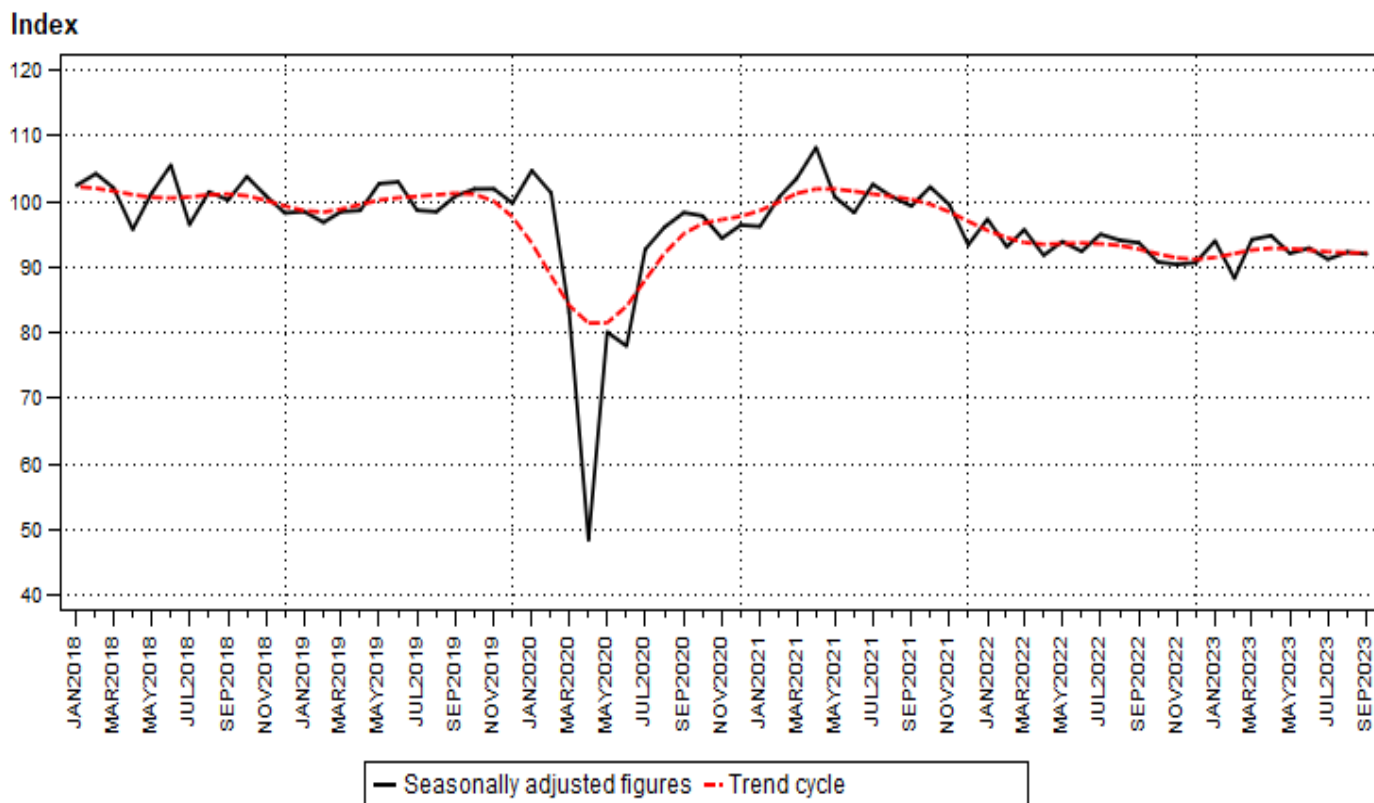
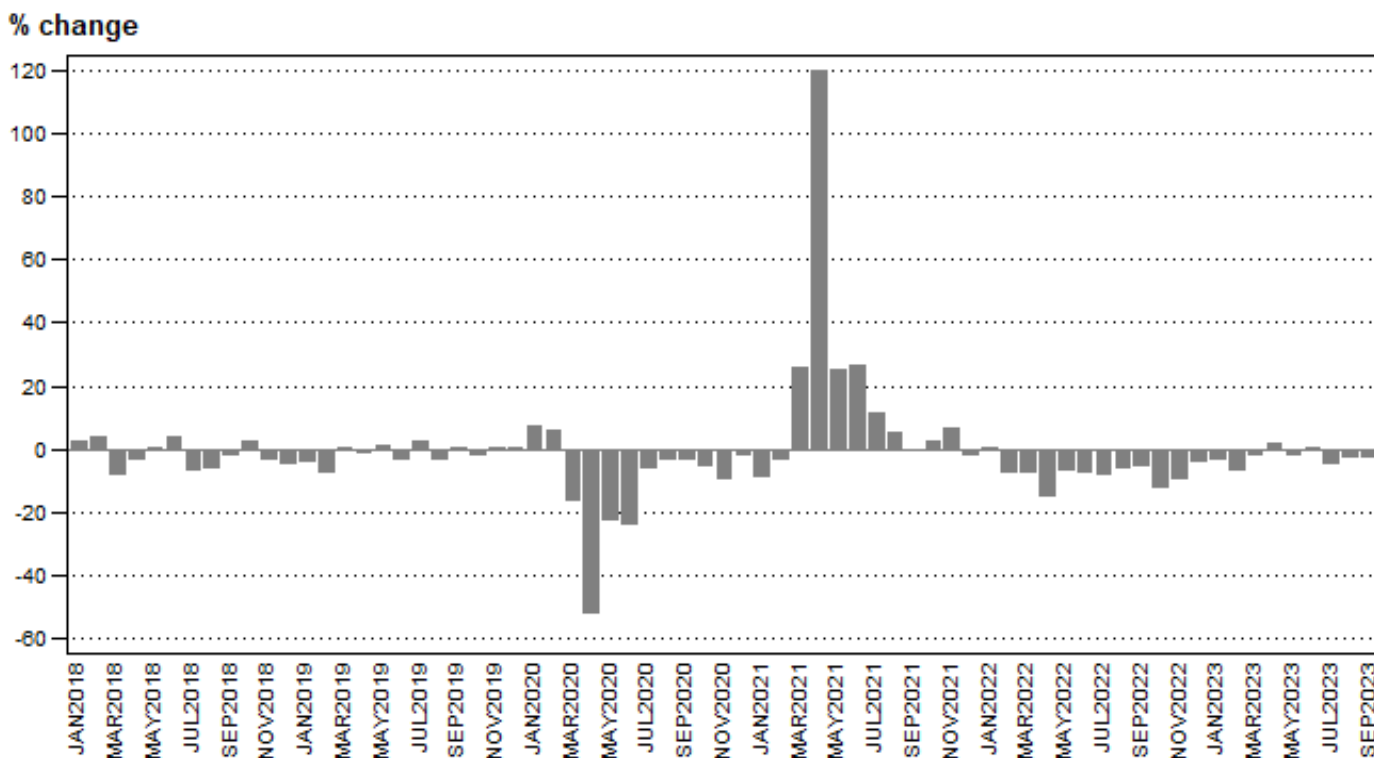


Figure 2 – Volume of mining production (Base: 2019=100): year-on-year percentage change



Sales: results for September 2023

Table C – Key growth rates in mineral sales at current prices

	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-25,4	-11,7	-14,6	-25,0	-16,5	-20,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-11,9	25,4	-13,7	-6,1	6,6	-4,7
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	-5,0	-4,5	-4,3	1,5	-6,1	-6,1

¹ Percentage change between the previous three months and the three months ending in the month indicated.

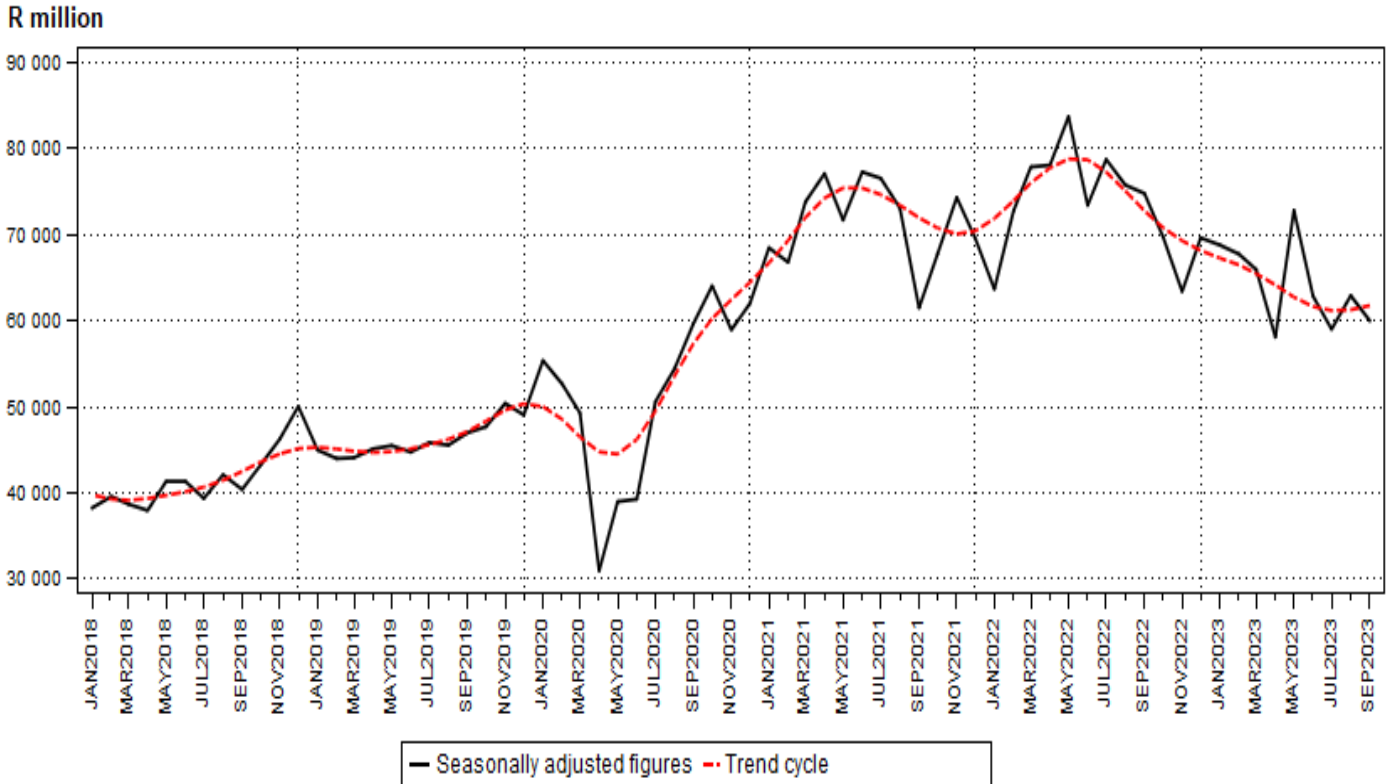
Mineral sales at current prices decreased by 20,2% year-on-year in September 2023. The largest negative contributors were:

- coal (-32,1% and contributing -9,8 percentage points);
- gold (-35,1% and contributing -5,2 percentage points);
- PGMs (-10,7% and contributing -2,6 percentage points); and
- ‘other’ metallic minerals (-48,5% and contributing -2,0 percentage points) – see Tables 12 and 13.

Seasonally adjusted mineral sales at current prices decreased by 4,7% in September 2023 compared with August 2023. This followed month-on-month changes of 6,6% in August 2023 and -6,1% in July 2023.

Mineral sales at current prices decreased by 6,1% in the third quarter of 2023 compared with the second quarter of 2023.

Figure 3 – Total value of mineral sales at current prices



Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Note – Reweighting of mining production

Introduction

Statistics South Africa publishes monthly information regarding the mining industry based on the mining production and mineral sales figures provided by the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy. This statistical release contains detailed information regarding indices of the volume of mining production and the total value of mineral sales according to mineral groups and minerals on a monthly basis. The results of the mining production indices published today contain changes related to reweighting.

Reweighting

The new weights are based on national accounts value added data for the years 2018 to 2020 and have been applied with effect from January 2020. Previously, the weights were calculated from national accounts value added data for the years 2017 to 2019. The new weights are calculated as a three-year average of value added. The weights for 2019 are the average of value added for 2017, 2018 and 2019, and the weights for 2020 and following years are the average for 2018, 2019 and 2020. Refer to Table D for a comparison between the previous weights and the new weights for the respective mineral groups and minerals and respective periods.

The impact of implementing the new weights on the mining production index is illustrated in Figures 4 and 5.

Table D – Historical weights for the mineral groups and minerals

Mineral group and mineral	Weights from national accounts value added for the years 2014-2016	Weights from national accounts value added for the years 2015-2017	Weights from national accounts value added for the years 2016-2018	Weights from national accounts value added for the years 2017-2019	Weights from national accounts value added for the years 2018-2020
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 - present
Gold	19,88	20,10	18,93	15,91	14,57
Iron ore	13,06	10,58	10,22	11,92	12,99
Chromium ore	1,99	2,91	3,21	3,62	3,55
Copper	1,48	1,24	0,94	0,76	0,66
Manganese ore	3,27	4,30	5,55	6,18	6,29
PGMs	24,97	24,57	22,68	22,96	26,05
Nickel	1,62	1,43	1,23	1,15	1,11
Other metallic minerals	2,13	2,07	2,05	2,35	2,48
Diamonds	3,69	3,54	3,49	3,20	2,73
Coal	23,81	25,33	27,56	27,85	25,69
Building materials	3,44	3,33	3,35	3,32	3,15
Other non-metallic minerals	0,65	0,62	0,80	0,78	0,73
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Figure 4 – Volume of total mining production based on previous weights and new weights (Base: 2019=100)

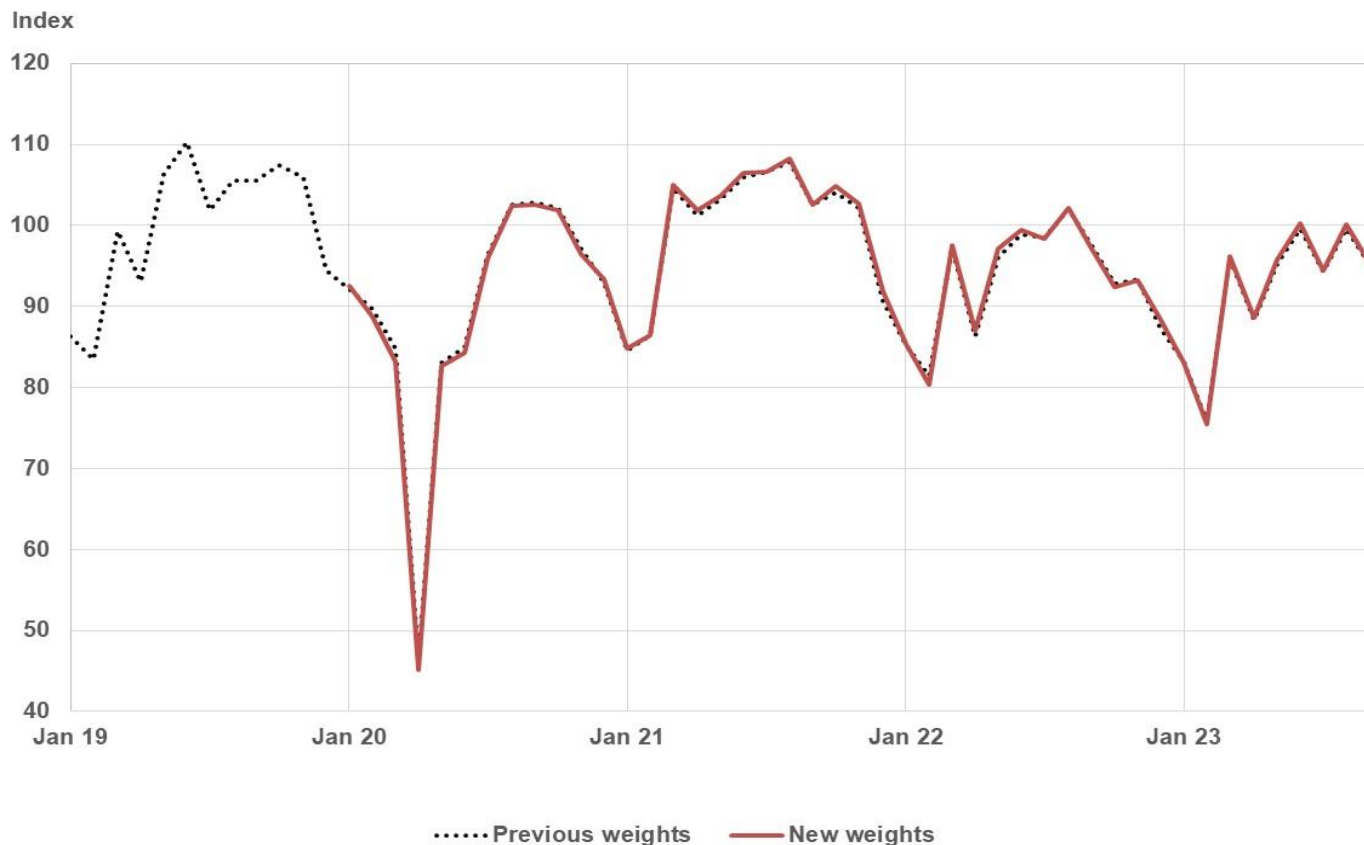
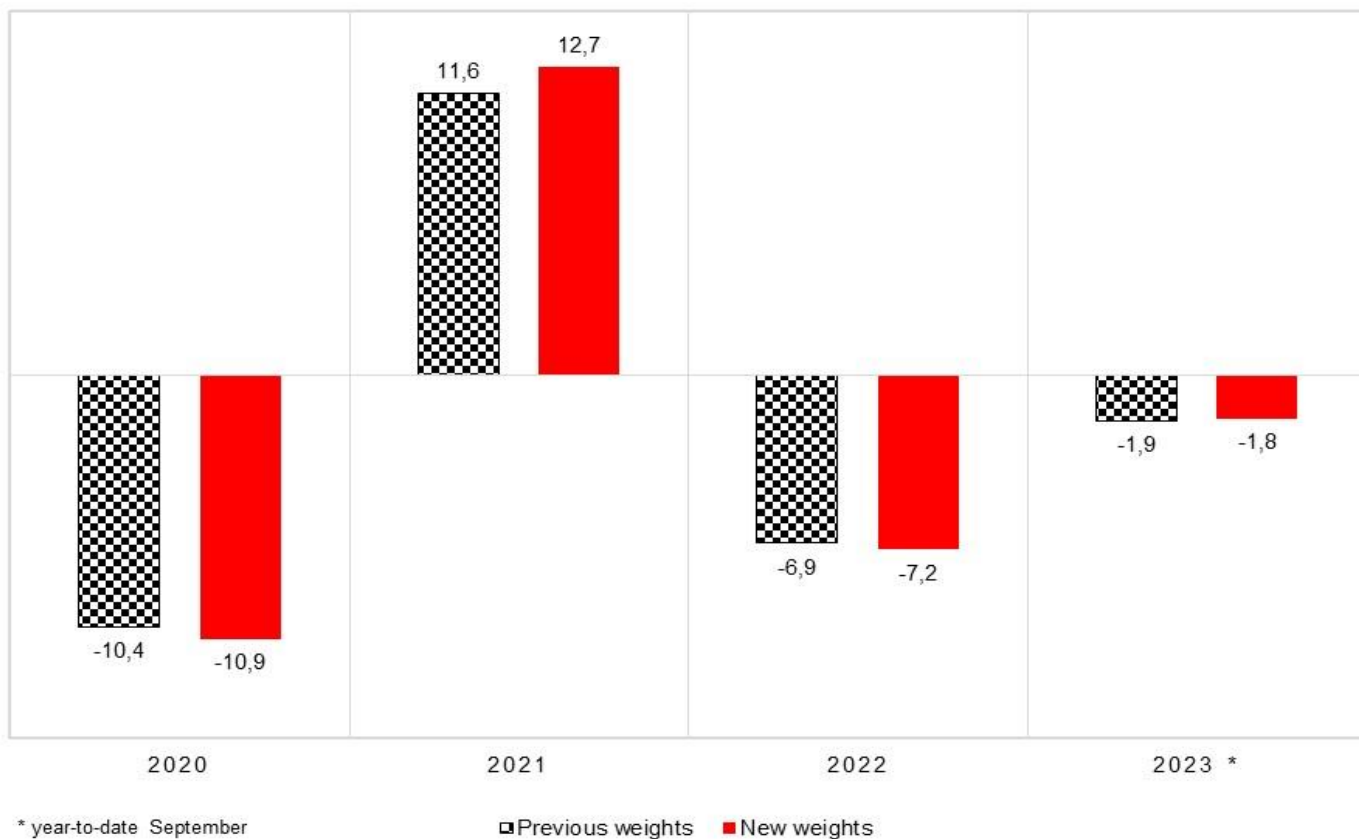


Figure 5 – Comparison of the annual growth rates (% change) for mining production based on the previous weights and new weights



Tables

Table 1 – Index of the volume of mining production (Base: 2019=100)

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020 [*]	2021 ¹	2022 ¹	2023 ¹
Jan	87,1	89,2	86,3	92,6	84,8	85,4	83,0
Feb	86,7	90,1	83,5	88,8	86,4	80,4	75,5
Mar	107,3	99,2	99,3	83,2	105,0	97,5	96,2
Apr	96,4	93,4	93,1	45,1	101,9	87,0	88,6
May	103,9	104,7	106,3	82,7	103,6	97,1	95,8
Jun	108,6	113,2	110,3	84,3	106,5	99,4	100,3
Jul	105,7	99,2	101,9	95,9	106,6	98,4	94,4
Aug	114,9	108,4	105,6	102,4	108,2	102,1	100,1
Sep	106,3	104,9	105,5	102,5	102,5	97,2	95,4
Oct	106,4	109,2	107,5	101,9	104,9	92,4	
Nov	108,8	105,5	106,0	96,4	102,7	93,2	
Dec	98,3	94,1	94,5	93,4	91,8	88,3	
Year	102,5	100,9	100,0	89,1	100,4	93,2	

¹ Preliminary.

* Revised due to reweighting. See note on page 5.

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in the volume of mining production

Month	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023 year-to-date
Jan	2,4	-3,3	7,3	-8,4	0,7	-2,8	-2,8
Feb	3,9	-7,3	6,3	-2,7	-6,9	-6,1	-4,4
Mar	-7,5	0,1	-16,2	26,2	-7,1	-1,3	-3,3
Apr	-3,1	-0,3	-51,6	125,9	-14,6	1,8	-2,0
May	0,8	1,5	-22,2	25,3	-6,3	-1,3	-1,9
Jun	4,2	-2,6	-23,6	26,3	-6,7	0,9	-1,4
Jul	-6,1	2,7	-5,9	11,2	-7,7	-4,1	-1,8
Aug	-5,7	-2,6	-3,0	5,7	-5,6	-2,0	-1,8
Sep	-1,3	0,6	-2,8	0,0	-5,2	-1,9	-1,8
Oct	2,6	-1,6	-5,2	2,9	-11,9		
Nov	-3,0	0,5	-9,1	6,5	-9,3		
Dec	-4,3	0,4	-1,2	-1,7	-3,8		
Year	-1,6	-0,9	-10,9	12,7	-7,2		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted volume of total mining production

Month	Index (Base: 2019=100)				Month-on-month % change			
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	104,7	96,2	97,3	94,0	4,9	-0,2	4,2	3,6
Feb	101,3	100,7	93,1	88,3	-3,2	4,7	-4,3	-6,1
Mar	83,1	103,5	95,7	94,2	-18,0	2,8	2,8	6,7
Apr	48,5	108,2	91,8	94,8	-41,6	4,5	-4,1	0,6
May	80,1	100,7	93,9	92,1	65,2	-6,9	2,3	-2,8
Jun	78,0	98,3	92,4	92,9	-2,6	-2,4	-1,6	0,9
Jul	92,7	102,6	95,0	91,2	18,8	4,4	2,8	-1,8
Aug	96,1	100,7	94,1	92,3	3,7	-1,9	-0,9	1,2
Sep	98,3	99,3	93,7	92,0	2,3	-1,4	-0,4	-0,3
Oct	97,8	102,2	90,8		-0,5	2,9	-3,1	
Nov	94,4	99,5	90,4		-3,5	-2,6	-0,4	
Dec	96,4	93,4	90,7		2,1	-6,1	0,3	

Table 4 – Index of the volume of mining production by mineral group and mineral (Base: 2019=100) ¹

Mineral group and mineral	Weight *	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23
Gold	14,57	86,1	95,2	97,3	94,5	96,9	94,5
Iron ore	12,99	87,8	88,3	90,4	105,7	106,8	82,5
Chromium ore	3,55	103,7	110,7	116,2	114,0	121,5	120,4
Copper	0,66	102,1	94,8	81,8	103,1	114,3	106,5
Manganese ore	6,29	112,0	119,1	126,4	110,6	118,5	107,3
PGMs	26,05	85,7	103,1	109,9	83,1	100,0	100,1
Nickel	1,11	73,5	75,1	73,9	60,1	70,6	76,9
Other metallic minerals	2,48	107,6	108,2	111,7	113,8	100,2	91,7
Diamonds	2,73	76,1	77,6	80,4	86,9	71,8	65,0
Coal	25,69	86,3	87,1	92,7	94,0	94,0	95,8
Building materials	3,15	81,9	92,3	92,2	90,4	107,3	92,6
Other non-metallic minerals	0,73	80,7	91,9	88,5	99,2	115,0	99,2
Total	100,00	88,6	95,8	100,3	94,4	100,1	95,4

¹ All index values in this table are preliminary. Annual averages and annual percentage changes are available on the following link: [Annual data](#)

* Revised due to reweighting. See note on page 5.

Table 5 – Seasonally adjusted index of the volume of mining production by mineral group and mineral (Base: 2019=100)

Mineral group and mineral	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Month-on-month % change
Gold	97,4	97,0	93,9	91,4	88,6	87,3	-1,5
Iron ore	91,6	87,0	78,6	96,8	94,6	87,6	-7,4
Chromium ore	105,6	106,1	107,9	109,3	112,2	114,1	1,7
Copper ¹	102,1	94,8	81,8	103,1	114,3	106,5	-6,8
Manganese ore	112,1	109,6	111,0	109,7	109,2	106,0	-2,9
PGMs	91,2	95,2	100,4	85,4	92,8	95,6	3,0
Nickel ¹	73,5	75,1	73,9	60,1	70,6	76,9	8,9
Other metallic minerals ¹	107,6	108,2	111,7	113,8	100,2	91,7	-8,5
Diamonds ¹	76,1	77,6	80,4	86,9	71,8	65,0	-9,5
Coal	95,0	84,1	87,0	87,1	87,3	90,2	3,3
Building materials	91,6	85,5	86,7	86,3	92,2	88,2	-4,3
Other non-metallic minerals	88,5	89,8	86,0	93,4	99,6	92,5	-7,1
Total	94,8	92,1	92,9	91,2	92,3	92,0	-0,3

¹ Unadjusted. See notes 4, 5 and 6 on page 13.

Table 6 – Year-on-year percentage change in the volume of mining production by mineral group and mineral

Mineral group and mineral	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23
Gold	24,1	25,4	23,9	8,5	0,5	-0,1
Iron ore	-3,6	-6,1	-18,0	13,8	5,0	4,2
Chromium ore	-4,0	-3,4	1,6	-2,2	2,3	11,9
Copper	16,8	19,7	-32,0	12,8	37,9	-0,8
Manganese ore	-2,6	9,4	3,1	-11,5	-7,9	-5,6
PGMs	-4,6	-7,1	11,3	-10,4	2,6	3,8
Nickel	11,9	-8,2	-0,1	-16,3	2,0	8,9
Other metallic minerals	-4,2	-1,5	4,2	5,3	-17,9	-17,1
Diamonds	-41,4	-31,6	-41,1	-33,6	-54,7	-61,4
Coal	12,1	-2,4	-1,5	-6,7	0,1	1,8
Building materials	2,8	-7,4	-9,8	-10,8	-4,2	-8,9
Other non-metallic minerals	-7,3	-3,2	-20,9	-6,7	4,9	-11,9
Total	1,8	-1,3	0,9	-4,1	-2,0	-1,9

Table 7 – Contribution of each mineral group and mineral to the year-on-year percentage change in the volume of mining production (percentage points)

Mineral group and mineral	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23
Gold	2,8	2,9	2,8	1,1	0,1	0,0
Iron ore	-0,5	-0,8	-2,6	1,7	0,6	0,4
Chromium ore	-0,2	-0,1	0,1	-0,1	0,1	0,5
Copper	0,1	0,1	-0,3	0,1	0,2	0,0
Manganese ore	-0,2	0,7	0,2	-0,9	-0,6	-0,4
PGMs	-1,2	-2,1	2,9	-2,5	0,6	1,0
Nickel	0,1	-0,1	0,0	-0,1	0,0	0,1
Other metallic minerals	-0,1	0,0	0,1	0,1	-0,5	-0,5
Diamonds	-1,7	-1,0	-1,5	-1,2	-2,3	-2,9
Coal	2,7	-0,6	-0,4	-1,8	0,0	0,4
Building materials	0,1	-0,2	-0,3	-0,3	-0,1	-0,3
Other non-metallic minerals	-0,1	0,0	-0,2	-0,1	0,0	-0,1
Total	1,8	-1,3	0,9	-4,1	-2,0	-1,9

Table 8 – Mineral sales at current prices (R million)

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 ¹	2022 ¹	2023 ¹
Jan	37 903,7	34 420,4	41 070,7	51 128,5	63 518,6	59 103,7	63 496,0
Feb	33 691,7	34 892,7	38 202,9	45 135,2	56 927,3	61 749,7	57 505,4
Mar	39 473,2	39 778,5	45 585,3	51 606,4	78 213,1	83 612,9	71 418,3
Apr	34 917,1	37 039,5	44 538,7	31 064,5	78 533,6	80 336,2	59 902,0
May	36 288,4	41 684,6	46 519,8	40 521,7	75 976,9	89 865,3	79 306,4
Jun	40 672,0	45 024,3	48 295,2	41 962,5	82 049,6	77 707,8	66 382,6
Jul	37 150,3	37 118,1	43 596,0	48 588,4	73 935,4	76 336,4	57 239,1
Aug	40 890,3	43 022,2	47 069,2	56 868,0	77 095,1	80 535,0	67 206,7
Sep	44 264,9	43 017,4	50 009,3	63 394,0	65 086,8	78 776,1	62 857,6
Oct	43 966,4	45 802,3	50 051,2	66 165,3	69 099,3	70 278,7	
Nov	42 104,9	46 680,3	50 450,7	58 255,9	72 147,3	60 815,3	
Dec	42 562,3	50 020,5	47 491,9	58 501,2	64 696,9	64 452,6	
Total	473 885,2	498 500,8	552 880,9	613 191,6	857 279,9	883 569,7	

¹ Preliminary.**Table 9 – Year-on-year percentage change in mineral sales at current prices**

Month	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023 year-to-date
Jan	-9,2	19,3	24,5	24,2	-7,0	7,4	7,4
Feb	3,6	9,5	18,1	26,1	8,5	-6,9	0,1
Mar	0,8	14,6	13,2	51,6	6,9	-14,6	-5,9
Apr	6,1	20,2	-30,3	152,8	2,3	-25,4	-11,4
May	14,9	11,6	-12,9	87,5	18,3	-11,7	-11,5
Jun	10,7	7,3	-13,1	95,5	-5,3	-14,6	-12,0
Jul	-0,1	17,5	11,5	52,2	3,2	-25,0	-13,9
Aug	5,2	9,4	20,8	35,6	4,5	-16,5	-14,2
Sep	-2,8	16,3	26,8	2,7	21,0	-20,2	-14,9
Oct	4,2	9,3	32,2	4,4	1,7		
Nov	10,9	8,1	15,5	23,8	-15,7		
Dec	17,5	-5,1	23,2	10,6	-0,4		
Total	5,2	10,9	10,9	39,8	3,1		

Table 10 – Seasonally adjusted total mineral sales at current prices

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan	55 376,3	68 479,4	63 678,3	68 800,0	12,9	10,5	-8,5	-1,2
Feb	52 673,1	66 807,4	72 770,2	67 750,5	-4,9	-2,4	14,3	-1,5
Mar	49 282,1	73 817,2	77 872,7	65 940,4	-6,4	10,5	7,0	-2,7
Apr	30 935,9	77 103,3	78 086,7	58 108,9	-37,2	4,5	0,3	-11,9
May	38 984,7	71 709,7	83 717,9	72 845,9	26,0	-7,0	7,2	25,4
Jun	39 264,6	77 288,0	73 406,8	62 853,7	0,7	7,8	-12,3	-13,7
Jul	50 584,3	76 557,1	78 753,2	59 018,4	28,8	-0,9	7,3	-6,1
Aug	54 408,9	73 102,8	75 776,7	62 920,6	7,6	-4,5	-3,8	6,6
Sep	59 720,3	61 489,1	74 794,9	59 988,8	9,8	-15,9	-1,3	-4,7
Oct	64 054,5	67 769,1	69 769,6		7,3	10,2	-6,7	
Nov	58 941,4	74 340,2	63 400,6		-8,0	9,7	-9,1	
Dec	61 984,7	69 583,3	69 641,0		5,2	-6,4	9,8	

Table 11 – Mineral sales at current prices by mineral group and mineral (R million) ¹

Mineral group and mineral	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23
Gold	3 372,4	15 778,6	10 031,8	9 420,8	11 653,0	7 633,6
Iron ore	8 476,3	8 155,2	7 672,5	8 091,6	8 298,5	7 053,1
Chromium ore	4 733,9	4 446,2	5 050,3	4 852,4	5 027,1	4 807,6
Copper	481,4	629,0	496,0	508,8	614,0	657,0
Manganese ore	3 458,9	4 887,9	4 415,7	3 341,4	3 725,5	3 473,3
PGMs	17 084,8	22 174,7	16 230,3	11 726,9	13 567,5	17 099,7
Nickel	913,5	1 004,7	971,7	862,2	834,7	1 020,6
Other metallic minerals	2 032,5	2 272,1	2 077,5	1 877,3	1 756,0	1 661,4
Coal	16 753,3	15 502,2	16 070,4	13 441,4	16 644,1	16 285,9
Building materials	1 036,9	1 151,1	1 133,0	1 104,0	1 266,5	1 113,8
Other non-metallic minerals	1 558,0	3 304,7	2 233,5	2 012,4	3 819,8	2 051,4
Total	59 902,0	79 306,4	66 382,6	57 239,1	67 206,7	62 857,6

¹ All values in this table are preliminary.

Table 12 – Year-on-year percentage change in mineral sales at current prices by mineral group and mineral

Mineral group and mineral	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23
Gold	-45,7	71,8	84,8	15,3	20,1	-35,1
Iron ore	-9,1	-30,3	-16,6	1,8	28,2	-7,6
Chromium ore	62,1	27,8	57,1	49,4	79,6	74,2
Copper	117,0	3,0	23,3	225,9	8,8	31,8
Manganese ore	-9,8	-0,3	-2,8	-25,1	-18,8	-22,2
PGMs	-41,7	-20,1	-30,9	-48,2	-39,5	-10,7
Nickel	-2,0	-32,1	-30,3	6,3	-18,2	-27,3
Other metallic minerals	33,5	-1,6	-14,5	-34,2	-23,3	-48,5
Coal	-22,6	-37,4	-27,0	-39,5	-34,7	-32,1
Building materials	14,2	7,0	-3,4	-0,7	5,0	-4,5
Other non-metallic minerals	-55,7	26,0	-49,4	-26,0	-4,0	-24,2
Total	-25,4	-11,7	-14,6	-25,0	-16,5	-20,2

Table 13 – Contribution of each mineral group and mineral to the year-on-year percentage change in mineral sales at current prices (percentage points)

Mineral group and mineral	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23
Gold	-3,5	7,3	5,9	1,6	2,4	-5,2
Iron ore	-1,1	-3,9	-2,0	0,2	2,3	-0,7
Chromium ore	2,3	1,1	2,4	2,1	2,8	2,6
Copper	0,3	0,0	0,1	0,5	0,1	0,2
Manganese ore	-0,5	0,0	-0,2	-1,5	-1,1	-1,3
PGMs	-15,2	-6,2	-9,3	-14,3	-11,0	-2,6
Nickel	0,0	-0,5	-0,5	0,1	-0,2	-0,5
Other metallic minerals	0,6	0,0	-0,5	-1,3	-0,7	-2,0
Coal	-6,1	-10,3	-7,6	-11,5	-11,0	-9,8
Building materials	0,2	0,1	-0,1	0,0	0,1	-0,1
Other non-metallic minerals	-2,4	0,8	-2,8	-0,9	-0,2	-0,8
Total	-25,4	-11,7	-14,6	-25,0	-16,5	-20,2

Survey information

- Introduction**
- 1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) publishes monthly mining production indices and mineral sales based on the information furnished by the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE). Data in this release are presented by mineral group and mineral.
 - 2 In accordance with international practice, the indices are usually re-based every five years to a new base year. The current base year of the index of the volume of mining production is 2019=100. Both actual and seasonally adjusted figures are presented.
 - 3 The value of mineral sales is calculated, in general, on a free-on-rail/free-on-board basis.
 - 4 In order to improve timeliness, some information for the current month had to be 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.
- Purpose of the survey**
- 5 The monthly mining production and sales survey is conducted by the DMRE, covering all mining establishments operating in the South African economy. The results of this survey are used to calculate the 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.
- 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. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the establishment. Statistics in this publication are presented by mineral group and mineral.
- Statistical unit**
- 8 The statistical unit for the collection of information is the mining establishment. An establishment is the smallest economic unit that functions as a separate entity.
- Rounding-off of figures**
- 9 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.
- Historical data and past publications**
- 10 Historical mining data and past publications are available on the Stats SA website. Click on the following link ([Time series data](#)) or ([Past publications](#)) to access the data and releases electronically. Annual averages and annual percentage changes are available on the following link: [Annual data](#)

Technical notes

- | | | |
|---|-----------|--|
| Index of the volume of mining production | 1 | The index of the volume of mining production, also known as the 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 2019. The production in the base period is set at 100. |
| Index weighting | 2 | The weight of a mineral group is the ratio of its value added to the total value added 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 improvements and changes in relative prices. New weights will be calculated annually. |
| | 3 | The weights, which are used to aggregate minerals to mineral groups and mineral groups to total mining, are derived from national accounts value added data. The latest weights (implemented in the September 2023 publication) are based on an average of value added data for the years 2018, 2019 and 2020. These weights are applicable from January 2020. |
| Seasonal adjustment | 4 | Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month using the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by the United States Census Bureau. 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 recognised more clearly. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. |
| | 5 | 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. The X-12-ARIMA procedure for mining production and sales is described in more detail on the Stats SA website at: Click to download seasonal adjustment for mining production and sales February 2022 |
| Calendar effects | 6 | These are effects due to calendar variations. Such calendar effects include the number of working/trading days in a week, moving holidays such as Easter and the length of month (some months have more days than others). |
| Trend cycle | 7 | The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimate the underlying trend cycle. |
| Reliability of estimates | 8 | Figures for the latest three calendar years are preliminary. |
| Month-on-month percentage change | 9 | The month-on-month percentage change in a variable for any given month is the change between that month and the previous month, expressed as a percentage of the latter. |
| Year-on-year percentage change | 10 | The year-on-year percentage change in a variable for any given period is the change between that period and the corresponding period of the previous year, expressed as a percentage of the latter. |
| Index contribution (percentage points) | 11 | The contribution (percentage points) of a mineral group or mineral to the percentage change in the total mining production for a given period is calculated by multiplying the difference in the index for each mineral group or mineral by the weight of the mineral group or mineral and then dividing by the previous period's total index. |

Sales contribution (percentage points) 12 The contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in total sales for a given period is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each mineral group or mineral with its percentage contribution to total mineral sales of the previous period, divided by 100.

Glossary

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

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

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 of All Economic Activities (SIC)*, 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 of primary minerals at the first point of saleability by the mining establishment.

Symbols and abbreviations	DMRE	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
	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

Technical enquiries

JP Terblanche Telephone number: (012) 310 2965
Email: juan-pierret@statssa.gov.za

Mpuleng Galane Telephone number: (012) 444 3735
Email: mpuleng.galane@dmre.gov.za

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Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's 12 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.

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General enquiries

User information services	Telephone number: (012) 310 8600 Email: info@statssa.gov.za
Orders/subscription services	Telephone number: (012) 310 8619 Email: millies@statssa.gov.za
Postal address	Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

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