

STATISTICAL RELEASE

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Mining: Production and sales (Preliminary)

July 2017

The results in the next publication (August 2017) will be presented with 2015 as the new reference year (Base: 2015=100) and updated with weights based on national accounts value added data up to 2015. Currently, the total mining production index has 2010 as the reference year (Base: 2010=100) and the weights are calculated based on national accounts value added data up to 2014.

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Production: results for July 2017

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

	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	3,5	16,5	2,1	3,9	1,3	0,9
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,8	4,8	-1,8	0,5	-1,0	-0,4
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	-0,9	2,7	4,6	4,9	1,6	0,1

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

Mining production increased by 0,9% year-on-year in July 2017. The largest positive contributors were:

- manganese ore (19,3% and contributing 0,9 of a percentage point);
- chromium ore (18,3% and contributing 0,7 of a percentage point);
- diamonds (16,5% and contributing 0,7 of a percentage point);
- gold (3,9% and contributing 0,5 of a percentage point); and
- 'other' non-metallic minerals (17,0% and contributing 0,5 of a percentage point).

Iron ore and PGMs (each decreasing by 5,0% and contributing -1,0 percentage point) were significant negative contributors – see Tables 6 and 7.

Seasonally adjusted mining production decreased by 0,4% in July 2017 compared with June 2017. This followed month-on-month changes of -1,0% in June 2017 and 0,5% in May 2017.

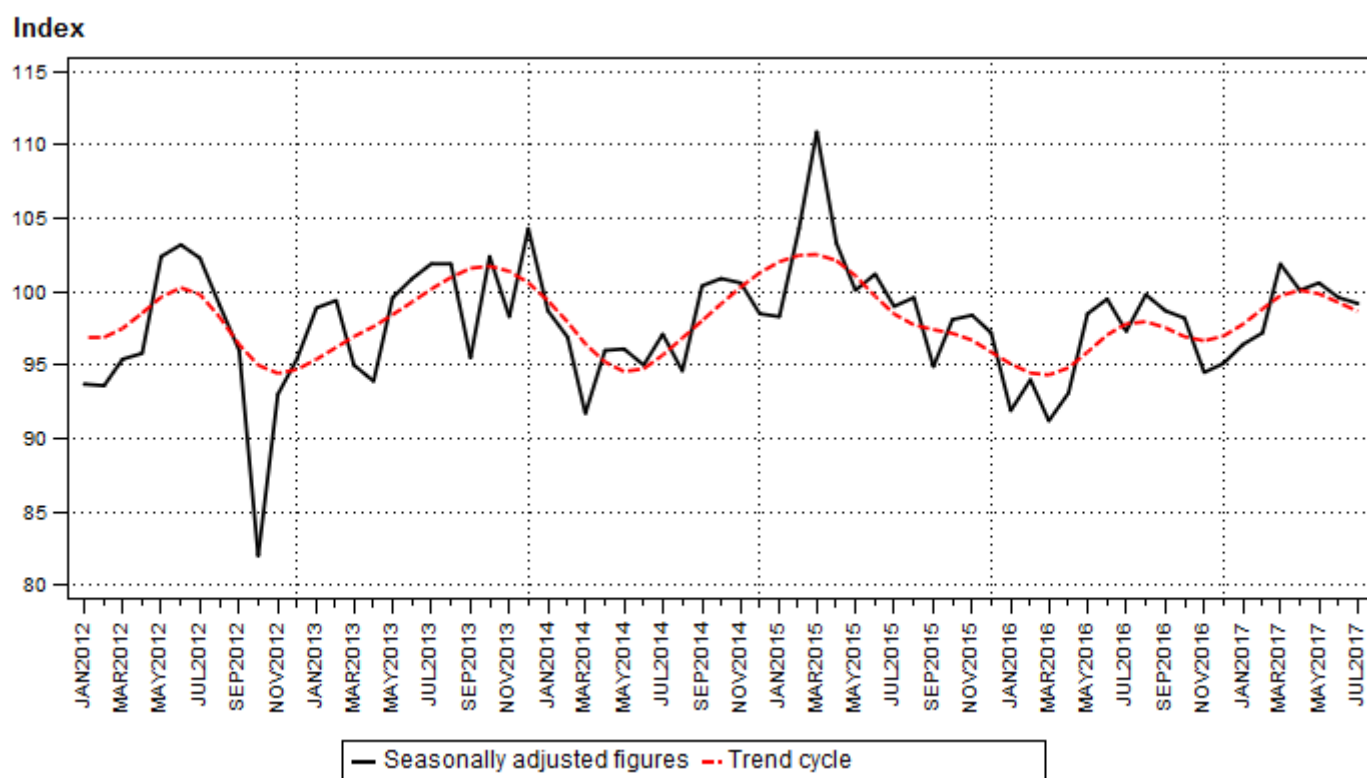
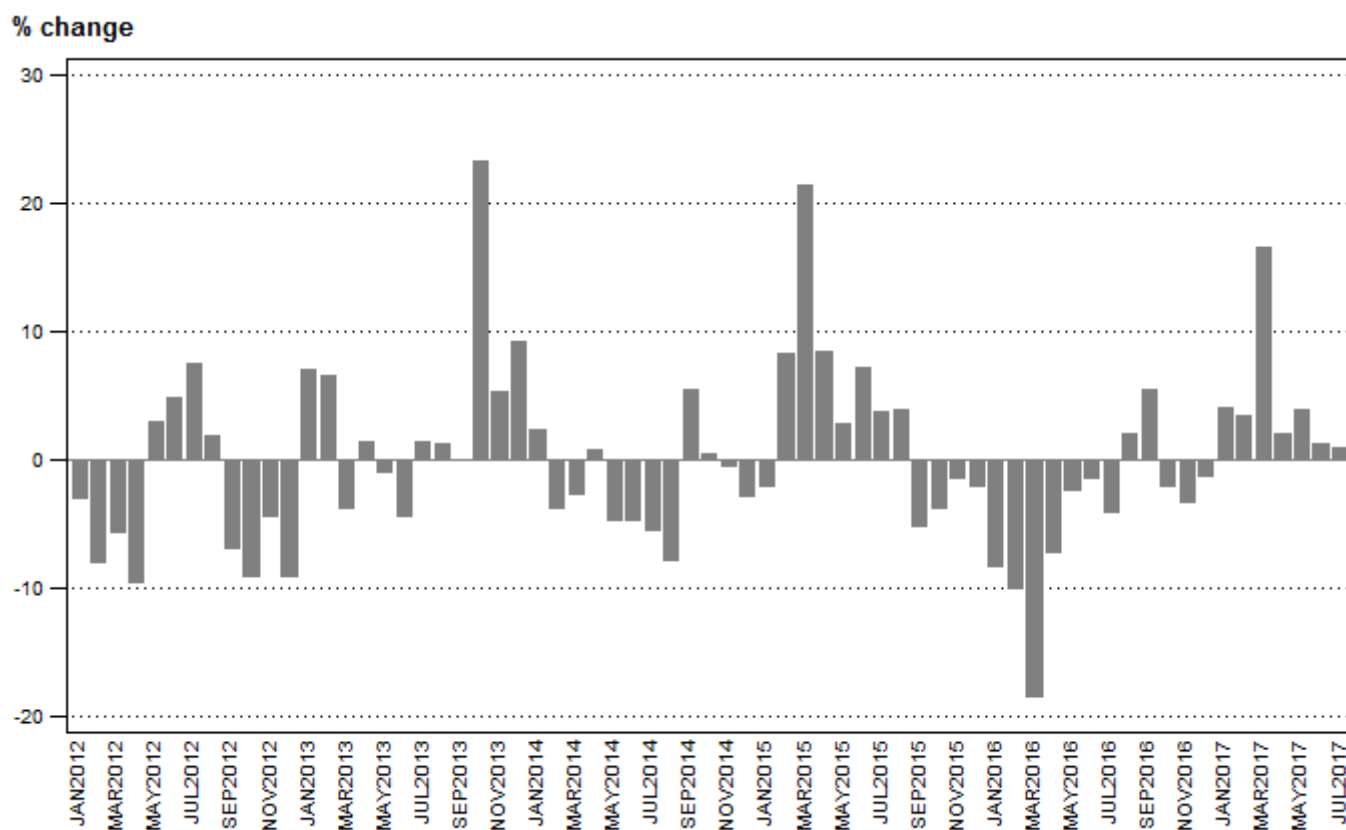
Table B – Seasonally adjusted index of the volume of mining production for the latest three months by mineral group and mineral (Base: 2010=100)

Mineral group and mineral	Weight	Feb – Apr 2017	May – Jul 2017	% change between Feb – Apr 2017 and May – Jul 2017	Contribution (% points) to the % change in total mining production
Gold	16,25	72,1	75,3	4,4	0,5
Iron ore	14,86	127,0	120,3	-5,3	-1,0
Chromium ore	2,63	152,4	157,2	3,1	0,1
Copper ¹	1,27	78,3	68,1	-13,0	-0,1
Manganese ore ²	3,09	191,9	209,6	9,2	0,5
PGMs	21,82	94,6	87,5	-7,5	-1,6
Nickel ²	1,88	120,1	118,8	-1,1	0,0
Other metallic minerals ¹	2,88	90,6	77,5	-14,5	-0,4
Diamonds ²	3,59	97,6	129,6	32,8	1,2
Coal	25,04	95,4	98,1	2,8	0,7
Building materials	1,65	115,4	110,7	-4,1	-0,1
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	5,04	67,6	72,5	7,2	0,2
Total	100,00	99,7	99,8	0,1	0,1

¹ Adjusted for calendar effects only. See notes 4, 5 and 6 on page 11.

² Unadjusted.

Seasonally adjusted mining production increased by 0,1% in the three months ended July 2017 compared with the previous three months. Diamonds (contributing 1,2 percentage points) was the largest positive contributor and PGMs the largest negative contributor (contributing -1,6 percentage points) – see Table B.

Figure 1 – Volume of mining production (Base: 2010=100)**Figure 2 – Volume of mining production (Base: 2010=100): year-on-year percentage change**

Sales: results for June 2017

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

	Jan-17	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	22,1	10,4	14,5	10,7	-5,8	-3,9
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-3,3	-4,1	2,2	-2,3	1,6	-1,4
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	7,6	0,0	-4,0	-6,0	-2,7	-1,6

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

Mineral sales decreased by 3,9% year-on-year in June 2017. The negative contributors were:

- PGMs (-33,9% and contributing -9,9 percentage points);
- gold (-14,6% and contributing -2,5 percentage points); and
- iron ore (-4,5% and contributing -0,4 of a percentage point).

Manganese ore (95,4% and contributing 4,6 percentage points) was a significant positive contributor – see Tables 12 and 13.

Seasonally adjusted mineral sales at current prices decreased by 1,4% in June 2017 compared with May 2017. This followed month-on-month changes of 1,6% in May 2017 and -2,3% in April 2017.

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Tables

Table 1 – Index of the volume of mining production (Base: 2010=100)

Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 ¹	2017 ¹
Jan	86,4	83,9	89,8	91,9	90,0	82,5	85,9
Feb	90,2	83,0	88,4	85,0	92,0	82,8	85,7
Mar	102,2	96,5	92,9	90,5	109,8	89,6	104,4
Apr	100,5	91,0	92,3	93,0	100,8	93,5	95,5
May	99,6	102,6	101,7	97,0	99,7	97,3	101,1
Jun	103,2	108,2	103,5	98,6	105,7	104,2	105,6
Jul	96,6	103,8	105,3	99,6	103,4	99,2	100,1
Aug	102,8	104,6	105,9	97,6	101,4	103,4	
Sep	106,1	98,8	98,8	104,2	98,8	104,2	
Oct	93,3	84,8	104,5	104,9	100,9	98,9	
Nov	104,0	99,4	104,7	104,2	102,7	99,3	
Dec	104,7	95,2	104,0	101,1	99,0	97,8	
Year	99,1	96,0	99,3	97,3	100,4	96,1	

¹ Preliminary.

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

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2017 year-to-date
Jan	-2,9	7,0	2,3	-2,1	-8,3	4,1	4,1
Feb	-8,0	6,5	-3,8	8,2	-10,0	3,5	3,7
Mar	-5,6	-3,7	-2,6	21,3	-18,4	16,5	8,2
Apr	-9,5	1,4	0,8	8,4	-7,2	2,1	6,7
May	3,0	-0,9	-4,6	2,8	-2,4	3,9	6,1
Jun	4,8	-4,3	-4,7	7,2	-1,4	1,3	5,1
Jul	7,5	1,4	-5,4	3,8	-4,1	0,9	4,5
Aug	1,8	1,2	-7,8	3,9	2,0		
Sep	-6,9	0,0	5,5	-5,2	5,5		
Oct	-9,1	23,2	0,4	-3,8	-2,0		
Nov	-4,4	5,3	-0,5	-1,4	-3,3		
Dec	-9,1	9,2	-2,8	-2,1	-1,2		
Year	-3,1	3,4	-2,0	3,2	-4,3		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted volume of total mining production

Month	Index (Base: 2010=100)				Month-on-month % change			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Jan	98,7	98,3	91,9	96,4	-5,4	-0,2	-5,5	1,4
Feb	96,9	104,3	94,0	97,2	-1,8	6,1	2,3	0,8
Mar	91,7	110,9	91,2	101,9	-5,4	6,3	-3,0	4,8
Apr	96,0	103,3	93,1	100,1	4,7	-6,9	2,1	-1,8
May	96,1	100,1	98,5	100,6	0,1	-3,1	5,8	0,5
Jun	95,0	101,2	99,5	99,6	-1,1	1,1	1,0	-1,0
Jul	97,1	99,0	97,3	99,2	2,2	-2,2	-2,2	-0,4
Aug	94,6	99,6	99,8		-2,6	0,6	2,6	
Sep	100,4	94,9	98,7		6,1	-4,7	-1,1	
Oct	100,9	98,1	98,2		0,5	3,4	-0,5	
Nov	100,6	98,4	94,5		-0,3	0,3	-3,8	
Dec	98,5	97,2	95,1		-2,1	-1,2	0,6	

Table 4 – Index of the volume of mining production by mineral group and mineral (Base: 2010=100) ¹

Mineral group and mineral	Weight	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17
Gold	16,25	64,8	71,8	67,0	75,4	80,7	77,8
Iron ore	14,86	108,8	126,6	128,1	120,7	136,0	121,7
Chromium ore	2,63	133,3	158,8	150,6	155,9	167,3	163,9
Copper	1,27	73,4	77,7	77,7	57,3	67,7	81,1
Manganese ore	3,09	171,5	210,6	193,7	232,5	225,5	170,9
PGMs	21,82	65,4	104,3	87,1	84,3	90,5	85,9
Nickel	1,88	107,5	121,4	131,4	116,2	126,6	113,7
Other metallic minerals	2,88	83,8	96,7	84,8	77,2	81,0	76,3
Diamonds	3,59	92,2	116,0	84,7	125,7	127,6	135,4
Coal	25,04	88,2	98,4	90,0	103,4	102,3	100,6
Building materials	1,65	106,1	122,0	110,8	117,3	117,3	118,1
Other non-metallic minerals	5,04	67,1	71,3	65,3	75,4	69,2	72,4
Total	100,00	85,7	104,4	95,5	101,1	105,6	100,1

¹ All index values in this table are preliminary.

Table 5 – Seasonally adjusted index of the volume of mining production by mineral group and mineral (Base: 2010=100)

Mineral group and mineral	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17	Month-on-month % change
Gold	71,0	71,5	73,7	75,1	73,5	77,2	5,0
Iron ore	123,2	125,5	132,2	120,2	124,5	116,3	-6,6
Chromium ore	145,4	160,3	151,6	153,5	157,7	160,3	1,6
Copper ¹	79,8	76,2	78,9	55,8	68,9	79,6	15,5
Manganese ore ²	171,5	210,6	193,7	232,5	225,5	170,9	-24,2
PGMs	93,8	98,1	91,8	89,3	82,5	90,6	9,8
Nickel ²	107,5	121,4	131,4	116,2	126,6	113,7	-10,2
Other metallic minerals ¹	90,6	95,2	86,0	75,6	82,2	74,8	-9,0
Diamonds ²	92,2	116,0	84,7	125,7	127,6	135,4	6,1
Coal	94,5	95,5	96,3	98,2	98,4	97,7	-0,7
Building materials	108,7	114,7	122,9	109,2	110,6	112,2	1,4
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	67,1	69,6	66,2	76,6	67,2	73,8	9,8
Total	97,2	101,9	100,1	100,6	99,6	99,2	-0,4

¹ Adjusted for calendar effects only. See notes 4, 5 and 6 on page 11.

² Unadjusted.

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

Mineral group and mineral	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17
Gold	-16,9	-8,9	-2,9	-2,7	-3,1	3,9
Iron ore	20,9	24,5	29,9	27,9	3,7	-5,0
Chromium ore	-1,3	27,2	16,4	19,0	19,8	18,3
Copper	-8,3	22,9	-2,5	-10,9	90,2	25,5
Manganese ore	53,4	55,0	40,1	54,3	26,4	19,3
PGMs	31,3	23,3	-11,0	-24,1	-13,7	-5,0
Nickel	-17,8	-3,4	-1,6	-5,1	9,7	3,1
Other metallic minerals	1,1	30,1	11,7	5,5	-11,5	-2,8
Diamonds	1,7	56,8	12,2	61,2	59,1	16,5
Coal	-9,4	10,1	-8,5	4,2	-0,5	-1,9
Building materials	-4,8	12,9	-4,2	-6,6	-6,8	-6,9
Other non-metallic minerals	-5,5	-1,7	-8,8	12,4	12,0	17,0
Total	3,5	16,5	2,1	3,9	1,3	0,9

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	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17	Jul-17
Gold	-2,6	-1,3	-0,3	-0,4	-0,4	0,5
Iron ore	3,4	4,1	4,7	4,0	0,7	-1,0
Chromium ore	-0,1	1,0	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,7
Copper	-0,1	0,2	0,0	-0,1	0,4	0,2
Manganese ore	2,2	2,6	1,8	2,6	1,4	0,9
PGMs	4,1	4,8	-2,5	-6,0	-3,0	-1,0
Nickel	-0,5	-0,1	0,0	-0,1	0,2	0,1
Other metallic minerals	0,0	0,7	0,3	0,1	-0,3	-0,1
Diamonds	0,1	1,7	0,3	1,8	1,6	0,7
Coal	-2,8	2,5	-2,2	1,1	-0,1	-0,5
Building materials	-0,1	0,3	-0,1	-0,1	-0,1	-0,1
Other non-metallic minerals	-0,2	-0,1	-0,3	0,4	0,4	0,5
Total	3,5	16,5	2,1	3,9	1,3	0,9

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

Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 ¹	2017 ¹
Jan	25 341,3	28 079,4	28 977,1	32 608,8	27 681,7	26 988,0	32 960,6
Feb	27 573,2	29 335,5	30 361,5	35 488,2	30 394,0	30 950,9	34 158,1
Mar	31 547,4	30 912,0	34 761,4	35 172,2	34 521,0	34 154,1	39 112,5
Apr	27 370,2	26 772,5	31 865,2	31 647,7	32 227,3	30 849,8	34 151,1
May	27 870,5	31 257,0	30 402,1	30 932,4	32 457,0	38 009,9	35 811,7
Jun	33 940,1	33 958,2	35 088,5	31 630,8	35 562,5	41 023,0	39 441,6
Jul	27 947,7	30 899,0	32 847,9	31 517,7	30 958,1	30 373,0	
Aug	30 300,9	31 402,3	35 523,4	32 124,1	31 314,6	34 051,0	
Sep	35 700,1	30 367,0	34 731,0	35 345,8	33 412,7	39 167,0	
Oct	33 393,7	28 258,6	34 544,7	34 101,5	33 000,5	37 154,5	
Nov	35 268,1	29 921,3	34 122,6	32 274,1	30 896,9	39 441,4	
Dec	34 027,5	32 954,5	34 452,5	33 434,3	34 055,2	41 794,2	
Total	370 280,7	364 117,3	397 677,9	396 277,6	386 481,5	423 956,8	

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

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2017 year-to-date
Jan	10,8	3,2	12,5	-15,1	-2,5	22,1	22,1
Feb	6,4	3,5	16,9	-14,4	1,8	10,4	15,8
Mar	-2,0	12,5	1,2	-1,9	-1,1	14,5	15,4
Apr	-2,2	19,0	-0,7	1,8	-4,3	10,7	14,2
May	12,2	-2,7	1,7	4,9	17,1	-5,8	9,5
Jun	0,1	3,3	-9,9	12,4	15,4	-3,9	6,8
Jul	10,6	6,3	-4,0	-1,8	-1,9		
Aug	3,6	13,1	-9,6	-2,5	8,7		
Sep	-14,9	14,4	1,8	-5,5	17,2		
Oct	-15,4	22,2	-1,3	-3,2	12,6		
Nov	-15,2	14,0	-5,4	-4,3	27,7		
Dec	-3,2	4,5	-3,0	1,9	22,7		
Total	-1,7	9,2	-0,4	-2,5	9,7		

Table 10 – Seasonally adjusted total mineral sales at current prices

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Jan	36 141,8	30 465,4	30 985,6	37 642,3	7,4	-5,9	-2,3	-3,3
Feb	37 561,7	32 133,5	32 734,7	36 112,2	3,9	5,5	5,6	-4,1
Mar	33 732,7	33 500,8	31 908,0	36 916,0	-10,2	4,3	-2,5	2,2
Apr	33 461,0	32 893,1	32 887,0	36 083,2	-0,8	-1,8	3,1	-2,3
May	30 854,0	33 645,4	39 115,3	36 668,1	-7,8	2,3	18,9	1,6
Jun	29 569,5	33 169,2	37 007,3	36 138,4	-4,2	-1,4	-5,4	-1,4
Jul	31 661,6	31 518,3	31 972,7		7,1	-5,0	-13,6	
Aug	32 768,7	31 457,7	34 474,0		3,5	-0,2	7,8	
Sep	33 590,8	31 860,2	36 391,7		2,5	1,3	5,6	
Oct	33 375,7	32 046,0	36 911,2		-0,6	0,6	1,4	
Nov	32 067,1	30 848,5	39 435,3		-3,9	-3,7	6,8	
Dec	32 364,2	31 723,2	38 941,2		0,9	2,8	-1,3	

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

Mineral group and mineral	Jan-17	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17
Gold	4 421,5	4 979,6	5 267,0	5 014,7	5 924,3	6 089,0
Iron ore	4 449,8	4 735,8	5 150,6	3 390,2	3 206,7	3 226,0
Chromium ore	1 676,3	1 852,6	2 735,3	2 179,1	2 171,3	1 765,2
Copper	187,1	245,7	272,8	347,2	292,1	321,8
Manganese ore	2 565,8	2 288,5	2 164,8	1 639,1	2 090,0	3 883,5
PGMs	7 099,3	6 120,5	8 196,9	8 609,4	7 615,4	7 883,1
Nickel	433,6	309,9	659,3	514,6	604,1	550,9
Other metallic minerals	713,4	698,3	686,5	1 165,6	600,6	1 122,5
Coal	9 630,2	9 717,2	10 462,2	9 471,1	10 076,7	9 563,5
Building materials	764,3	849,7	954,2	882,9	1 013,7	955,0
Other non-metallic minerals	1 019,1	2 360,3	2 562,9	937,1	2 216,7	4 081,1
Total	32 960,6	34 158,1	39 112,5	34 151,1	35 811,7	39 441,6

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	Jan-17	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17
Gold	-6,6	-19,4	-25,9	-10,0	-16,5	-14,6
Iron ore	63,3	76,2	39,7	-9,7	-9,5	-4,5
Chromium ore	120,4	99,4	111,3	93,8	52,6	36,3
Copper	-46,7	-10,8	-27,2	16,0	-9,5	11,5
Manganese ore	275,2	151,5	139,4	12,9	8,8	95,4
PGMs	22,0	-4,2	20,4	39,2	-28,3	-33,9
Nickel	-35,8	-47,6	-1,7	-4,8	-3,0	23,0
Other metallic minerals	55,6	23,3	-19,1	82,4	-11,2	24,9
Coal	16,7	16,9	21,6	11,2	14,9	4,5
Building materials	14,3	-0,2	8,5	-7,5	1,6	-1,6
Other non-metallic minerals	-45,1	-27,5	-13,7	-48,2	9,5	14,8
Total	22,1	10,4	14,5	10,7	-5,8	-3,9

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	Jan-17	Feb-17	Mar-17	Apr-17	May-17	Jun-17
Gold	-1,2	-3,9	-5,4	-1,8	-3,1	-2,5
Iron ore	6,4	6,6	4,3	-1,2	-0,9	-0,4
Chromium ore	3,4	3,0	4,2	3,4	2,0	1,1
Copper	-0,6	-0,1	-0,3	0,2	-0,1	0,1
Manganese ore	7,0	4,5	3,7	0,6	0,4	4,6
PGMs	4,7	-0,9	4,1	7,9	-7,9	-9,9
Nickel	-0,9	-0,9	0,0	-0,1	0,0	0,3
Other metallic minerals	0,9	0,4	-0,5	1,7	-0,2	0,5
Coal	5,1	4,5	5,4	3,1	3,4	1,0
Building materials	0,4	0,0	0,2	-0,2	0,0	0,0
Other non-metallic minerals	-3,1	-2,9	-1,2	-2,8	0,5	1,3
Total	22,1	10,4	14,5	10,7	-5,8	-3,9

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 (DMR). 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 2010=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 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	6	The monthly mining production and sales survey is conducted by the DMR, 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	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 <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</i> (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 <i>International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</i> (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	9	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	10	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	11	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.

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 2010. 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 July 2016 publication) are based on an average of value added data for the years 2012, 2013 and 2014. These weights are applicable from January 2014.
Seasonal adjustment	4	Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month using the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by the US Bureau of the Census, 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 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
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 2 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.
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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 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 <i>System of National Accounts</i> (SNA) in the same way as in the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</i> (SIC), Fifth Edition of January 1993.	
PGMs – Platinum group metals	Platinum group metals include platinum, iridium, osmium, 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	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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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 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.

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