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STATISTICAL RELEASE
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Mining: Production and sales (Preliminary)

January 2026

This release provides an analysis of revisions. If you have any questions or comments, please send these to JP Terblanche, juan-pierret@statssa.gov.za.

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Contents

Production: results for January 2026

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

	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	0,4	1,5	6,1	-2,4	2,8	4,6
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,9	2,1	2,4	-5,2	-1,6	2,9
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted [1]	3,2	2,7	2,2	1,7	-0,6	-3,1

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

Mining production increased by 4,6% year-on-year in January 2026. The largest positive contributors were:

- PGMs (10,8% and contributing 2,7 percentage points);
- chromium ore (37,3% and contributing 1,8 percentage points); and
- manganese ore (12,5% and contributing 1,0 percentage point).

Iron ore (-1,9% and contributing -0,3 of a percentage point) was the largest negative contributor – see Table 6 and Table 7.

Seasonally adjusted mining production increased by 2,9% in January 2026 compared with December 2025. This followed month-on-month changes of -1,6% in December 2025 and -5,2% in November 2025 – see Table A.

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	Aug – Oct 2025	Nov 2025 – Jan 2026	% change between Aug – Oct 2025 and Nov 2025 – Jan 2026	Contribution (% points) to the % change in total mining production
Gold	10,48	85,9	81,7	-4,9	-0,5
Iron ore	16,41	92,1	84,8	-7,9	-1,2
Chromium ore	4,08	140,3	147,5	5,1	0,3
Copper [1]	0,75	104,2	95,5	-8,3	-0,1
Manganese ore	5,65	123,5	141,3	14,4	1,0
PGMs	27,11	97,9	93,2	-4,8	-1,3
Nickel [1]	1,38	83,0	77,6	-6,5	-0,1
Other metallic minerals [1]	2,81	98,3	95,3	-3,1	-0,1
Diamonds [1]	2,05	86,0	74,9	-12,9	-0,2
Coal	26,32	91,9	88,9	-3,3	-0,8
Building materials	2,58	94,6	89,6	-5,3	-0,1
Other non-metallic minerals	0,38	88,7	91,7	3,4	0,0
Total	**100,00**	**96,8**	**93,8**	**-3,1**	**-3,1**

[1] Unadjusted. See notes 4, 5 and 6 on page 14.

Seasonally adjusted mining production decreased by 3,1% in the three months ended January 2026 compared with the previous three months. The largest negative contributors were:

- PGMs (-4,8% and contributing -1,3 percentage points);
- iron ore (-7,9% and contributing -1,2 percentage points); and
- coal (-3,3% and contributing -0,8 of a percentage point).

Manganese ore (14,4% and contributing 1,0 percentage point) was the largest positive contributor – see Table B.

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

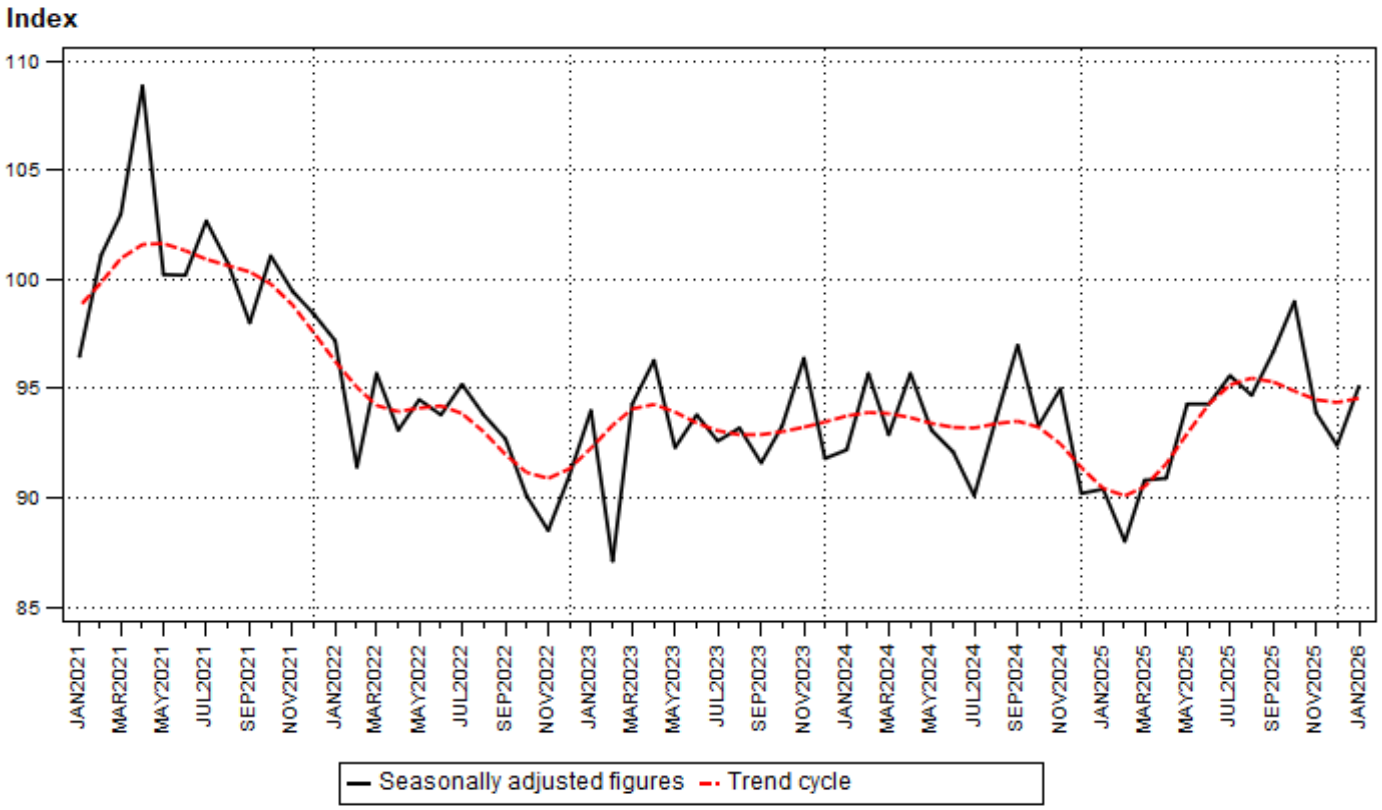
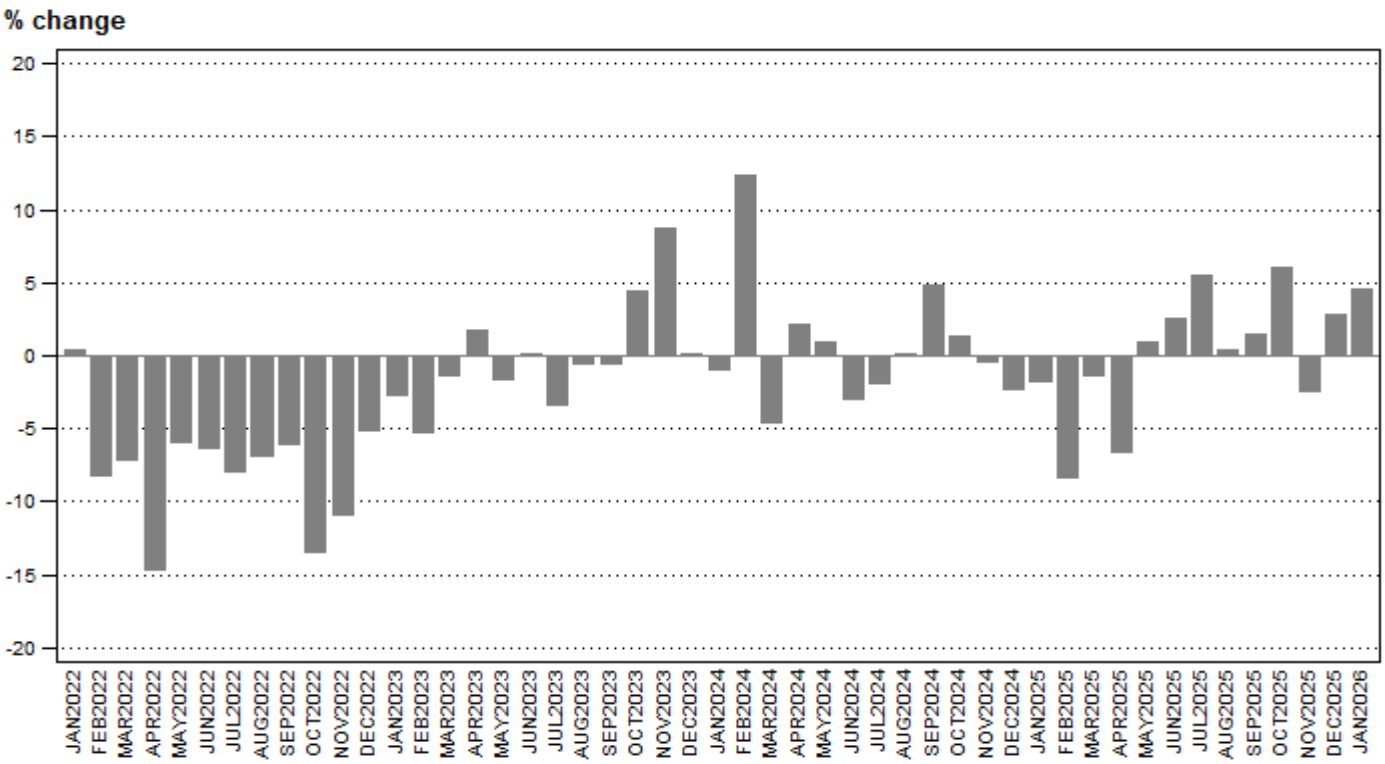


Figure 2 – Volume of mining production (Base: 2019=100): year-on-year percentage change



Sales: results for January 2026

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

	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	22,8	16,4	13,6	-0,1	48,0	31,7
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-2,7	8,7	-0,3	-1,6	23,0	-9,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted [1]	4,6	8,2	7,2	9,4	11,1	12,6

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

Mineral sales at current prices increased by 31,7% year-on-year in January 2026. The largest positive contributors were:

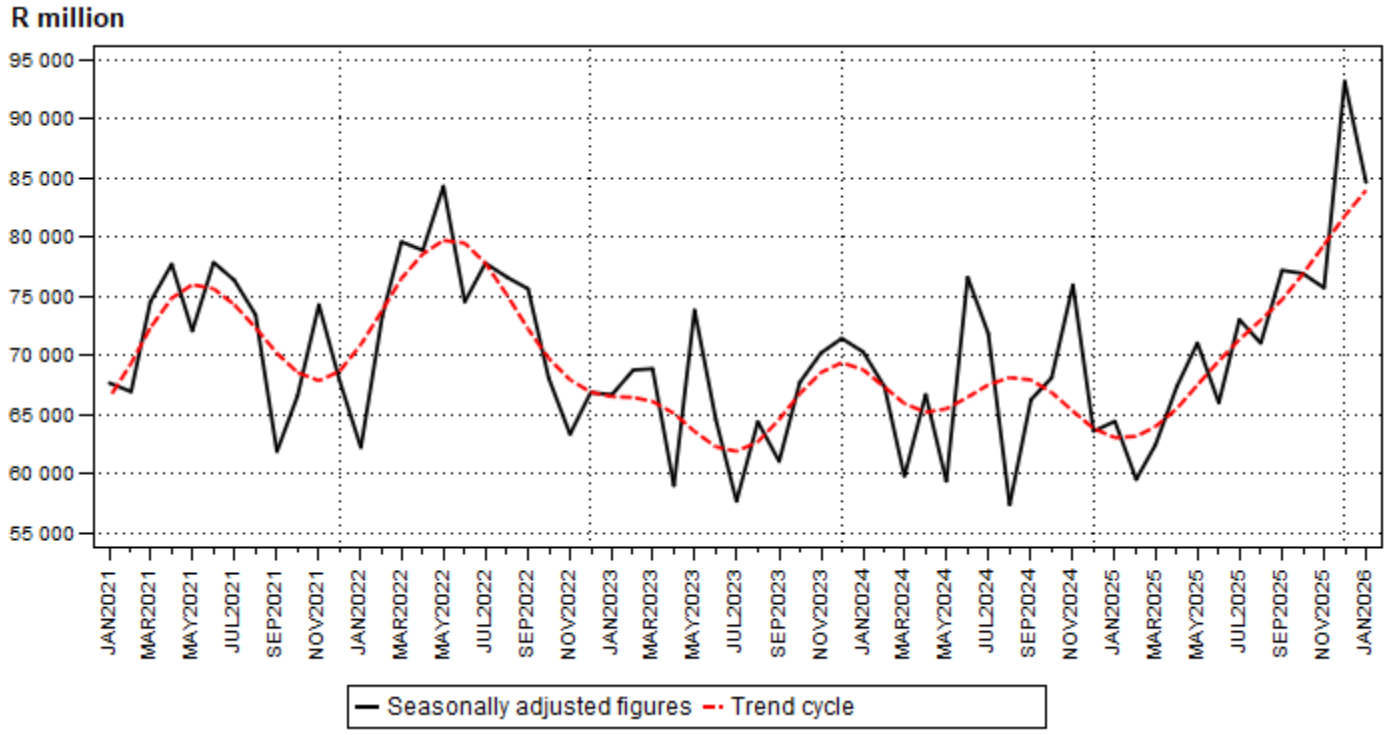
- PGMs (122,4% and contributing 23,1 percentage points);
- gold (35,9% and contributing 8,4 percentage points); and
- chromium ore (66,7% and contributing 3,4 percentage points).

Coal (-10,3% and contributing -2,8 percentage points) and iron ore (-11,9% and contributing -1,5 percentage points) were the largest negative contributors – see Table 12 and Table 13.

Seasonally adjusted mineral sales at current prices decreased by 9,1% in January 2026 compared with December 2025. This followed month-on-month changes of 23,0% in December 2025 and -1,6% in November 2025.

Seasonally adjusted mineral sales at current prices increased by 12,6% in the three months ended January 2026 compared with the previous three months.

Figure 3 – Total value of mineral sales at current prices



Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Tables

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

Month	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Jan	92,6	84,9	85,2	82,9	82,1	80,6	84,3
Feb	88,8	86,2	79,1	74,9	84,2	77,2	
Mar	83,2	105,3	97,8	96,5	92,2	91,0	
Apr	45,1	102,6	87,6	89,1	91,0	85,0	
May	82,7	103,9	97,8	96,2	97,2	98,1	
Jun	84,3	107,1	100,4	100,5	97,6	100,0	
Jul	95,9	106,8	98,4	95,2	93,4	98,5	
Aug	102,4	108,9	101,4	100,9	101,1	101,5	
Sep	102,5	102,3	96,2	95,7	100,4	101,9	
Oct	101,9	105,7	91,5	95,5	96,8	102,7	
Nov	96,4	103,3	92,0	100,0	99,6	97,2	
Dec	93,4	93,5	88,7	88,8	86,8	89,2	
Year	**89,1**	**100,9**	**93,0**	**93,0**	**93,5**	**93,6**	

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

Month	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	*2026 year-to-date*
Jan	-8,3	0,4	-2,7	-1,0	-1,8	4,6	*4,6*
Feb	-2,9	-8,2	-5,3	12,4	-8,3		
Mar	26,6	-7,1	-1,3	-4,5	-1,3		
Apr	127,5	-14,6	1,7	2,1	-6,6		
May	25,6	-5,9	-1,6	1,0	0,9		
Jun	27,0	-6,3	0,1	-2,9	2,5		
Jul	11,4	-7,9	-3,3	-1,9	5,5		
Aug	6,3	-6,9	-0,5	0,2	0,4		
Sep	-0,2	-6,0	-0,5	4,9	1,5		
Oct	3,7	-13,4	4,4	1,4	6,1		
Nov	7,2	-10,9	8,7	-0,4	-2,4		
Dec	0,1	-5,1	0,1	-2,3	2,8		
Year	**13,2**	**-7,8**	**0,0**	**0,5**	**0,1**		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted volume of total mining production

Month	Index (Base: 2019=100)				Month-on-month % change			
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2023	2024	2025	2026
Jan	94,0	92,2	90,4	95,1	3,3	0,4	0,2	2,9
Feb	87,1	95,7	88,0		-7,3	3,8	-2,7	
Mar	94,3	92,9	90,8		8,3	-2,9	3,2	
Apr	96,3	95,7	90,9		2,1	3,0	0,1	
May	92,3	93,1	94,3		-4,2	-2,7	3,7	
Jun	93,8	92,1	94,3		1,6	-1,1	0,0	
Jul	92,6	90,1	95,6		-1,3	-2,2	1,4	
Aug	93,2	93,6	94,7		0,6	3,9	-0,9	
Sep	91,6	97,0	96,7		-1,7	3,6	2,1	
Oct	93,3	93,3	99,0		1,9	-3,8	2,4	
Nov	96,4	95,0	93,9		3,3	1,8	-5,2	
Dec	91,8	90,2	92,4		-4,8	-5,1	-1,6	

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

Mineral group and mineral	Weight	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26
Gold	10,48	89,1	95,5	97,1	81,4	76,6	70,6
Iron ore	16,41	92,9	87,6	86,8	79,7	89,6	79,3
Chromium ore	4,08	149,2	146,5	154,4	146,3	126,3	128,2
Copper	0,75	99,6	99,4	113,7	104,1	106,3	76,1
Manganese ore	5,65	137,3	118,3	131,4	132,7	125,7	127,8
PGMs	27,11	101,6	111,0	106,3	107,1	96,1	81,3
Nickel	1,38	69,9	83,4	95,8	81,1	85,3	66,4
Other metallic minerals	2,81	100,5	91,9	102,6	87,5	109,1	89,2
Diamonds	2,05	86,1	90,2	81,8	91,8	49,0	83,8
Coal	26,32	99,7	96,3	98,0	90,7	76,5	82,6
Building materials	2,58	100,2	104,8	111,0	104,5	63,8	62,4
Other non-metallic minerals	0,38	101,9	98,4	88,9	84,0	86,4	77,0
Total	**100,00**	**101,5**	**101,9**	**102,7**	**97,2**	**89,2**	**84,3**

[1] Annual averages and annual percentage changes are available on the following link: Annual data.

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

Mineral group and mineral	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Month-on-month % change
Gold	83,4	88,4	85,8	77,3	83,7	84,2	0,6
Iron ore	85,8	91,6	99,0	83,9	87,4	83,0	-5,0
Chromium ore	134,8	138,7	147,4	138,6	150,7	153,3	1,7
Copper [1]	99,6	99,4	113,7	104,1	106,3	76,1	-28,4
Manganese ore	124,1	117,7	128,6	136,3	149,2	138,3	-7,3
PGMs	93,9	99,7	100,1	96,8	84,1	98,8	17,5
Nickel [1]	69,9	83,4	95,8	81,1	85,3	66,4	-22,2
Other metallic minerals [1]	100,5	91,9	102,6	87,5	109,1	89,2	-18,2
Diamonds [1]	86,1	90,2	81,8	91,8	49,0	83,8	71,0
Coal	94,3	90,9	90,6	88,9	88,0	89,7	1,9
Building materials	92,8	97,9	93,1	94,3	87,9	86,5	-1,6
Other non-metallic minerals	91,9	92,0	82,2	87,8	104,9	82,4	-21,4
Total	**94,7**	**96,7**	**99,0**	**93,9**	**92,4**	**95,1**	**2,9**

[1] Unadjusted. See notes 4, 5 and 6 on page 14.

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

Mineral group and mineral	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26
Gold	-3,6	5,1	-0,4	-6,0	2,0	0,7
Iron ore	2,4	-2,2	25,3	-7,3	19,1	-1,9
Chromium ore	-2,2	3,4	13,6	0,7	17,7	37,3
Copper	-19,7	-19,4	-5,5	8,2	-1,5	-21,7
Manganese ore	-2,1	-5,9	14,1	16,7	40,4	12,5
PGMs	-3,0	3,9	3,9	-2,6	-7,4	10,8
Nickel	-21,8	-11,0	31,1	3,2	27,7	-4,3
Other metallic minerals	22,9	-7,2	4,4	16,2	27,5	-1,5
Diamonds	29,1	2,9	-13,3	28,2	-36,4	4,2
Coal	4,1	1,9	0,4	-7,8	-5,8	-0,7
Building materials	3,1	17,9	4,9	2,8	3,1	-4,1
Other non-metallic minerals	-10,9	-8,0	-12,6	-4,1	9,2	-21,7
Total	**0,4**	**1,5**	**6,1**	**-2,4**	**2,8**	**4,6**

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	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26
Gold	-0,3	0,5	0,0	-0,5	0,2	0,1
Iron ore	0,4	-0,3	3,0	-1,0	2,7	-0,3
Chromium ore	-0,1	0,2	0,8	0,0	0,9	1,8
Copper	-0,2	-0,2	-0,1	0,1	0,0	-0,2
Manganese ore	-0,2	-0,4	0,9	1,1	2,4	1,0
PGMs	-0,8	1,1	1,1	-0,8	-2,4	2,7
Nickel	-0,3	-0,1	0,3	0,0	0,3	-0,1
Other metallic minerals	0,5	-0,2	0,1	0,3	0,8	0,0
Diamonds	0,4	0,1	-0,3	0,4	-0,7	0,1
Coal	1,0	0,5	0,1	-2,0	-1,4	-0,2
Building materials	0,1	0,4	0,1	0,1	0,1	-0,1
Other non-metallic minerals	0,0	0,0	-0,1	0,0	0,0	-0,1
Total	**0,4**	**1,5**	**6,1**	**-2,4**	**2,8**	**4,6**

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

Month	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Jan	51 128,5	63 518,6	59 050,2	63 640,8	67 356,0	62 034,4	81 713,5
Feb	45 135,2	56 927,3	61 698,4	57 573,5	56 147,4	49 630,6	
Mar	51 606,4	78 213,1	83 573,6	71 667,9	61 535,8	63 292,8	
Apr	31 064,5	78 533,6	80 279,4	60 098,5	67 633,1	68 082,3	
May	40 521,7	75 976,9	89 818,5	79 471,8	64 369,6	76 849,6	
Jun	41 962,5	82 049,6	77 693,5	66 609,1	78 628,2	67 600,1	
Jul	48 588,4	73 935,4	76 368,5	57 344,8	71 883,4	73 544,5	
Aug	56 868,0	77 095,1	80 551,6	67 474,6	59 717,0	73 356,8	
Sep	63 394,0	65 086,8	78 856,7	63 315,9	68 323,5	79 521,8	
Oct	66 165,3	69 099,3	70 397,8	70 071,2	70 635,6	80 239,3	
Nov	58 255,9	72 147,3	60 931,6	67 144,9	72 774,3	72 712,7	
Dec	58 501,2	64 696,9	64 521,0	70 216,5	63 673,5	94 212,9	
Total	**613 191,6**	**857 279,9**	**883 740,8**	**794 629,5**	**802 677,4**	**861 077,8**	

Table 9 – Year-on-year percentage change in mineral sales at current prices

Month	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	*2026 year-to-date*
Jan	24,2	-7,0	7,8	5,8	-7,9	31,7	*31,7*
Feb	26,1	8,4	-6,7	-2,5	-11,6		
Mar	51,6	6,9	-14,2	-14,1	2,9		
Apr	152,8	2,2	-25,1	12,5	0,7		
May	87,5	18,2	-11,5	-19,0	19,4		
Jun	95,5	-5,3	-14,3	18,0	-14,0		
Jul	52,2	3,3	-24,9	25,4	2,3		
Aug	35,6	4,5	-16,2	-11,5	22,8		
Sep	2,7	21,2	-19,7	7,9	16,4		
Oct	4,4	1,9	-0,5	0,8	13,6		
Nov	23,8	-15,5	10,2	8,4	-0,1		
Dec	10,6	-0,3	8,8	-9,3	48,0		
Total	**39,8**	**3,1**	**-10,1**	**1,0**	**7,3**		

Table 10 – Seasonally adjusted total mineral sales at current prices

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2023	2024	2025	2026
Jan	66 702,9	70 313,4	64 451,1	84 641,1	-0,3	-1,6	1,3	-9,1
Feb	68 780,3	67 383,0	59 546,4		3,1	-4,2	-7,6	
Mar	68 883,3	59 809,1	62 467,1		0,1	-11,2	4,9	
Apr	59 026,9	66 705,7	67 381,0		-14,3	11,5	7,9	
May	73 835,9	59 396,0	71 063,2		25,1	-11,0	5,5	
Jun	64 581,4	76 606,2	66 013,0		-12,5	29,0	-7,1	
Jul	57 696,8	71 851,1	73 036,4		-10,7	-6,2	10,6	
Aug	64 415,1	57 407,8	71 045,2		11,6	-20,1	-2,7	
Sep	61 065,6	66 276,5	77 192,0		-5,2	15,4	8,7	
Oct	67 736,7	68 120,7	76 933,1		10,9	2,8	-0,3	
Nov	70 228,0	75 970,0	75 720,1		3,7	11,5	-1,6	
Dec	71 444,3	63 608,8	93 165,4		1,7	-16,3	23,0	

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

Mineral group and mineral	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26
Gold	12 962,4	17 424,2	16 488,1	11 382,5	31 539,2	19 717,9
Iron ore	7 543,3	7 046,1	5 291,0	6 314,0	6 953,1	6 711,3
Chromium ore	6 075,0	6 514,2	6 805,7	5 796,1	6 112,8	5 226,3
Copper	626,8	801,3	796,0	759,6	833,1	454,4
Manganese ore	4 243,2	4 020,2	3 594,6	3 577,6	4 496,8	3 566,5
PGMs	18 492,3	22 113,2	23 484,0	23 727,3	23 132,5	25 997,8
Nickel	784,9	727,4	916,3	884,8	909,8	614,2
Other metallic minerals	1 974,9	1 906,1	1 976,8	1 824,6	2 338,0	1 791,8
Coal	17 642,9	15 771,2	17 174,2	15 587,1	15 237,5	15 131,8
Building materials	1 293,2	1 288,5	1 350,2	1 234,2	903,1	983,0
Other non-metallic minerals	1 718,1	1 909,4	2 362,4	1 624,8	1 757,0	1 518,5
Total	**73 356,8**	**79 521,8**	**80 239,3**	**72 712,7**	**94 212,9**	**81 713,5**

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

Mineral group and mineral	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26
Gold	471,5	60,4	4,6	-27,9	270,0	35,9
Iron ore	-14,2	-1,3	1,1	-16,5	-5,6	-11,9
Chromium ore	8,1	12,5	26,8	20,5	36,1	66,7
Copper	11,9	-11,0	37,2	11,5	52,1	10,1
Manganese ore	-25,4	-23,1	15,5	23,1	15,3	11,2
PGMs	44,1	53,8	50,6	42,3	51,4	122,4
Nickel	-9,7	-3,5	0,8	-5,4	-7,5	57,9
Other metallic minerals	-1,8	-6,8	-4,7	-4,8	4,1	-3,9
Coal	-0,9	-9,4	-5,5	-15,0	-11,1	-10,3
Building materials	1,1	7,2	3,7	-1,0	10,3	13,9
Other non-metallic minerals	-13,8	-26,7	-6,3	-16,0	-26,1	3,5
Total	**22,8**	**16,4**	**13,6**	**-0,1**	**48,0**	**31,7**

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	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26
Gold	17,9	9,6	1,0	-6,0	36,2	8,4
Iron ore	-2,1	-0,1	0,1	-1,7	-0,6	-1,5
Chromium ore	0,8	1,1	2,0	1,4	2,6	3,4
Copper	0,1	-0,1	0,3	0,1	0,4	0,1
Manganese ore	-2,4	-1,8	0,7	0,9	0,9	0,6
PGMs	9,5	11,3	11,2	9,7	12,3	23,1
Nickel	-0,1	0,0	0,0	-0,1	-0,1	0,4
Other metallic minerals	-0,1	-0,2	-0,1	-0,1	0,1	-0,1
Coal	-0,3	-2,4	-1,4	-3,8	-3,0	-2,8
Building materials	0,0	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,2
Other non-metallic minerals	-0,5	-1,0	-0,2	-0,4	-1,0	0,1
Total	**22,8**	**16,4**	**13,6**	**-0,1**	**48,0**	**31,7**

Analysis of revisions

Introduction

Statistics South Africa collects administrative mining data on a monthly basis from the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR). Preliminary monthly indices for mining production are published approximately six weeks after the reference month, e.g. preliminary mining production for June are published around mid-August. The preliminary indices are revised the following month, using additional information received from the DMPR. This and other reasons for revising mining production indices from time to time are shown in the explanatory notes (see note 8 on page 13).

Analysis

Revisions may be analysed in terms of several dimensions, namely production indices and/or growth rates (e.g. month-on-month percentage changes, year-on-year percentage changes); seasonally adjusted and/or unadjusted data; totals and/or components; preliminary estimate compared with first revision and/or latest available revision; and various combinations of these options.

This analysis is confined to the following:

- Total mining production index, year-on-year growth rate, unadjusted.
- Preliminary growth rates are compared with the latest available revised growth rates, where the preliminary growth rate refers to the first year-on-year growth rate published for the month in question.
- Time period: January 2012 to December 2025.

Figure 4 shows the preliminary and revised growth rates (line chart, left vertical axis) and the difference between them (bar chart, right vertical axis, where difference = revised - preliminary).

Table 14 provides key results relating to revisions.

Figure 4 – Mining production year-on-year growth rates: preliminary and revised

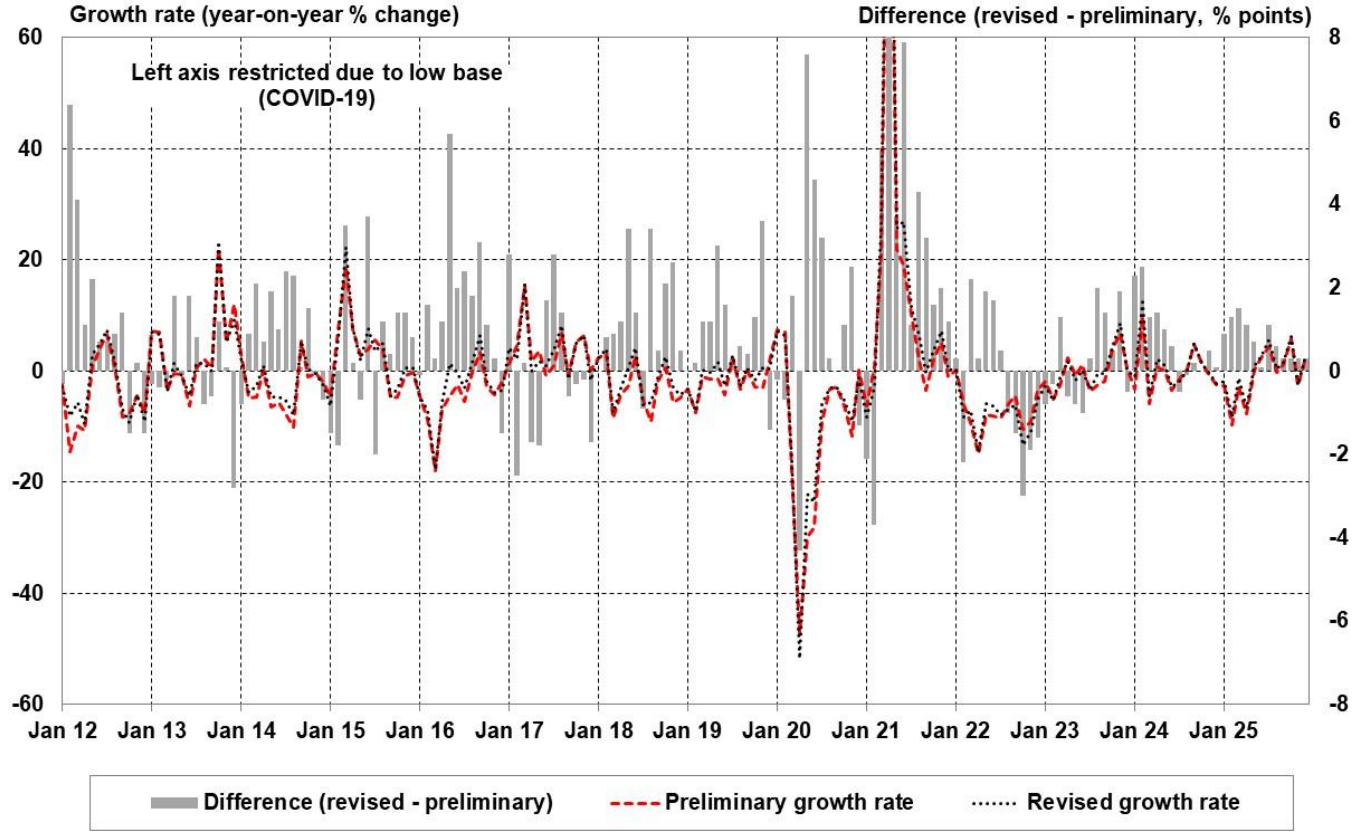


Table 14 – Mining production year-on-year growth rates: preliminary and revised

Description	Value / outcome	Comment
Average year-on-year growth rate over the whole period	Preliminary: -0,77% Revised: 0,10%	The average of revised growth rates is higher than the average of preliminary growth rates
Mean revision	0,87 of a percentage point	This is the average of the revisions
Mean absolute revision	1,54 percentage points	Average of the revisions, but based on the absolute value of each revision (positives and negatives do not cancel each other)
Largest upward revision	11,0 percentage points	Preliminary 116,5% was revised up to 127,5% (April 2021, affected by COVID-19)
Largest downward revision	-4,3 percentage points	Preliminary -47,3% was revised down to -51,6% (April 2020, affected by COVID-19)
Range for all revisions	-4,3 to 11,0 percentage points	
Range within which 90% of the revisions lie	-2,0 to 4,2 percentage points	This may be regarded as the normal range for revisions, with revisions outside this range being outliers
Number of upward revisions	116 (or 69,0% of the total observations)	
Number of downward revisions	48 (or 28,6% of the total observations)	
Number of zero revisions	4 (or 2,4% of the total observations)	
Is the mean revision (0,87) significantly different from zero?	Yes	This indicates that there is bias in the preliminary estimates – see Note 1 below
Standard deviation of the revisions	2,02 percentage points	Standard deviation is a measure of dispersion about the mean – see the row below
Percentage of revisions that lie within one standard deviation of the mean	76,2%	This is the percentage of revisions that lie between -1,15 and 2,88 percentage points; the higher the percentage, the lower is the dispersion about the mean – see Figure 5

Note 1: Is the mean revision significantly different from zero?

The formula for the test statistic is as follows:

$$test\ statistic = \frac{\bar{R}}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{n(n-1)}\right)\left(\sum_{t=1}^{n}\hat{\varepsilon}_t^2 + \frac{3}{4}\sum_{t=2}^{n}\hat{\varepsilon}_t\,\hat{\varepsilon}_{t-1} + \frac{2}{3}\sum_{t=3}^{n}\hat{\varepsilon}_t\,\hat{\varepsilon}_{t-2}\right)}}$$

where

$n = number\ of\ observations$

$\bar{R} = mean\ revision$

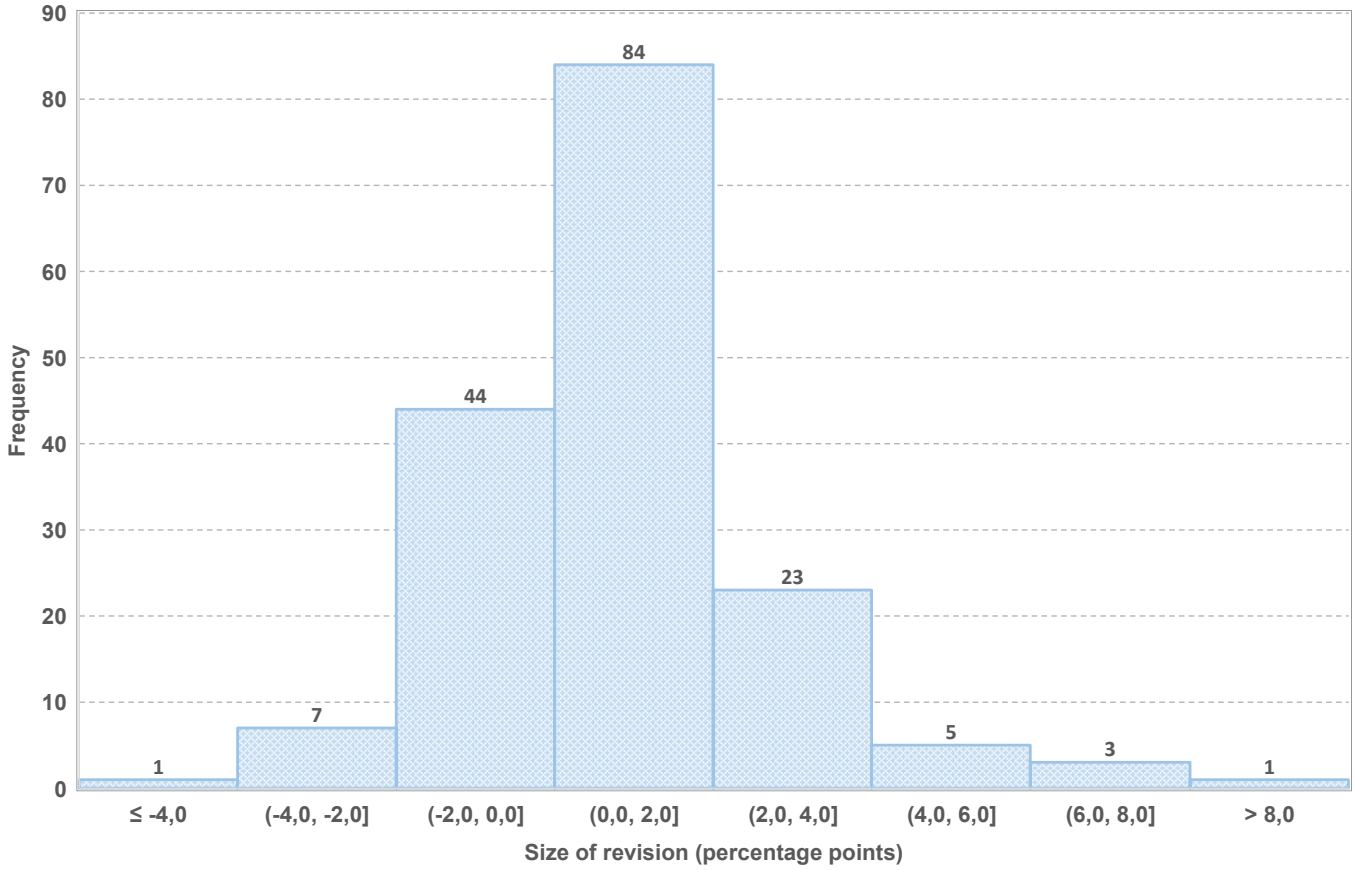
$\hat{\varepsilon}_t = R_t - \bar{R}, with\ R_t = revision\ in\ period\ t$

Note that if the test statistic shows that the mean revision (MR) is significantly different from zero, then there is bias in the preliminary estimates. Bias in a series suggests there is scope to enhance the compilation of that series in an attempt to remove or minimise the bias. MR > 0 (statistically significant) implies under-estimation of the preliminary estimates. MR < 0 (statistically significant) implies over-estimation of the preliminary estimates.

In this case the test statistic is 4,85, which lies above the critical value of 1,97, indicating that the MR is significantly different from zero at a 5% significance level. Accordingly, there is under-estimation of the annual growth rates detected in the preliminary estimates. Stats SA is investigating whether the under-estimation can be reduced.

Figure 5 shows the revisions in terms of a histogram. There were 44 revisions between -2,0 and 0,0 (-2,0 < revision ≤ 0,0); 84 revisions between 0,0 and 2,0 (0,0 < revision ≤ 2,0); and 23 revisions between 2,0 and 4,0 (2,0 < revision ≤ 4,0). Around 89,9% of revisions lie between -2,0 and 4,0 percentage points.

Figure 5 – Mining production year-on-year growth rates: histogram of revisions



Explanatory notes

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 and Petroleum Resources (DMPR). 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.

Purpose of the survey

4 The monthly mining production and sales survey is conducted by the DMPR, 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

5 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

6 The 1993 edition of the *Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities* (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, Fifth Edition of January 1993, 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

7 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.

Revised figures

8 Revised figures are mainly due to late submission of data to the DMPR, or the DMPR reporting revisions or corrections to their figures. The reasons for routine revisions are outlined in the following schedule. Any unscheduled revisions will be promptly indicated in relevant tables to maintain transparency and accuracy. It is important to note that seasonally adjusted figures are revised monthly.

Statistical release	Reason for revision	Period subject to revision
Jan-26	Additional information from the DMPR	Jan-24 - Dec-25
Feb-26	Additional information from the DMPR	Jan-24 - Jan-26
Mar-26	Additional information from the DMPR	Jan-24 - Feb-26
Apr-26	Additional information from the DMPR	Jan-24 - Mar-26
May-26	Additional information from the DMPR	Jan-24 - Apr-26
Jun-26	Additional information from the DMPR	Jan-24 - May-26
Jul-26	Additional information from the DMPR	Jan-24 - Jun-26
Aug-26	Additional information from the DMPR	Jan-24 - Jul-26
Sep-26	Additional information from the DMPR	Jan-24 - Aug-26
Oct-26	Additional information from the DMPR	Jan-24 - Sep-26
Nov-26	Additional information from the DMPR	Jan-24 - Oct-26
Dec-26	Additional information from the DMPR	Jan-24 - Nov-26
New base year in 2027/28 - periodic, approximately four- to five-year intervals		

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 used to aggregate minerals into mineral groups and mineral groups into total mining are derived from national accounts value added data. The latest set of weights (introduced in the September 2025 publication) is based on 2022 value added data and is applicable from January 2022.

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.

Month-on-month percentage change

8 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

9 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)

10 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)

11 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

DMPR	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources
GDP	Gross domestic product
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
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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General information

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 locally and by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

Advance release calendar

An advance release calendar is disseminated on www.statssa.gov.za.

Stats SA products

A complete set of Stats SA publications is available at the Stats SA Library and the following libraries:

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Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg
Library of Parliament, Cape Town
Bloemfontein Public Library
Johannesburg Public Library
Eastern Cape Library Services, Qonce
Central Regional Library, Polokwane
Central Reference Library, Mbombela
Central Reference Collection, Kimberley
Central Reference Library, Mmabatho

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Electronic services

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You can visit us on the internet at: www.statssa.gov.za.

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