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STATISTICAL RELEASE

P2041

Mining: Production and sales (Preliminary)

May 2022

This is the first publication with weights based on national accounts value added data for 2017–2019 and 2019 as the new base year (2019=100). Previously, the total mining production index was calculated using weights based on national accounts value added data for 2016–2018 with base year 2015 (2015=100).

**Embargoed until:
14 July 2022
11:30**

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FORTHCOMING ISSUE:
June 2022

EXPECTED RELEASE DATE:
11 August 2022

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Production: results for May 2022

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

	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-2,2	1,2	-6,4	-8,2	-14,8	-7,8
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-5,1	4,8	-5,2	3,0	-3,6	0,7
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	-3,9	-4,1	-4,8	-2,2	-3,2	-1,3

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

Mining production decreased by 7,8% year-on-year in May 2022. The largest negative contributors were:

- gold (-28,3% and contributing -4,6 percentage points);
- coal (-7,3% and contributing -1,9 percentage points); and
- manganese ore (-14,5% and contributing -1,1 percentage points) – see Tables 6 and 7.

Seasonally adjusted mining production increased by 0,7% in May 2022 compared with April 2022. This followed month-on-month changes of -3,6% in April 2022 and 3,0% in March 2022.

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

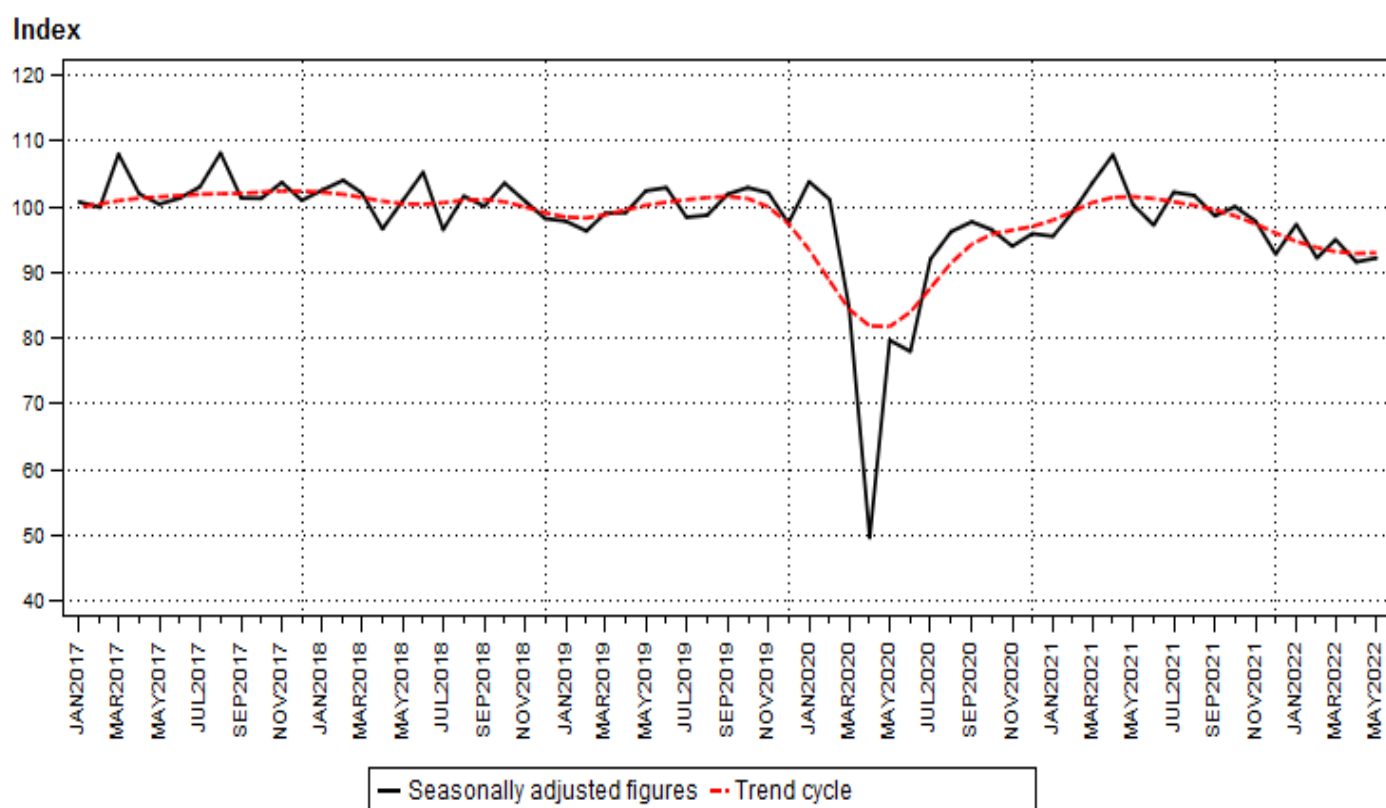
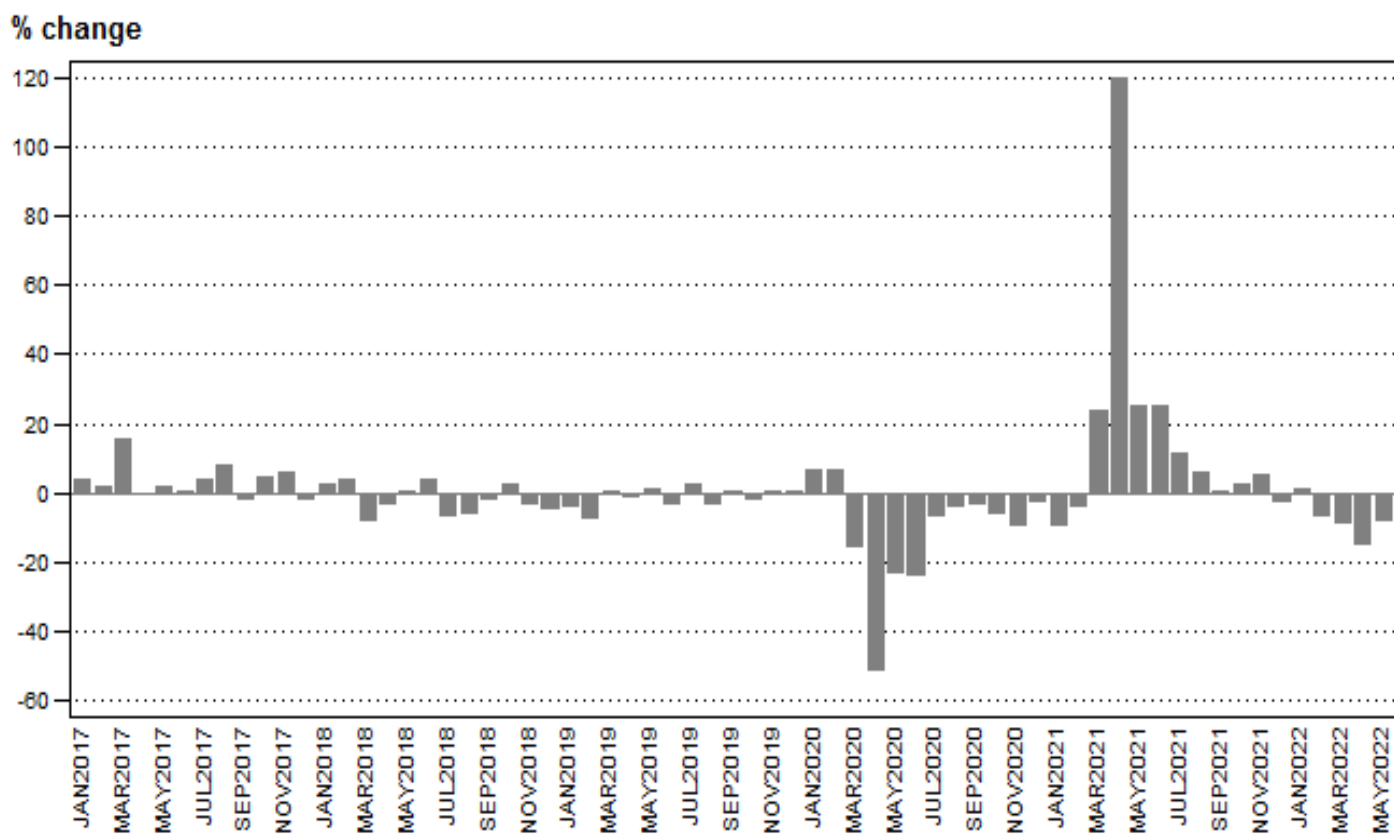
Mineral group and mineral	Weight *	Dec 2021 – Feb 2022	Mar – May 2022	% change between Dec 2021 – Feb 2022 and Mar – May 2022	Contribution (% points) to the % change in total mining production
Gold	15,91	87,6	78,4	-10,5	-1,6
Iron ore	11,92	85,3	92,2	8,1	0,9
Chromium ore	3,62	105,5	107,1	1,5	0,1
Copper ¹	0,76	41,6	50,7	21,9	0,1
Manganese ore	6,18	119,0	103,3	-13,2	-1,0
PGMs	22,96	98,2	99,8	1,6	0,4
Nickel ¹	1,15	60,6	70,7	16,7	0,1
Other metallic minerals ¹	2,35	80,2	102,1	27,3	0,5
Diamonds ¹	3,20	144,9	141,5	-2,3	-0,1
Coal	27,85	89,1	87,8	-1,5	-0,4
Building materials	3,32	97,1	90,3	-7,0	-0,2
Other non-metallic minerals	0,78	94,1	95,8	1,8	0,0
Total	100,00	94,1	92,9	-1,3	-1,3

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 1,3% in the three months ended May 2022 compared with the previous three months. The largest negative contributors were:

- gold (-10,5% and contributing -1,6 percentage points); and
- manganese ore (-13,2% and contributing -1,0 percentage point) – 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 May 2022

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

	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	11,6	-6,6	8,2	7,0	1,0	17,6
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-5,1	-1,4	10,4	8,9	-0,2	9,8
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	-4,3	0,1	3,3	6,8	13,7	19,3

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

Mineral sales at current prices increased by 17,6% year-on-year in May 2022. The largest positive contributors were:

- coal (116,7% and contributing 17,5 percentage points);
- gold (165,1% and contributing 7,6 percentage points);
- manganese ore (52,4% and contributing 2,2 percentage points); and
- chromium ore (81,3% and contributing 2,0 percentage points).

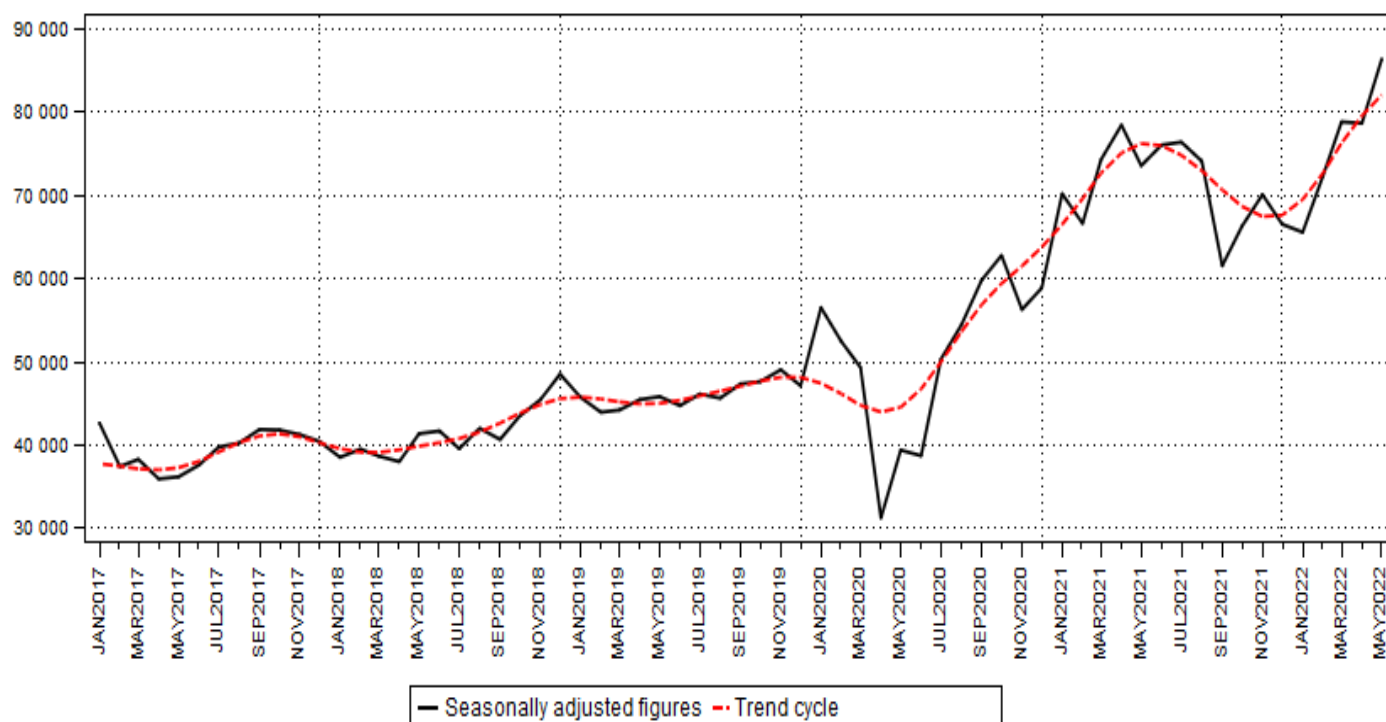
PGMs (-26,3% and contributing -13,1 percentage points) was a significant negative contributor – see Tables 12 and 13.

Seasonally adjusted mineral sales at current prices increased by 9,8% in May 2022 compared with April 2022. This followed month-on-month changes of -0,2% in April 2022 and 8,9% in March 2022.

In the three months ended May 2022 the seasonally adjusted value of mineral sales at current prices was 19,3% higher compared with the previous three months.

Figure 3 – Total value of mineral sales at current prices

R million



Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Note – Rebasing and reweighting of mining production

Introduction

Statistics South Africa publishes monthly information regarding the mining industry based on 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 rebasing and reweighting.

Rebasing

The base year is the reference point of an index and is usually set at 100. The new base year for mining production is 2019 (2019=100). To convert the base year from 2015 to 2019, the previous individual indices (2015=100) were divided by their averages for 2019 and multiplied by 100. The rebasing exercise alone did not have any significant effect on mining production trends.

Reweighting

New high-level weights for the mineral groups and minerals have been calculated based on national accounts value added data up to 2019. Previously, the weights were calculated from national accounts value added up to 2018. Refer to Table D for a comparison between the old weights and the new weights for the respective mineral groups and minerals and respective periods. The high-level weights are calculated as a three-year average of value added. The high-level weights for 2018 are the average of value added for 2016, 2017 and 2018, and the high-level weights for 2019 and following years are the average of value added for 2017, 2018 and 2019.

The impact of the implementation of the new base year and weights on the mining production index is illustrated in Figures 3 and 4.

Table D – Weights for the mineral groups and minerals

Mineral group and mineral	2015 (based on value added for 2013 – 2015)	2016 (based on value added for 2014 – 2016)	2017 (based on value added for 2015 – 2017)	2018 (based on value added for 2016 – 2018)	2019 – 2022 (based on value added for 2017 – 2019)
Gold	18,66	19,88	20,10	18,93	15,91
Iron ore	15,01	13,06	10,58	10,22	11,92
Chromium ore	1,45	1,99	2,91	3,21	3,62
Copper	1,61	1,48	1,24	0,94	0,76
Manganese ore	2,92	3,27	4,30	5,55	6,18
PGMs	25,58	24,97	24,57	22,68	22,96
Nickel	1,61	1,62	1,43	1,23	1,15
Other metallic minerals	2,28	2,13	2,07	2,05	2,35
Diamonds	3,63	3,69	3,54	3,49	3,20
Coal	22,98	23,81	25,33	27,56	27,85
Building materials	3,51	3,44	3,33	3,35	3,32
Other non-metallic minerals	0,75	0,65	0,62	0,80	0,78
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Figure 4 – Comparison of the total mining production growth rate based on previous and new base year and weights: year-on-year percentage change

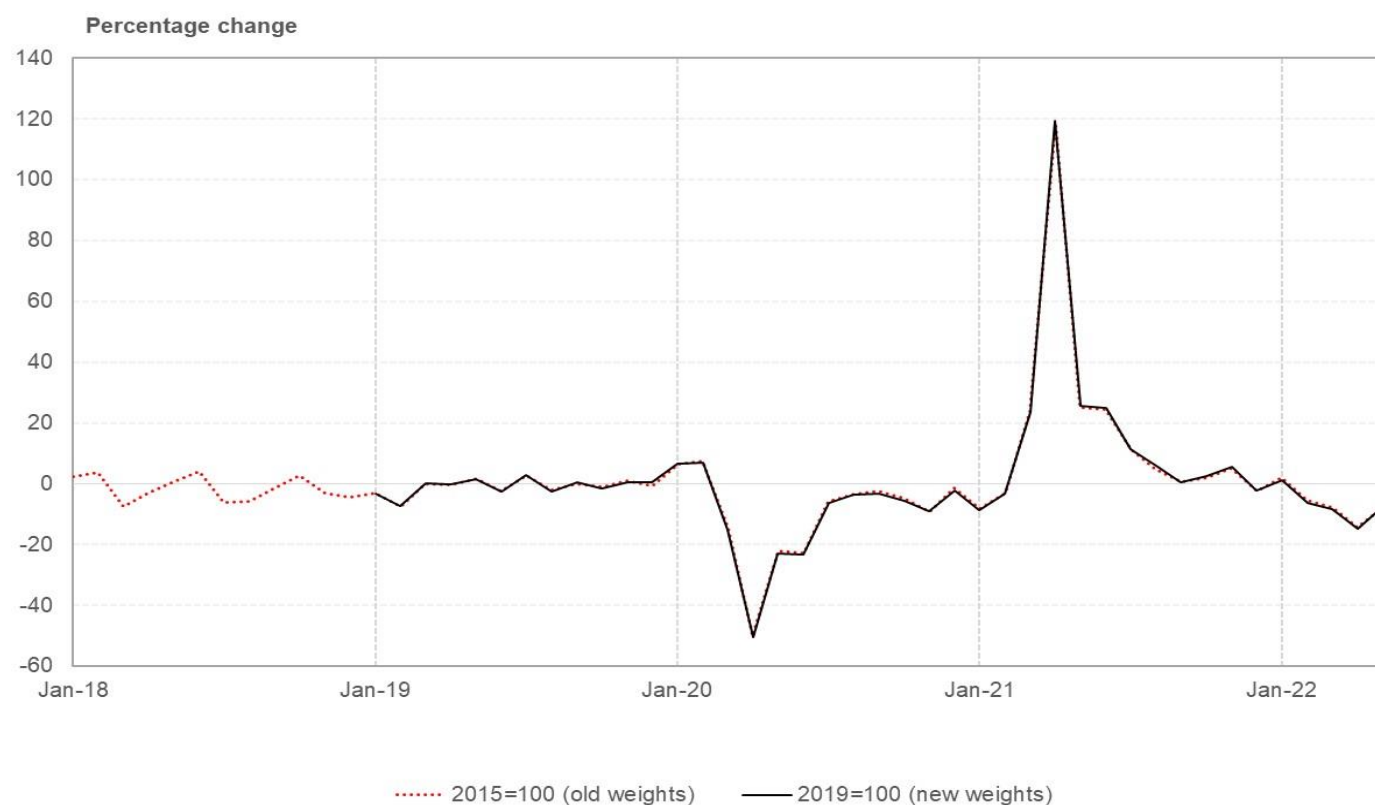
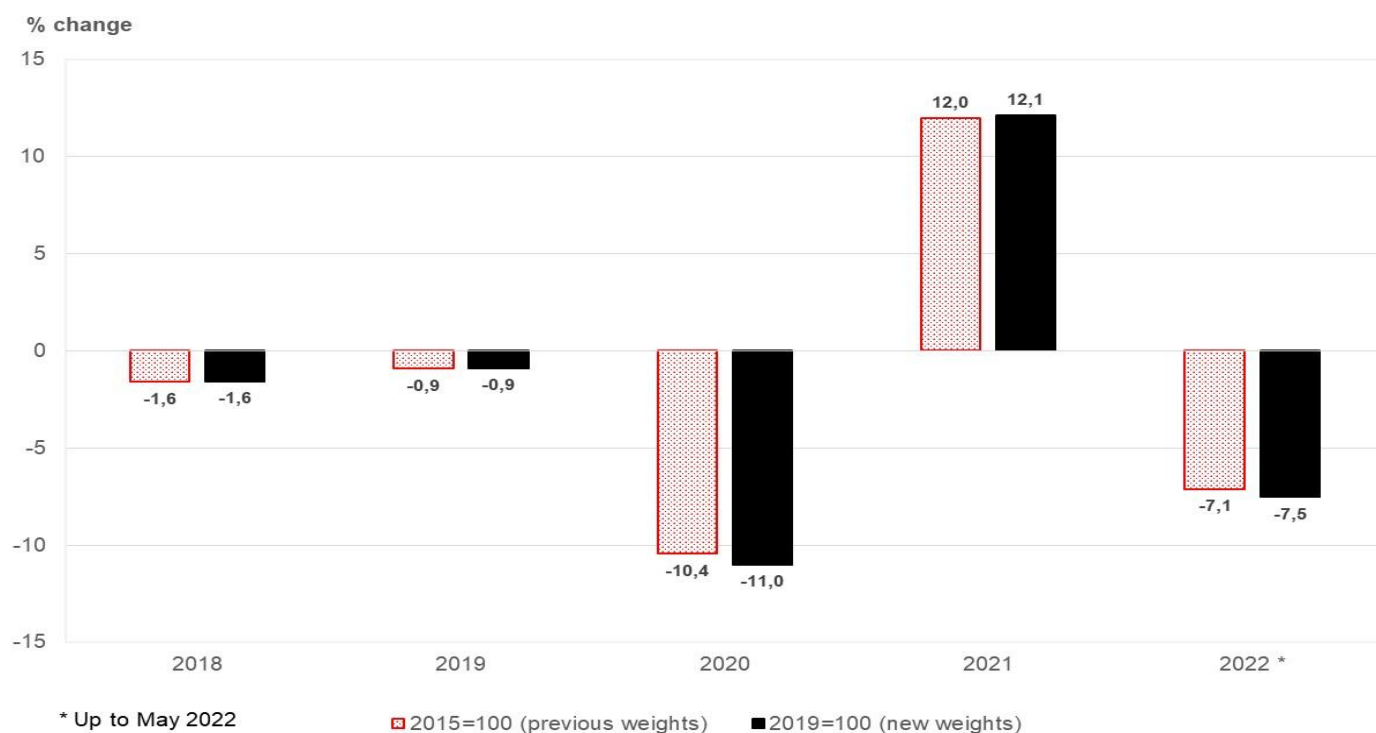


Figure 5 – Comparison of the annual growth rates for total mining production based on previous and new base year and weights



Tables

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

Month	2016 *	2017 *	2018 *	2019 *	2020 *	2021 ¹ *	2022 ¹ *
Jan	83,7	87,1	89,2	86,3	92,1	84,0	85,0
Feb	84,9	86,7	90,1	83,5	89,3	86,3	80,8
Mar	92,7	107,3	99,2	99,3	84,3	104,3	95,7
Apr	96,4	96,4	93,4	93,1	46,0	101,0	86,1
May	102,1	103,9	104,7	106,3	81,9	102,8	94,8
Jun	107,6	108,6	113,2	110,3	84,5	105,6	
Jul	101,9	105,7	99,2	101,9	95,6	106,6	
Aug	106,1	114,9	108,4	105,6	101,7	107,9	
Sep	107,9	106,3	104,9	105,5	102,1	102,5	
Oct	101,4	106,4	109,2	107,5	101,5	104,0	
Nov	102,4	108,8	105,5	106,0	96,4	101,8	
Dec	99,9	98,3	94,1	94,5	92,4	90,4	
Year	98,9	102,5	100,9	100,0	89,0	99,8	

¹ Preliminary.

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

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

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 year-to-date
Jan	4,1	2,4	-3,3	6,7	-8,8	1,2	1,2
Feb	2,1	3,9	-7,3	6,9	-3,4	-6,4	-2,6
Mar	15,7	-7,5	0,1	-15,1	23,7	-8,2	-4,8
Apr	0,0	-3,1	-0,3	-50,6	119,6	-14,8	-7,5
May	1,8	0,8	1,5	-23,0	25,5	-7,8	-7,5
Jun	0,9	4,2	-2,6	-23,4	25,0		
Jul	3,7	-6,1	2,7	-6,2	11,5		
Aug	8,3	-5,7	-2,6	-3,7	6,1		
Sep	-1,5	-1,3	0,6	-3,2	0,4		
Oct	4,9	2,6	-1,6	-5,6	2,5		
Nov	6,3	-3,0	0,5	-9,1	5,6		
Dec	-1,6	-4,3	0,4	-2,2	-2,2		
Year	3,6	-1,6	-0,9	-11,0	12,1		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted volume of total mining production

Month	Index (Base:2019=100)				Month-on-month % change			
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019	2020	2021	2022
Jan	97,8	103,8	95,5	97,3	-0,4	6,5	-0,4	4,8
Feb	96,3	101,1	99,4	92,2	-1,5	-2,6	4,1	-5,2
Mar	99,0	84,7	103,6	95,0	2,8	-16,2	4,2	3,0
Apr	99,1	49,7	107,9	91,6	0,1	-41,3	4,2	-3,6
May	102,4	79,7	100,3	92,2	3,3	60,4	-7,0	0,7
Jun	102,9	78,0	97,2		0,5	-2,1	-3,1	
Jul	98,4	92,0	102,2		-4,4	17,9	5,1	
Aug	98,7	96,2	101,7		0,3	4,6	-0,5	
Sep	101,9	97,7	98,6		3,2	1,6	-3,0	
Oct	102,9	96,5	100,0		1,0	-1,2	1,4	
Nov	102,1	94,0	97,8		-0,8	-2,6	-2,2	
Dec	97,5	95,9	92,8		-4,5	2,0	-5,1	

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

Mineral group and mineral	Weight *	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Gold	15,91	87,7	75,3	80,6	77,3	68,2	74,5
Iron ore	11,92	106,1	81,1	67,3	91,4	89,6	93,0
Chromium ore	3,62	81,8	91,4	102,2	110,4	104,9	112,3
Copper	0,76	47,4	37,8	39,6	44,7	50,0	57,5
Manganese ore	6,18	92,4	112,0	102,6	93,0	115,0	108,8
PGMs	22,96	108,5	86,3	64,8	100,5	89,8	110,0
Nickel	1,15	67,0	70,0	44,9	65,3	65,7	81,2
Other metallic minerals	2,35	85,3	80,9	74,3	97,7	104,9	103,7
Diamonds	3,20	146,6	147,4	140,6	181,5	129,7	113,3
Coal	27,85	69,1	80,6	86,8	95,3	78,5	88,5
Building materials	3,32	74,5	75,2	92,8	96,3	81,6	90,4
Other non-metallic minerals	0,78	82,6	87,3	90,1	93,7	88,0	93,5
Total	100,00	90,4	85,0	80,8	95,7	86,1	94,8

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	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Month-on-month % change
Gold	87,8	89,0	86,1	81,6	77,6	76,1	-1,9
Iron ore	93,2	89,1	73,7	91,2	95,3	90,0	-5,6
Chromium ore	97,6	110,8	108,2	111,2	104,5	105,6	1,1
Copper ¹	47,4	37,8	39,6	44,7	50,0	57,5	15,0
Manganese ore	102,7	140,9	113,4	101,6	109,6	98,6	-10,0
PGMs	101,0	101,6	91,9	97,6	96,1	105,8	10,1
Nickel ¹	67,0	70,0	44,9	65,3	65,7	81,2	23,6
Other metallic minerals ¹	85,3	80,9	74,3	97,7	104,9	103,7	-1,1
Diamonds ¹	146,6	147,4	140,6	181,5	129,7	113,3	-12,6
Coal	82,4	89,2	95,7	91,2	85,6	86,6	1,2
Building materials	96,4	96,8	98,2	93,8	89,4	87,7	-1,9
Other non-metallic minerals	89,7	93,2	99,4	92,4	96,7	98,4	1,8
Total	92,8	97,3	92,2	95,0	91,6	92,2	0,7

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	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Gold	-15,5	7,0	-9,2	-28,3	-27,8	-28,3
Iron ore	-7,7	-13,5	-29,8	-12,1	-0,4	-7,6
Chromium ore	-1,9	8,8	6,7	10,3	-4,5	1,9
Copper	-19,4	-36,4	-14,8	-37,2	-12,4	17,6
Manganese ore	-14,8	21,5	-1,3	-17,8	-10,4	-14,5
PGMs	24,3	1,3	-16,6	-8,3	-22,6	3,3
Nickel	-13,7	-24,2	-30,9	-17,0	-19,3	17,0
Other metallic minerals	-13,4	-16,0	-3,6	-2,5	22,0	2,9
Diamonds	23,6	14,6	21,5	45,0	-1,2	-0,1
Coal	-9,1	1,5	6,2	-2,0	-13,4	-7,3
Building materials	-21,1	-5,2	3,3	-3,6	-13,3	-11,8
Other non-metallic minerals	-8,4	1,4	7,0	-3,1	0,0	-6,4
Total	-2,2	1,2	-6,4	-8,2	-14,8	-7,8

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	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Gold	-2,8	0,9	-1,5	-4,7	-4,1	-4,6
Iron ore	-1,1	-1,8	-4,0	-1,4	0,0	-0,9
Chromium ore	-0,1	0,3	0,3	0,4	-0,2	0,1
Copper	-0,1	-0,2	-0,1	-0,2	-0,1	0,1
Manganese ore	-1,1	1,5	-0,1	-1,2	-0,8	-1,1
PGMs	5,3	0,3	-3,4	-2,0	-6,0	0,8
Nickel	-0,1	-0,3	-0,3	-0,1	-0,2	0,1
Other metallic minerals	-0,3	-0,4	-0,1	-0,1	0,4	0,1
Diamonds	1,0	0,7	0,9	1,7	-0,1	0,0
Coal	-2,1	0,4	1,6	-0,5	-3,3	-1,9
Building materials	-0,7	-0,2	0,1	-0,1	-0,4	-0,4
Other non-metallic minerals	-0,1	0,0	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,0
Total	-2,2	1,2	-6,4	-8,2	-14,8	-7,8

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

Month	2016	2017	2018	2019 *	2020 *	2021 ¹	2022 ¹
Jan	25 021,7	37 903,7	34 420,4	41 070,7	50 855,5	63 083,5	58 914,1
Feb	30 250,9	33 691,7	34 892,7	38 202,9	44 948,4	56 815,0	61 459,6
Mar	35 051,0	39 473,2	39 778,5	45 585,3	51 236,4	77 751,7	83 161,8
Apr	36 202,7	34 917,1	37 039,5	44 538,7	30 919,9	78 337,6	79 118,2
May	36 489,3	36 288,4	41 684,6	46 519,8	40 263,5	75 765,5	89 114,6
Jun	43 040,2	40 672,0	45 024,3	48 295,2	41 729,3	81 940,5	
Jul	33 169,6	37 150,3	37 118,1	43 596,0	48 109,1	73 546,8	
Aug	36 902,6	40 890,3	43 022,2	47 069,2	56 334,2	76 898,5	
Sep	47 602,2	44 264,9	43 017,4	50 009,3	63 152,0	64 886,4	
Oct	35 817,0	43 966,4	45 802,3	50 051,2	65 675,6	69 052,2	
Nov	36 800,3	42 104,9	46 680,3	50 450,7	57 804,5	71 557,7	
Dec	41 242,0	42 562,3	50 020,5	47 491,9	57 957,2	64 663,0	
Total	437 589,5	473 885,2	498 500,8	552 880,9	608 985,6	854 298,4	

¹ Preliminary.

* Revised.

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

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 year-to-date
Jan	51,5	-9,2	19,3	23,8	24,0	-6,6	-6,6
Feb	11,4	3,6	9,5	17,7	26,4	8,2	0,4
Mar	12,6	0,8	14,6	12,4	51,8	7,0	3,0
Apr	-3,6	6,1	20,2	-30,6	153,4	1,0	2,4
May	-0,6	14,9	11,6	-13,4	88,2	17,6	5,7
Jun	-5,5	10,7	7,3	-13,6	96,4		
Jul	12,0	-0,1	17,5	10,4	52,9		
Aug	10,8	5,2	9,4	19,7	36,5		
Sep	-7,0	-2,8	16,3	26,3	2,7		
Oct	22,8	4,2	9,3	31,2	5,1		
Nov	14,4	10,9	8,1	14,6	23,8		
Dec	3,2	17,5	-5,1	22,0	11,6		
Total	8,3	5,2	10,9	10,1	40,3		

Table 10 – Seasonally adjusted total mineral sales at current prices

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019	2020	2021	2022
Jan	45 759,8	56 533,1	70 216,3	65 588,8	-5,7	19,9	19,2	-1,4
Feb	43 960,2	52 445,2	66 647,4	72 389,5	-3,9	-7,2	-5,1	10,4
Mar	44 222,7	49 336,5	74 316,0	78 855,8	0,6	-5,9	11,5	8,9
Apr	45 473,0	31 261,6	78 470,3	78 688,4	2,8	-36,6	5,6	-0,2
May	45 835,5	39 403,7	73 590,1	86 381,2	0,8	26,0	-6,2	9,8
Jun	44 754,6	38 730,5	76 081,6		-2,4	-1,7	3,4	
Jul	46 139,3	50 332,5	76 419,8		3,1	30,0	0,4	
Aug	45 654,4	54 436,2	74 128,1		-1,1	8,2	-3,0	
Sep	47 368,7	59 853,7	61 571,4		3,8	10,0	-16,9	
Oct	47 645,4	62 801,9	66 319,1		0,6	4,9	7,7	
Nov	49 059,7	56 299,8	70 114,3		3,0	-10,4	5,7	
Dec	47 151,1	58 885,2	66 550,4		-3,9	4,6	-5,1	

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

Mineral group and mineral	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Gold	6 286,8	6 720,8	3 457,5	8 639,5	6 208,3	9 185,1
Iron ore	7 431,8	7 620,6	8 312,7	8 606,0	9 136,7	11 639,2
Chromium ore	2 062,0	2 224,7	1 740,5	2 867,1	2 841,9	3 301,6
Copper	196,3	275,0	135,7	241,5	158,6	344,1
Manganese ore	3 637,5	3 999,5	3 599,4	3 375,5	3 835,6	4 901,4
PGMs	23 691,0	18 908,5	21 185,5	30 127,5	29 291,1	27 742,2
Nickel	980,4	869,5	587,7	1 475,7	343,7	1 508,6
Other metallic minerals	1 589,7	1 717,5	1 383,5	2 376,3	1 536,8	2 322,8
Coal	14 632,6	13 988,0	17 050,4	21 948,3	21 571,2	24 579,2
Building materials	893,6	836,1	1 025,8	1 052,9	935,5	983,8
Other non-metallic minerals	3 261,3	1 754,0	2 980,9	2 451,3	3 258,8	2 606,5
Total	64 663,0	58 914,1	61 459,6	83 161,8	79 118,2	89 114,6

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	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Gold	-25,8	-48,4	-45,0	-11,3	-10,6	165,1
Iron ore	-31,0	-27,1	-15,9	-26,1	-19,9	-5,9
Chromium ore	-2,5	39,1	-2,7	58,6	39,5	81,3
Copper	-23,6	66,7	-34,3	-2,0	-43,1	35,0
Manganese ore	24,8	88,3	8,6	0,4	35,6	52,4
PGMs	34,4	-15,1	5,1	-5,7	-24,2	-26,3
Nickel	-10,9	38,8	-50,7	103,0	-33,2	88,6
Other metallic minerals	7,0	9,3	11,9	9,9	12,3	45,3
Coal	39,2	59,4	66,6	84,0	89,7	116,7
Building materials	-16,6	5,6	16,8	-1,6	1,3	-8,9
Other non-metallic minerals	101,2	5,1	82,6	-21,1	61,8	19,7
Total	11,6	-6,6	8,2	7,0	1,0	17,6

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	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Gold	-3,8	-10,0	-5,0	-1,4	-0,9	7,6
Iron ore	-5,8	-4,5	-2,8	-3,9	-2,9	-1,0
Chromium ore	-0,1	1,0	-0,1	1,4	1,0	2,0
Copper	-0,1	0,2	-0,1	0,0	-0,2	0,1
Manganese ore	1,2	3,0	0,5	0,0	1,3	2,2
PGMs	10,5	-5,3	1,8	-2,3	-11,9	-13,1
Nickel	-0,2	0,4	-1,1	1,0	-0,2	0,9
Other metallic minerals	0,2	0,2	0,3	0,3	0,2	1,0
Coal	7,1	8,3	12,0	12,9	13,0	17,5
Building materials	-0,3	0,1	0,3	0,0	0,0	-0,1
Other non-metallic minerals	2,8	0,1	2,4	-0,8	1,6	0,6
Total	11,6	-6,6	8,2	7,0	1,0	17,6

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 <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	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 May 2022 publication) are based on an average of value added data for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019. These weights are applicable from January 2019.
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 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 (SNA)</i> in the same way as in the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC)</i> , 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

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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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