



**Australian
Bureau of
Statistics**

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**CENSUS OF MINING ESTABLISHMENTS
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS BY INDUSTRY CLASS, AUSTRALIA
1990-91 PRELIMINARY**

NOTES

This publication presents preliminary results of the 1990-91 Census of Mining Establishments and the comparisons shown below are on that basis. Detailed industry statistics will be provided in *Census of Mining Establishments, Details of Operations, Australia 1990-91* (8402.0), to be issued in the near future. For details of State Mining publications to be issued, refer to the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). Copies of these publications are available at ABS offices.

The 1990-91 Census of Mining was restricted to the metallic minerals, coal, oil and gas industries. On a triennial basis, data are collected for construction materials and other non-metallic minerals industries. The next triennial collection is scheduled for the 1992-93 financial year.

In addition changes to the business units definitions (see Explanatory Notes, paragraphs 6 to 12) have caused some discontinuities, particularly in relation to the count of establishments. The treatment of Unincorporated Joint Ventures has led to a change in the number of establishments in certain industries, e.g. gold, black coal, oil and gas, masking normal fluctuations in these industries. It is not possible to relate the count of establishments to the number of mine sites.

MAIN FEATURES

Total turnover increased by \$4,224 million (17.4%) from 1989-90 to \$28,507.6 million in 1990-91. Sixty-nine per cent of this increase occurred in the oil and gas industries.

Major contributors to turnover were:

Oil and gas	29.8%
Coal	28.4%
Gold	15.3%

and State contributions were:

Western Australia	35.0%
Queensland	22.0%
New South Wales	15.9%
Victoria	14.1%

Employment declined in 1990-91 by 4,513 persons to 65,033, although wages have increased to \$3,508.8 million. The average value of wages and salaries per employee increased to \$53,954.

Employment was concentrated in the following industries:

Coal	44.3%
Iron	14.0%
Gold	11.8%

and in the States:

Western Australia	34.1%
New South Wales	29.7%
Queensland	25.3%

INQUIRIES

- for more information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Malcolm Tuck on Adelaide (08) 237 7560 or any ABS State Office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6627, 252 5402, 252 6007 or any ABS State Office.

TABLE 1. MINING ESTABLISHMENTS: SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS BY INDUSTRY CLASS, AUSTRALIA, 1990-91

ASIC Code	Description	Establish- ments at 30 June (a) No.	Employment at end of June (b) No.	Wages and salaries (c) \$m	Turnover \$m	Stocks		Total purchases, transfers in and selected expenses \$m	Value added \$m	Fixed capital expenditure less disposals (d) \$m
						Opening \$m	Closing \$m			
	Metallic minerals —									
	Ferrous metal ores —									
1111	Iron ores	17	9,106	446.7	2,996.2	269.0	312.3	933.1	2,106.4	279.8
1112	Iron ore pelletising									
	Non-ferrous metal ores —									
1121	Bauxite	11	2,281	95.3	663.0	40.0	44.7	150.6	517.0	170.0
1122	Copper ores	10	2,440	124.6	913.6	133.9	128.1	245.8	662.1	48.9
1123	Gold ores	164	7,663	365.2	4,353.8	595.6	571.7	1,807.1	2,522.8	373.5
1124	Mineral sands	18	2,106	81.5	599.3	119.6	160.2	242.6	397.2	381.1
1125	Nickel ores	5	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
1126	Silver-lead-zinc ores	20	4,729	273.9	1,290.7	187.3	189.6	557.4	735.7	283.5
1127	Tin ores	7	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
1128	Uranium ores	2	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
1129	Non-ferrous metal ores n.e.c.	6	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
11	Total metallic minerals	260	31,200	1,531.1	11,906.5	1,609.9	1,608.1	4,364.1	7,540.6	1,665.1
	Coal, oil and gas —									
1200	Coal	145	28,800	1,678.7	8,101.9	601.1	709.2	3,284.6	4,925.4	825.1
1300	Oil and gas	100	5,033	299.0	8,499.2	154.4	144.5	527.4	7,962.0	965.1
12-13	Total coal, oil and gas	245	33,833	1,977.7	16,601.2	755.5	853.7	3,812.0	12,887.4	1,790.2
	Total metallic minerals, coal, oil and gas —									
1990-91		505	65,033	3,508.8	28,507.6	2,365.4	2,461.8	8,176.0	20,428.0	3,455.4
1989-90		606	69,546	3,234.0	24,284.1	2,042.9	2,398.5	8,058.4	16,581.3	3,347.9
1988-89 (e)		325	64,746	2,689.8	20,829.9	2,052.0	2,017.2	6,639.8	14,155.2	2,775.6
1987-88		427	67,531	2,642.6	19,417.1	2,037.2	1,917.0	6,491.3	12,805.6	3,632.8
1986-87		419	69,556	2,561.2	17,769.7	1,686.8	2,040.5	6,145.7	12,017.7	n.a.
1985-86		437	70,027	2,376.8	18,297.9	1,534.8	1,672.8	6,198.0	12,237.9	n.a.
1990-91 —										
New South Wales		104	19,344	1,147.4	4,537.2	429.8	446.9	1,930.6	2,623.7	630.1
Victoria		7	1,406	94.9	4,018.4	24.8	21.9	128.7	3,886.8	194.4
Queensland		132	16,426	890.7	6,261.3	523.6	635.4	2,260.5	4,112.5	510.3
South Australia		17	1,885	99.4	1,183.7	106.7	90.3	254.5	912.9	81.9
Western Australia		190	22,173	1,066.1	9,978.8	897.6	965.7	2,989.0	7,057.9	1,870.6
Tasmania		14	1,877	120.5	465.4	68.4	54.2	258.4	192.8	32.1
Northern Territory		41	1,922	89.8	2,062.9	314.6	247.4	354.3	1,641.5	136.0

(a) See Explanatory Notes, paragraphs 9 to 12. (b) Includes working proprietors. (c) Excludes amounts drawn by working proprietors. (d) Excludes own account capital work. (e) See Explanatory Notes, paragraphs 6 to 8.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication presents preliminary statistics from the Census of Mining Establishments for 1990-91, with comparative statistics for some previous years.

2. The Mining Census is conducted as a component of the ABS's integrated economic statistics system. Data from each industry sector conform to the same basic conceptual standards, allowing comparative analysis between and across different industry sectors.

3. The period covered by the census is in general the twelve months ended 30 June. Where businesses are unable to supply information on this basis, a substitute accounting period is used.

Scope and coverage

4. Mining, as specified in Division B of the *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC) 1983* (1201.0), broadly relates to the extraction of minerals occurring naturally as solids such as coal and ores, liquids such as crude petroleum, or gases such as natural gas, by such processes as underground mining, open-cut extraction methods, quarrying, operation of wells or evaporation pans, dredging or recovering from ore dumps or tailings. Activities such as dressing or beneficiating ores or other minerals by crushing, milling, screening, washing, flotation or other processes (including chemical beneficiation) or briquetting, are included because they are generally carried out at or near mine sites as an integral part of mining operations. Natural gas absorption and purifying plants are also included. Excluded are establishments mainly engaged in refining or smelting of minerals or ores (other than preliminary smelting of gold), or in the manufacture of such products of mineral origin as coke, cement and fertilisers.

5. The annual Mining Census covers the ASIC classes for metallic minerals, coal, oil and gas. On a triennial basis, data are also collected for construction materials and other non-metallic minerals. The next triennial collection is scheduled for the 1992-93 financial year.

6. The basic unit for which statistics are reported in ABS integrated industry collections is the establishment. Prior to the 1988-89 census, this unit covered, in general, all the operations carried on under the ownership of one enterprise (business) at a single physical location. A combination of factors (including better communication and transport facilities, improvements in extraction and refining technologies, and greater automation allowing management to be spread over a number of locations) has changed the way businesses are managed and made it increasingly difficult to obtain the requisite information under the locational definition. This has required increasing degrees of estimation to maintain the statistical series.

7. To overcome these quite significant reporting problems, the ABS has modified the establishment definition to align it more closely with industry practices. The mining establishment is now defined as the smallest accounting unit of an enterprise within a State or Territory which controls its productive activities and for which a specified range of detailed data is available.

8. Separately located administrative offices and ancillary units such as storage premises, laboratories and producers' sales branches continue to have their activities included with mining activities unless these ancillaries are sufficiently large for them to constitute a separate accounting unit.

9. Another recent change involves the way in which Unincorporated Joint Ventures are being treated statistically. Previously these operations were reported by a specially created enterprise in respect of each joint venture despite the fact that they do not exist as legal entities. In accordance with AAS19 the requirement to prepare financial statements rests with each venturer rather than the joint venture. In recognition of this, new establishments have been created for each venturer where an appropriate establishment operating in the same industry (ASIC) in the same State, did not already exist.

10. The new unit definitions are being progressively implemented on the ABS central business register as reporting arrangements with individual businesses are finalised.

11. Despite the circumstances referred to above, the majority of establishments continue to cover the operations at a single physical location.

Effects

12. As the new unit definitions are implemented, the trend is towards a reduction in establishment numbers. In contrast, the change in treatment of Unincorporated Joint Ventures has led to an increase in the number of recorded establishments. The effect of these changes has been to increase the number of establishments in certain industries, for example gold, black coal, oil and gas, masking normal fluctuations in these industries. In the past the perception may have been that the number of establishments was roughly equivalent to the number of mine sites but this is no longer the case.

Related publications

13. Mining and related statistics are contained in a number of other publications produced by the ABS, the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) and the Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology and Geophysics (BMR), and also appear in the annual reports of certain State Mines Departments.

14. A list of the ABS, ABARE and BMR publications may be found in the ABS publication *Mining Establishments: Details of Operations by Industry Class, 1989-90* (8402.0).

15. More detailed mining statistics will be contained in the publications *Mining Establishments: Details of Operations by Industry Class, 1990-91* (8402.0) and *Mineral Production, Australia, 1990-91* (8405.0), which will be issued in the near future.

16. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

n.a.	not available, not collected
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
n.p.	not available for separate publication (but included in totals where applicable)
ASIC	Australian Standard Industrial Classification
—	break in series
..	not applicable
r	revised

17. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

18. The figures shown for previous years have been revised where necessary and, as a consequence, may not agree with similar data shown in previous publications. Details of industry classes for which revisions have been made can be obtained by contacting the ABS.

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