

## SUMMARY

During the September quarter 2020, private mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure:

- fell 16% in South Australia in seasonally adjusted terms (nationally, exploration expenditure rose 5.6%)

Note: Due to the impacts of COVID-19 on mineral and petroleum exploration, the ABS has suspended the trend series from the March quarter 2020 onwards until further notice.

## FURTHER ANALYSIS

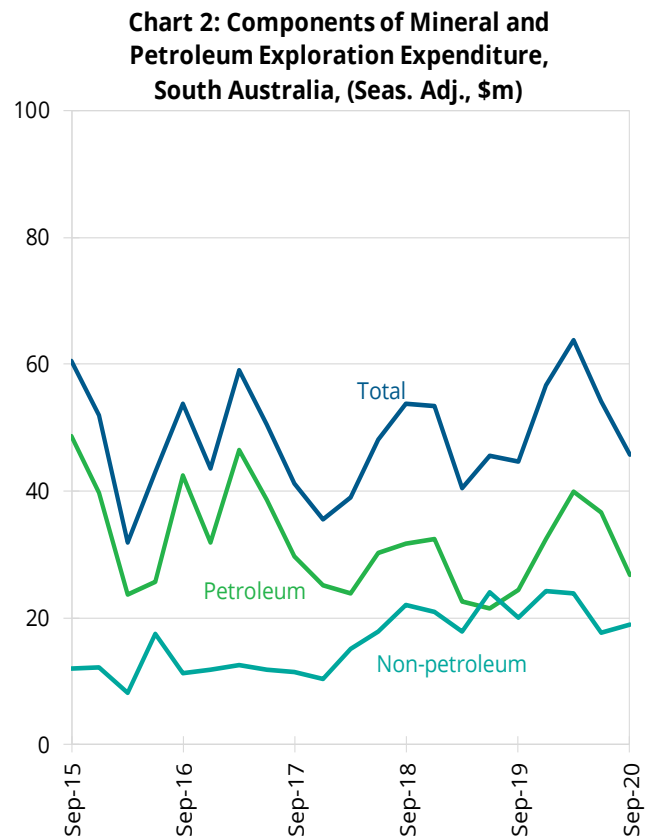
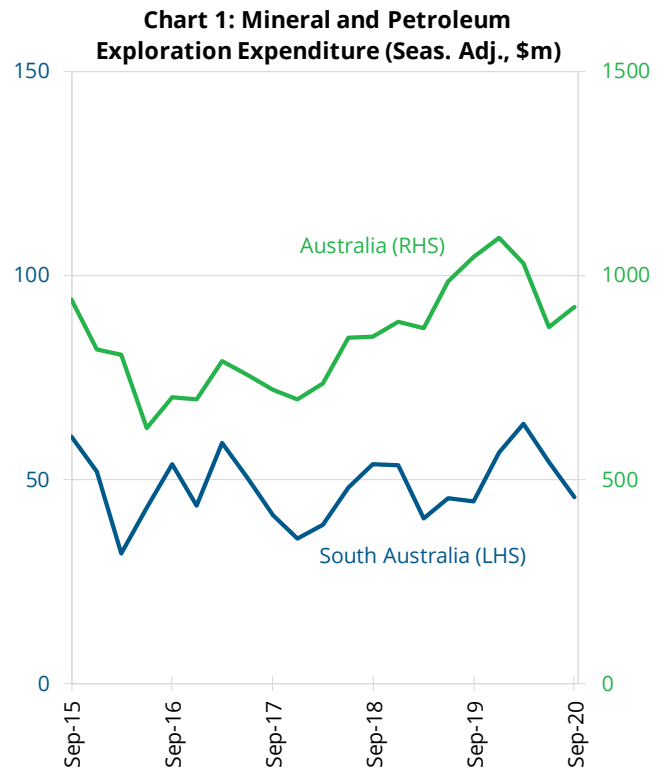
### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

The 16% fall in South Australian expenditure on total private mineral and petroleum exploration during the September quarter was driven by a 27% fall in petroleum exploration expenditure, which was partly offset by a rise of 7.4% in non-petroleum (mineral) exploration expenditure. September quarter exploration spending was 2.5% higher compared to a year earlier—see Charts 1 and 2.

The 5.6% rise in national expenditure on mineral and petroleum exploration during the September quarter was driven by a rise of 6.1% in mineral exploration expenditure and a 4.0% rise in petroleum exploration expenditure. National exploration expenditure was 12% lower than a year earlier.

**Table 1: Mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure** (seasonally adjusted)

	Sep qtr 20 (\$m)	Sep qtr 20 v Jun qtr 20 (% change)	Sep qtr 20 v Sep qtr 19 (% change)
<b>SA</b>			
Mineral	18.9	7.4	-6.0
Petroleum	26.8	-26.8	9.4
Total	45.7	-15.7	2.5
<b>AUS</b>			
Mineral	702.1	6.1	2.6
Petroleum	220.2	4.0	-39.2
Total	922.3	5.6	-11.9



## ORIGINAL DATA

In the September quarter 2020, non-petroleum mineral exploration expenditure in South Australia was concentrated in:

- Copper (54% of total);
- Iron ore (10% of total); and
- Uranium (6.9% of total).

*Note: References to expenditure data by type of mineral sought is in original terms – the ABS does not provide these data in trend or seasonally adjusted terms*

Next release of [this ABS data](#) (formerly cat. no. 8412.0) is 1 March 2021