

SUMMARY

During the December quarter 2022, private mineral exploration expenditure:

- fell 1.9% in South Australia in seasonally adjusted terms but was 61% higher than a year earlier.
- Nationally, fell 1.3% but was 9.6% higher than a year earlier.

N.B. Estimates of South Australian petroleum exploration expenditure were withheld from publication in the December and September quarters. Consequently, the combined mineral and petroleum estimate is not available.

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

	Dec qtr 22 (\$m)	Dec qtr 22 v Sep qtr 22 (% change)	Dec qtr 22 v Dec qtr 21 (% change)
SA			
Mineral	47.4	-1.9	61.2
Petroleum	np	np	np
Total	np	np	np
AUS			
Mineral	1013.6	-1.3	9.6
Petroleum	203.3	-9.9	-32.0
Total	1216.9	-2.9	-0.6

FURTHER ANALYSIS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

South Australian expenditure on private mineral exploration fell 1.9% in the December quarter but was 61% higher than a year earlier – See Chart 2.

The 2.9% fall in national expenditure on mineral and petroleum exploration during the December quarter was driven by a 9.9% fall in petroleum exploration expenditure and a fall of 1.3% in mineral exploration expenditure. National exploration expenditure was 0.6% lower than a year earlier.

TREND DATA

South Australian expenditure on mineral exploration was 66% higher compared to a year earlier.

National expenditure on private mineral and petroleum exploration was 2.3% lower compared with a year earlier. Expenditure on non-petroleum exploration was 8.2% higher and for petroleum exploration was 34% lower.

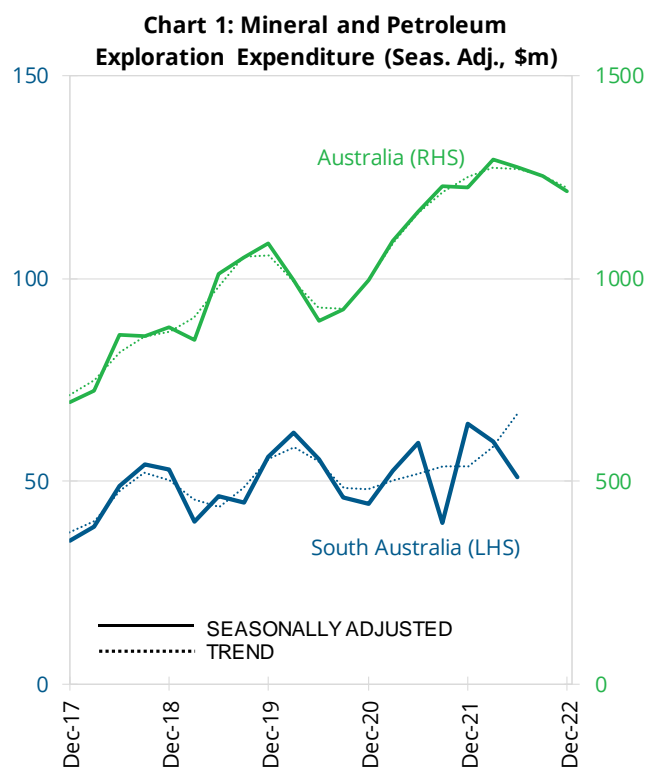
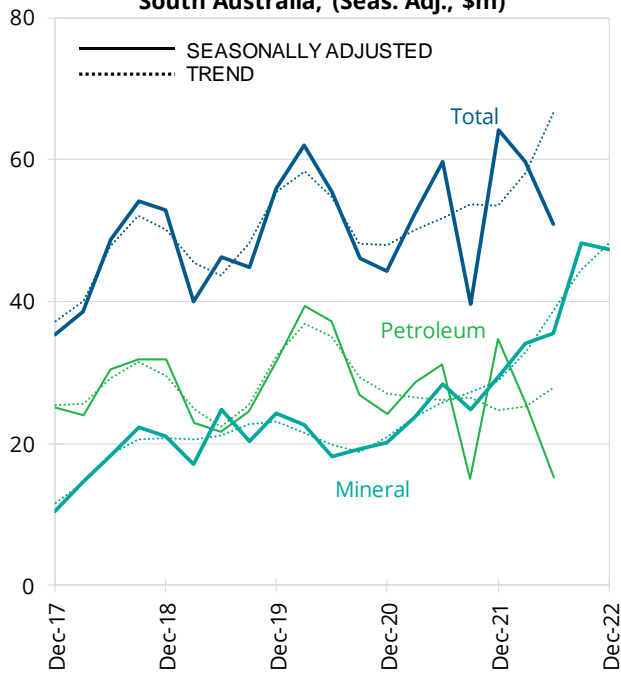


Chart 2: Components of Mineral and Petroleum Exploration Expenditure, South Australia, (Seas. Adj., \$m)



ORIGINAL DATA

In the December quarter 2022, non-petroleum mineral exploration expenditure in South Australia was concentrated in:

- Copper (56% of total);
- Iron ore (12% of total); and
- Uranium (11% 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 5 June 2023