

# MINERAL & PETROLEUM EXPLORATION, SEPTEMBER QUARTER 2017

## Summary

During the September quarter 2017, private mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure:

- fell 8.1% in South Australia in trend terms (nationally, mineral exploration expenditure rose 0.7%); and
- fell 23% in South Australia in seasonally adjusted terms (nationally, mineral exploration expenditure fell 6.7%).

## Further Analysis

### Trend data

South Australian expenditure on private mineral and petroleum exploration was 3.2% lower compared to a year earlier. Expenditure on non-petroleum exploration was 7.6% lower and for petroleum exploration was 1.5% lower over the year.

National expenditure on private mineral and petroleum exploration was 11% higher compared with a year earlier. Expenditure on non-petroleum exploration was 25% higher over the year and was 4.1% lower for petroleum exploration.

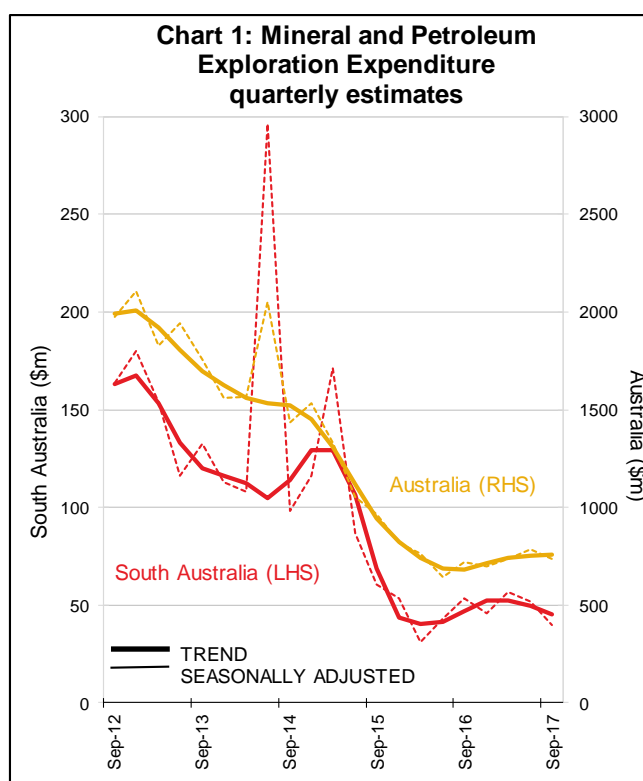
### Seasonally Adjusted data

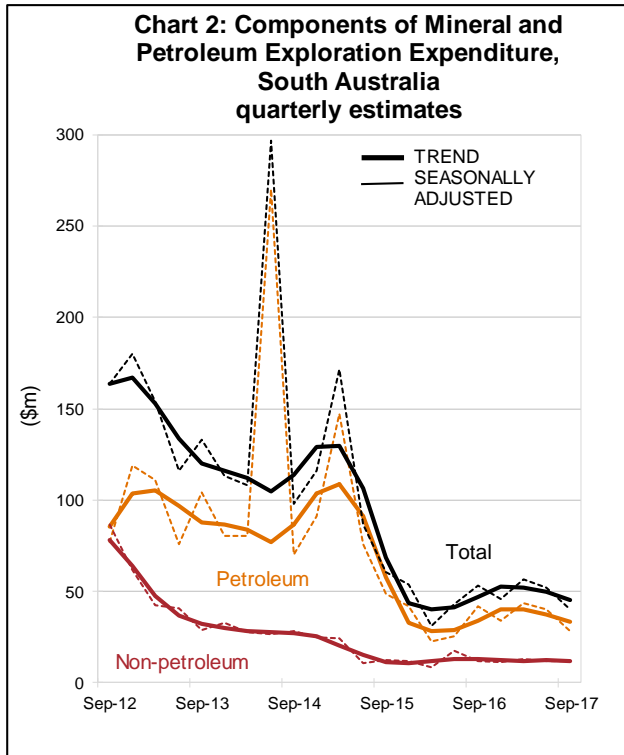
The 23% fall in South Australian expenditure on total private mineral and petroleum exploration during the September quarter was driven by a 30% fall in petroleum exploration expenditure and a smaller fall of 0.8% in non-petroleum exploration expenditure. September quarter exploration spending was 25% lower compared to a year earlier—see Charts 1 and 2.

The 6.7% fall in national expenditure on mineral and petroleum exploration during the September quarter was driven by a 16% fall in petroleum exploration expenditure while non-petroleum exploration expenditure recorded a small rise of 0.4%. National exploration expenditure was 1.9% higher than a year earlier.

**TABLE 1: Mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure (trend estimates)**

	Sep qtr 17 (\$m)	Sep qtr 17 v Jun qtr 17 (% change)	Sep qtr 17 v Sep qtr 16 (% change)
<b>SA</b>			
Mineral	12.1	-0.8	-7.6
Petroleum	33.4	-10.5	-1.5
Total	45.5	-8.1	-3.2
<b>AUS</b>			
Mineral	443.8	3.9	25.1
Petroleum	315.9	-3.5	-4.1
Total	759.7	0.7	11.0





### Original data

In the September quarter 2017, non-petroleum mineral exploration expenditure in South Australia was concentrated in:

- Copper (35% of total); and
- Iron Ore (14% 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*

4 December 2017

Next release of ABS cat. no. 8412.0 is 5 March 2018

