



Australian Government
Productivity Commission

Productivity in the Mining Industry: Measurement and Interpretation

Productivity Commission
Staff Working Paper

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The views expressed in this
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Preface

This staff working paper examines the productivity of the Australian mining sector and highlights some significant issues relating to the measurement and interpretation of productivity trends within the sector.

An early version of the ideas developed in this paper was presented by then Assistant Commissioner Dean Parham at the Productivity Perspectives Conference in Canberra in December 2007 under the title *Mining Productivity: The Case of the Missing Input?*.

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The views expressed in this paper are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Productivity Commission, or of the external organisations or people who provided assistance.

Abbreviations

ABARE	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACR	Accommodation, cafes and restaurants
AMMA	Australian Mines and Metals Association
APPEA	Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association
BHPB	Broken Hill Proprietary Billiton
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology
CRS	Cultural and Recreational Services
CSLS	Centre for the Study of Living Standards (Canada)
Ct	Carat
CVM	Chain Volume Measure
DCITA	Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
EGW	Electricity, Gas and Water
FIFO	Fly-In, Fly-Out
GDI	Gross Domestic Income
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFCF	Gross Fixed Capital Formation
GL	Billion (10 ⁹) Litres
Gm ³	Billion (10 ⁹) Cubic Metres
GVP	Gross Value of Production
HPAL	High Pressure Acid Leach
ICT	Information and communications technology
JORC	Australasian Joint Ore Reserves Committee
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas

LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas
MFP	Multifactor productivity
ML	Million Litres
Mm ³	Million Cubic Metres
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PC	Productivity Commission
SLZ	Silver, Lead and Zinc
VDPI	Victorian Department of Primary Industry
WADOIR	Western Australia Department of Industry and Resources