The Composite Index (Chart 1) for Industrial base metals and Mining Production consists of (Diamonds carats, Uranium, Gold Bullion and 'Zinc concentrate and contained').

The composite index increased further on a monthly basis, recording a growth of 22.3 percent in March 2022. This is an improvement from a marginal growth of 0.8 percent registered a month earlier. Moreover, the index recorded a growth of 60.4 percent year on year.

The improvement registered on a monthly basis emanates largely from all the minerals (Diamonds, Gold Bullion, Zinc concentrate & contained and Uranium) production that posted increases.

The Diamond Production Index (Chart 2) went up by 30.3 percent on a monthly basis for March 2022, compared to the decline of 10.8 percent recorded for the previous month. Furthermore, the index recorded a huge increase of 81.6 percent on yearly basis.

The increases registered month on month and on yearly basis in the production of diamond carats were largely due to the global demand and the expansion of operations in mining activities undertaken during the period under review.

For the month of March 2022, the volume of diamonds produced amounted to 173 608 carats compared to 133 188 carats and 95 576 carats reported in February 2022 and March 2021, respectively.
The **Gold Bullion Production Index** increased by 20.2 percent month on month in March 2022. This is an improvement from a reduction of 26.4 percent recorded in the preceding month. Year on year, gold bullion production index recorded a growth of 47.5 percent (Chart 3).

The increases recorded month on month and on yearly basis in the production of gold bullion were mainly attributed to high-grade ore being mined and the expansion of operations in mining activities during the review period.

The production of gold bullion stood at 508 tons in March 2022, compared to 423 tons and 344 tons recorded in February 2022 and for the corresponding period of 2021, respectively.

The **Zinc concentrate & contained Production Index** (Chart 4) increased on a monthly basis by 9.1 percent in March 2022, compared to a growth of 3.6 percent registered for in the previous month. Over the year, the index increased by 19.3 percent.

The increases recorded in the production of zinc concentrate & contained month on month and on yearly basis were largely attributed to high-grade ore being mined for the period under review.

During the month of March 2022, Namibia produced 6 861 tons of Zinc concentrate and contained compared to the production of 6 290 tons and 5 752 tons recorded for February 2022 and for the corresponding period of 2021, respectively.
The Uranium Production Index (Chart 5) slowed down, registering an increase on a monthly basis of 4.4 percent in March 2022, compared to a huge growth of 136.0 percent recorded in the preceding month. The index over the year also increased recording a growth of 26.9 percent.

The increases registered month on month and on a yearly basis in the production of uranium was mainly attributed to high-grade ore being mined. This was due to the availability of sufficient water supply required to mine and process uranium minerals efficiently during the period under review.

For the period under review, 654 tons of uranium were produced, compared to 626 tons and 515 tons produced in February 2022 and for the corresponding period of 2021, respectively.
### Table 1: Mining Composite Index of the Selected Minerals

![Table 1: Mining Composite Index of the Selected Minerals](image-url)

### Table 2: Mining Composite Index of the Selected Minerals

![Table 2: Mining Composite Index of the Selected Minerals](image-url)
Definitions

- **Diamond**: Is a very hard mineral that is a form of bars of carbon and is used, especially in Jewellery.

- **Gold Bullion**: Is a gold or silver in bulk before coining or valued by weight which basically means gold bullion is gold valued purify and weights.

- **Zinc**: Is a metallic element with a blue-white colour, used as a protective covering for iron and to make metal alloys like nickel silver.

- **Uranium**: Is a Silver-heavy radioactive polyvalent metallic element that is found especially in uraninite and exists naturally as a mixture of mostly no fissionable elements.

Methodology notes and data sources

**Data Sources**: Data sourced from Bank of Namibia for the period starting from January 2019.

**Base year**: The Mining sectoral report is harmonised with the quarterly and annual National Accounts base year 2015.

**Index calculations**: The index of mining production was weighted using the value-added data of 2015. The index is then calculated as a ratio of the volume of a specific component in a specific month to the total volume of that component in 2015.

**Conversion**: 1 basis point = 0.01 percent