

## SUMMARY

During the December quarter 2018, private mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure:

- rose 15% in South Australia in seasonally adjusted terms (nationally, mineral exploration expenditure rose 5.2%); and
- rose 9.6% in South Australia in trend terms (nationally, mineral exploration expenditure rose 4.3%).

## FURTHER ANALYSIS

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

The 15% rise in South Australian expenditure on total private mineral and petroleum exploration during the December quarter was driven entirely by a 26% rise in petroleum exploration expenditure while non-petroleum exploration expenditure remained unchanged. December quarter exploration spending was 57% higher compared to a year earlier—see Charts 1 and 2.

The 5.2% rise in national expenditure on mineral and petroleum exploration during the December quarter was driven by a 14% rise in petroleum exploration expenditure while non-petroleum exploration expenditure recorded a small rise of 0.4%. National exploration expenditure was 27% higher than a year earlier.

### TREND DATA

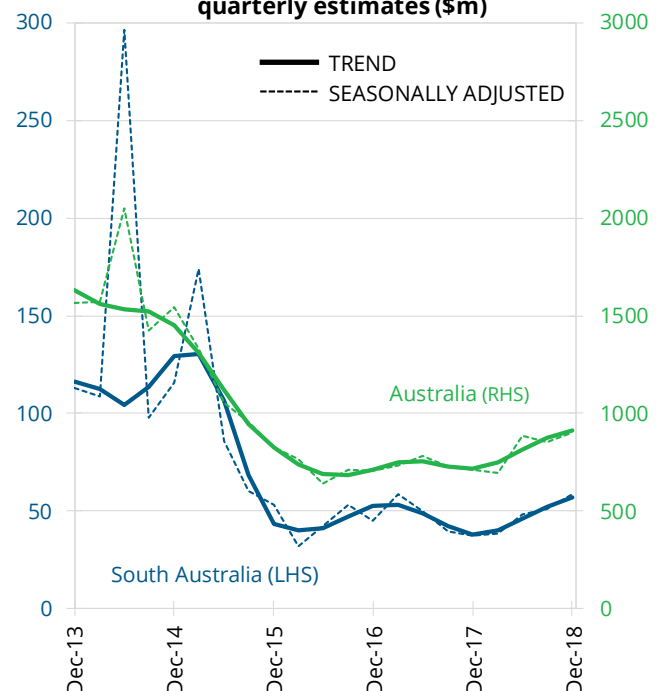
South Australian expenditure on private mineral and petroleum exploration was 52% higher compared to a year earlier. Expenditure on non-petroleum (mineral) exploration was 87% higher and for petroleum exploration was 36% higher over the year.

National expenditure on private mineral and petroleum exploration was 27% higher compared with a year earlier. Expenditure on non-petroleum (mineral) exploration was 16% higher and for petroleum exploration was 50% higher.

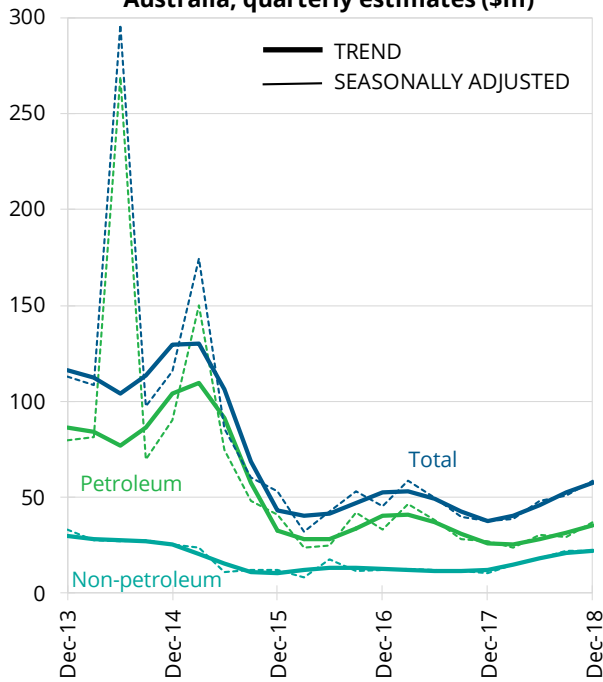
**TABLE 1: Mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure (seasonally adjusted estimates)**

	Dec qtr 18 (\$m)	Dec qtr 18 v Sep qtr 18 (% change)	Dec qtr 18 v Dec qtr 17 (% change)
<b>SA</b>			
Mineral	21.7	0.0	104.7
Petroleum	36.9	25.9	37.7
Total	58.6	14.9	56.7
<b>AUS</b>			
Mineral	549.4	0.4	17.6
Petroleum	349.9	13.6	44.6
Total	899.3	5.2	26.8

**Chart 1: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration Expenditure quarterly estimates (\$m)**



**Chart 2: Components of Mineral and Petroleum Exploration Expenditure, South Australia, quarterly estimates (\$m)**



## ORIGINAL DATA

In the December quarter 2018, non-petroleum mineral exploration expenditure in South Australia was concentrated in:

- Copper (46% of total);
- Iron ore (15% of total); and
- Uranium (6.4% 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 ABS cat. no. 8412.0 is 3 June 2019*