

## Gold Production Falls In December

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Gold production dropped 17.6 percent in December 2008 compared with the same month in 2007, Statistics SA said on Thursday.

Mineral production for December fell 10.7 percent year-on-year, the Pretoria-based agency said.

Gold output was hit in early 2008 by the reduction of power to mines by Eskom.

The skills shortage and safety-related mine closures also impacted on production.

South Africa is now in third place in the league of global producers, falling behind both China and the US.

Source : Sapa /jr/gj

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