

EXPLORATION & MINING TENEMENTS

| | Number | Area (000 ha) |
|--------------------------|--------|---------------|
| Granted (Live) tenements | 21 238 | 45 064 |
| Pending tenements | 4 704 | 26 752 |
| TOTAL | 25 942 | 71 816 |

- From 1 January 2018, the number of tenements in force has increased by 2% to 21 238, the number of pending tenements has increased by about 7% to 4704, and the combined area of granted and pending tenure has increased by 12%, compared with 2017
- Mineral-exploration expenditure in 2017–18 was \$1195 million, up from \$1031 million in 2016–17 — a rise of 16%
- Value of mineral production (excluding petroleum) rose 3% from \$86 billion in 2016-17 to \$88.3 billion in 2017-18, as increased values for most commodities offset a decline in iron ore value due to declining prices (despite an 8.5% rise in iron ore production)

