2017 FACT SHEET

PRODUCTION
Activity in the Metal Mining industry was quite flat over the period until 2011. Several physical units of production are available - ore removed, ore milled, and concentrate produced. Most data analysis are based on ore milled. GDP data are also available and show a diminishing trend over time but increasing after the low point in 2009. Physical and GDP production data are available for most subgroups.

ENERGY USE AND INTENSITY
Energy use in the metal mining industry varies over time but has been increasing since 2009. Electricity and diesel are the primary energy sources.

Energy Use

Overall, energy intensity based on physical units has remained flat. The variety of mine types, changes in depth and age of a mine, and the hardness of ore all affect energy intensity making it difficult to determine efficiency improvements. GDP intensities are difficult to interpret because the value of GDP is affected by more than energy use; even so, note that energy use increased while GDP declined.

Energy Intensity

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND INTENSITY
GHG release in the metal mining industry has remained relatively flat over the period. Indirect emissions have diminished primarily due to the reduced CO₂ intensity of purchased electricity. Increased use of diesel offsets this decrease, however.

GHG Emissions

The downward movement in GHG intensity is much like what is seen in energy intensity. Physical activity and GDP intensities have been generally declining since 2010.