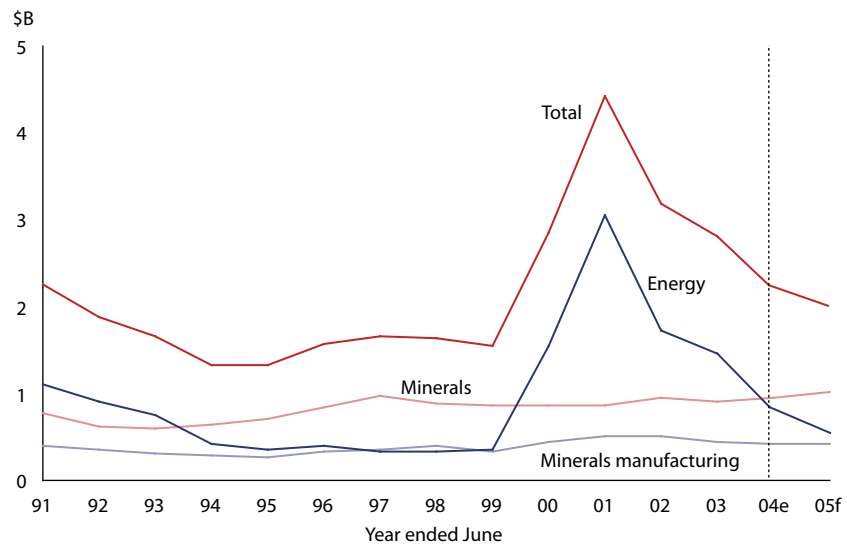


Mining and Energy

- In terms of output, mining is the largest industry in the Territory and was almost 22 per cent of Gross State Product in 2002-03, compared to 4.6 per cent nationally.
- Like most commodity-based industries, mining output is volatile. Global supply and demand conditions and the impact of exchange rate movements on competitiveness are key factors affecting production and income. Output can also jump markedly as new mines commence production.
- The Territory produces a diverse range of mineral products, most notably oil, bauxite, manganese, lead/zinc and uranium.
- Output has been dominated in recent years by oil production from the Laminaria-Corallina oil fields in the Timor Sea.
- Half of the production from developments in the Joint Petroleum Development Area in the Timor Sea will be attributed to the Northern Territory for national accounts purposes.
- In the short term, strengthening global demand is expected to lead to increased demand for minerals, although increased supply globally is expected to result in price falls for many Territory-produced minerals.

Chart 6: Mineral and Energy Production and Processing (nominal dollars)



e: estimate f: forecast

Source: NT Treasury, Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development