

Employment fields include engineering; geology; finance, auditing and accountancy; company secretarial; human resources; medical; environmental science; safety

The South African gold mining industry employs some
116,479 people

Women represent 10.5% of employees

Every employee supports between five and 10 dependants

KEY FIGURES IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOLD MINING INDUSTRY



PEOPLE OF MAPUNGUBWE

One thousand years ago, Mapungubwe in Limpopo province was home to a highly sophisticated people who traded gold.



GEORGE HARRISON

In 1886, Harrison discovered the main reef of gold-bearing conglomerate on Langlaagte Farm near Johannesburg.



CECIL JOHN RHODES, ALFRED BEIT, BARNEY BARNATO

Rhodes, Beit and Barnato were entrepreneurs who helped develop the fledgling South African gold mining industry.



SIR ERNEST OPPENHEIMER

Oppenheimer was the co-founder of the Anglo American Corporation with JP Morgan in 1917.



NELSON MANDELA

Mandela, anti-apartheid freedom fighter, prisoner, politician and statesman, worked briefly in the gold mining industry in 1941 at Crown Mines on the Central Rand.



JAMES MOTLATSI

Motlatsi entered the mining industry in 1970 and became the founding president of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) in 1982.



GWEDE MANTASHE

Mantashe served for 10 years as general secretary of the NUM from 1997 before becoming secretary general of the ANC. He is now Minister of Mineral Resources.



CYRIL RAMAPHOSA

Ramaphosa became the founding general secretary of the NUM in 1982 and was instrumental in the founding of Cosatu (Congress of South African Trade Unions) in 1985. He is now South Africa's President.



PATRICE MOTSEPE

In 1994, Motsepe became the first black lawyer to be made a partner at the law firm Bowman Gilfillan, before moving to the mining industry. In 1997, Motsepe formed African Rainbow Minerals and became its executive chairman.