

**Balance Sheet Data
at 31 December**
**Amounts in accordance with UK GAAP
(US\$ millions)**

	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
Total assets (e)	13,542	10,382	9,977	9,542	5,743
Share capital / premium	1,280	964	865	939	1,276
Shareholders' funds (net assets) (e) (f)	4,324	2,510	1,828	1,420	2,669

**Amounts in accordance with US GAAP
(US\$ millions)**

Total assets	15,234	11,609	10,770	10,236	6,021
Share capital / premium	1,280	964	865	939	1,276
Shareholders' funds (net assets) (e)	4,996	2,922	1,920	1,795	3,233

- (a) In 2003 Rio Tinto Group net earnings under UK GAAP are stated after exceptional gains totalling US\$126 million which arose on the sale of certain operations by Rio Tinto Limited.
In 2002 Rio Tinto Group operating profit under UK GAAP is stated after charging US\$962 million for asset write downs, of which US\$529 million relates to Rio Tinto plc and US\$433 million relates to Rio Tinto Limited. In addition, group operating profit for 2002 includes US\$116 million for environmental remediation charges which all relate to Rio Tinto plc. In 2002 net earnings for the Rio Tinto Group include US\$763 million for asset write downs of which US\$623 million relates to Rio Tinto plc and US\$225 million relates to Rio Tinto Limited. In addition the Group's net earnings for 2002 include US\$116 million for environmental remediation charges which all relate to Rio Tinto plc.
In 2001 Rio Tinto Group operating profit under UK GAAP is stated after charging US\$715 million for exceptional asset write downs, of which US\$644 million relates to Rio Tinto plc and US\$71 million relates to Rio Tinto Limited. In 2001 Rio Tinto Group net earnings under UK GAAP are after charges of US\$583 million for asset write downs of which US\$551 million relates to Rio Tinto plc and US\$52 million relates to Rio Tinto Limited.
Under UK GAAP asset write downs and the environmental remediation charges are classified as 'exceptional' but none of these items would be classified as 'extraordinary' items under US GAAP.
- (b) These figures are the same under both UK and US GAAP.
- (c) A cumulative adjustment was made in 2000 to reflect the application of Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 101 ('SAB101') Revenue recognition in financial statements. The effect of SAB 101 is described on page A-62.
- (d) The results for all years relate wholly to continuing operations.
- (e) Total assets and shareholders' funds under UK GAAP have been restated for all years to reflect the implementation of FRS 19 Deferred Tax. The application of FRS 19 did not impact significantly on net earnings and, accordingly, net earnings have not been restated. 2001 and 2000 Rio Tinto Group, Rio Tinto plc and Rio Tinto Limited operating profit, net earnings and shareholders' funds under US GAAP have been restated for prior years to reflect the implementation of FAS 123 Accounting for Stock Based Compensation in 2002.
- (f) The decrease in Rio Tinto Limited shareholders' funds in 2000 reflects the buy back of 91,000,000 shares from Rio Tinto plc in that year.
- (g) Under US GAAP the impact of exchange differences on US dollar debt and the mark to market of certain derivative contracts are excluded from operating profit but are included in net earnings. 1999-2002 Group operating profit and Group operating profit per share figures under US GAAP have been restated to reflect this.

Risk factors

Risk factors have been discussed on page 7 of the 2003 Annual report.