



BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA
COMMISSION ON MINERAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINERALS
400 W. King Street, Suite 106
Carson City, Nevada 89703
(775) 684-7040 • Fax (775) 684-7052
<http://minerals.nv.gov/>



RICHARD PERRY
Administrator

Las Vegas Office: 2030 E. Flamingo Rd. #220, Las Vegas, NV 89119
Phone: (702) 486-4343; Fax: (702) 486-4345

NEVADA MINERALS INDUSTRY FACT SHEET – 2015

- FACT:** Nevada led the United States in the production of gold in 2015. Nevada's mines produced 5,339,659 troy ounces compared to 4,940,540 troy ounces in 2014, an increase of 8%. Nevada's silver production was 9,498,051 ounces in 2015.
- FACT:** Nevada's gold mines contributed 83% of the U.S. gold production in 2015, and 5.5% of the total world's gold production. Only China, Australia, and Russia produced more gold than the state of Nevada.
- FACT:** In addition to gold and silver, Nevada produced barite, lithium compounds, magnesium compounds, clays, copper, diatomite, dolomite, gypsum, lapidary and gemstones, limestone, molybdenite, perlite, salt, silica sand, and specialty aggregates in 2015.
- FACT:** In 2015, approximately \$7.2 billion in mineral commodities were produced in Nevada excluding construction aggregates.
- FACT:** In 2015, there were on average 14,196 Nevadans directly employed by the mineral industry at an average salary of \$92,077. It is estimated that another 17,000 jobs are involved in supplying goods and services to the industry.
- FACT:** There are 24 geothermal electric generating plants that sold 3.1 million megawatt hours of electricity in 2015. That is enough power to supply 280,000 typical homes.
- FACT:** In 2015, approximately 281,875 barrels of oil were produced from oil fields in Elko, Nye, and Eureka counties.
- FACT:** Mineral exploration activity in 2015 decreased from 2014, largely due to declining gold prices from a high in January of \$1,295.75 to a low of \$1,049.40 in December. Exploration for new deposits is an ongoing effort by both operating companies and the many other companies who do not operate mines in the state.
- FACT:** Approximately \$2.66 billion in reclamation bonds and other financial assurance were posted by operators, as of 2015, to ensure complete reclamation such that mined areas are returned to productive uses such as livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, or other industrial applications.