



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 – 2016

- FACT:** Nevada led the United States in the production of gold in 2016. Nevada's mines produced 5,467,646 ounces compared to 5,339,659 troy ounces in 2015. Nevada's silver production was 8,885,873 ounces in 2016 vs. 9,498,051 ounces in 2015.
- FACT:** Nevada's gold mines contributed 81% of the U.S. gold production in 2016, and ranked 4th in world 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 2016.
- FACT:** In 2016, approximately \$7.5 billion in mineral commodities were produced in Nevada excluding construction aggregates.
- FACT:** In 2016, there were on average 12,474 Nevadans directly employed by the mineral industry at an average salary of \$94,744. It is estimated that another 15,000 jobs are involved in supplying goods and services to the industry.
- FACT:** There are 24 geothermal electric generating plants that sold 3.3 million megawatt hours of electricity in 2016. That is enough power to supply 300,000 typical homes.
- FACT:** In 2016, approximately 276,328 barrels of oil were produced from oil fields in Elko, Nye, and Eureka counties.
- FACT:** Mineral exploration spending in 2016 decreased slightly to \$325 million, largely due to continued low gold prices which averaged \$1,250.74. Exploration for lithium continued to increase and accounted for \$20.9 million in spending.
- FACT:** Approximately \$2.66 billion in reclamation bonds and other financial assurance were posted by operators, as of 2016, to ensure complete reclamation such that mined areas are returned to productive uses such as livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, or other natural resource uses.