



JOE LOMBARDO
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/>



MICHAEL VISHER
Administrator

Las Vegas Office: 375 E. Warm Springs Rd. #205, Las Vegas, NV 89119
Phone: (702) 486-4343; Fax: (702) 486-4345

Nevada Minerals Industry Fact Sheet – 2020

Mineral Production

- Nevada led the United States in the production of gold in 2020. Nevada's mines produced 4,632,690 troy ounces in 2020 compared to 4,868,086 ounces in 2019. Nevada's silver production was 6,127,438 ounces in 2020 versus 6,282,466 ounces in 2019.
- Nevada's gold mines contributed 74% of the U.S. gold production in 2020 and ranked 4th in world gold production. Only China, Australia, and Russia produced more gold than the State of Nevada.
- In addition to gold and silver, Nevada produced barite, copper, diatomite, dolomite, gypsum, lapidary and gemstones, limestone, lithium compounds, magnesium compounds, molybdenite, perlite, salt, silica sand, specialty clays, and specialty aggregates in 2020.
- In 2020, approximately \$9.5 billion in mineral commodities were produced in Nevada excluding construction aggregates.

Employment

- In 2020, there were on average 15,136 Nevadans directly employed by the mineral industry at an average salary of \$104,205. It is estimated that another 16,182 jobs are involved in supplying goods and services to the industry.

Geothermal

- There are 26 geothermal electric generating plants that sold 4 million megawatt hours of electricity in 2020. That is enough power to supply 376,000 typical homes.

Oil and Gas

- In 2020, approximately 218,372 barrels of oil were produced from oil wells in Elko, Eureka, and Nye counties.

Mineral Exploration

- Mineral exploration spending up significantly from \$260 million in 2019 to \$360 million in 2020. In 2020, gold averaged \$1769.64 and averaged \$1,392.60 in 2019. Exploration spending for lithium and other energy metals showed a significant increase and accounted for around \$42 million in spending.

Reclamation

- Approximately \$3.3 billion in reclamation bonds and other financial assurance were posted by operators, as of 2020, to ensure complete reclamation such that mined areas are returned to productive uses such as livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, recreation opportunities, or other natural resource uses.

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