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Nevada Minerals Industry Fact Sheet – 2021

Mineral Production

- Nevada led the United States in the production of gold in 2021. Nevada's mines produced 4,502,365 troy ounces in 2021 compared to 4,632,690 troy ounces in 2020. Nevada's silver production was 6,218,415 ounces in 2021 versus 6,127,438 ounces in 2020.
- Nevada's gold mines contributed 74% of the U.S. gold production in 2021 and ranked 5th in world gold production. Only China, Australia, Russia, and Canada 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 2021.
- In 2021, over \$9.7 billion in mineral commodities were produced in Nevada excluding construction aggregates.

Employment

- In 2021, there were on average 15,024 Nevadans directly employed by the mineral industry at an average salary of \$103,000. It is estimated that another 14,985 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 2021. That is enough power to supply 377,000 typical homes.

Oil and Gas

- In 2021, approximately 288,342 barrels of oil were produced from oil wells in Elko, Eureka, and Nye counties.

Mineral Exploration

- Approximately \$360 million was spent on Nevada exploration in 2020. In 2021, a minimum of \$309 million was spent – a 14% decrease from the previous year. In 2021, gold averaged \$1,798.61 and averaged \$1,769.64 in 2020. Exploration spending for lithium and other energy metals continues to be significant and accounted for \$42 million in spending.

Reclamation

- Approximately \$3.4 billion in reclamation bonds and other financial assurance were posted by operators, as of 2021, 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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