

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GOLD IN APRIL 2017

Production of gold by U.S. mines was about 20,600 kilograms (kg) in April; a 3.8% increase compared with revised production in March and a 19% increase compared with April 2016 production (fig. 1, table 1). Based on unrounded data, the average daily gold production for U.S. mines was 685 kg in April 2017, about 639 kg in March 2017, and about 607 kg for the full year of 2016.

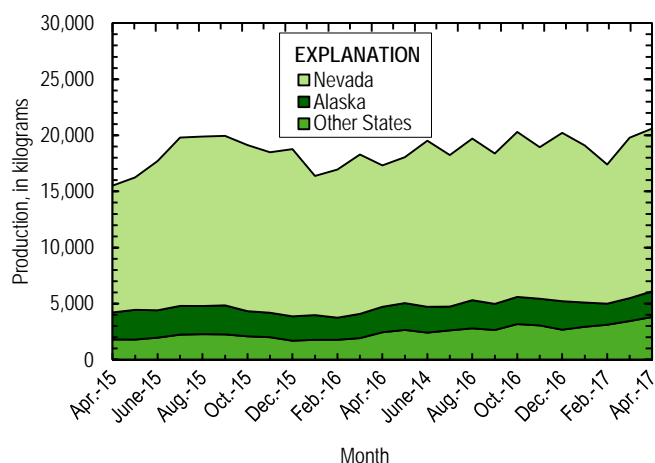


Figure 1. Domestic gold mine production from April 2015 through April 2017. Source: U.S. Geological Survey.

Industry News

On April 25, Rye Patch Gold Corp. completed the first pour from a new leach pad at the refurbished Florida Canyon Mine north of Lovelock, Nevada. About 15 kg of gold was poured in April from the new South Heap Leach Pad. An additional 19 kg

of gold was produced from the old leach pad at the mine, as well as from residual leaching at the Standard Gold Mine a short distance to the north (Rye Patch Gold Corp., 2017).

Prices

The average Engelhard gold price was \$1,270.85 per troy ounce for April 2017 (table 2), a \$36.62 per troy ounce increase compared with the average gold price in March (fig. 2). The daily gold price started April 2017 at \$1,248.77 per troy ounce, the monthly low, and increased to the monthly high of \$1,290.64 per troy ounce on April 17. The price decreased and ended the month at \$1,268.60 troy ounce.

Reference Cited

Rye Patch Gold Corp., 2017, Rye Patch announces first gold pour at Florida Canyon: Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, Rye Patch Gold Corp. news release, May 1. (Accessed June 8, 2017, at <http://ryepatchgold.com/rye-patch-announces-first-gold-pour-at-florida-canyon/>.)

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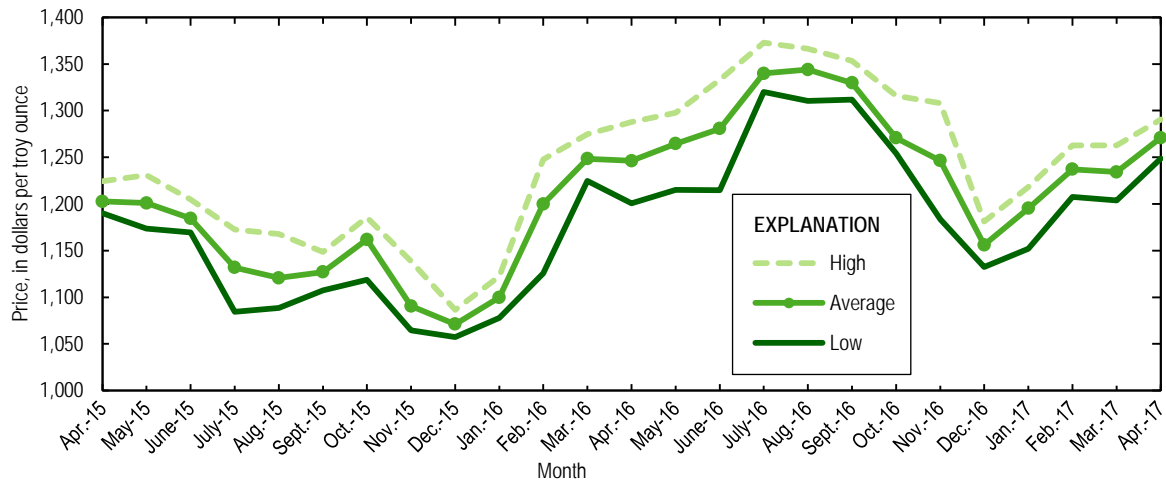


Figure 2. Engelhard monthly gold prices for April 2015 through April 2017. Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 1
MINE PRODUCTION OF RECOVERABLE GOLD IN THE UNITED
STATES, BY STATE¹

(Kilograms)

	Alaska	Nevada	Other States ²	Total
2016: ^p				
January	2,200	12,400	1,780	16,400
February	1,980	13,200	1,780	16,900
March	2,160	14,200	1,930	18,300
April	2,270	12,600	2,460	17,300
May	2,390	13,000	2,660	18,000 ^r
June	2,300	14,800	2,420	19,500
July	2,120	13,500 ^r	2,620	18,200
August	2,510	14,400	2,800	19,700
September	2,330	13,400	2,650	18,400 ^r
October	2,420	14,700 ^r	3,180	20,300 ^r
November	2,380	13,500	3,060	18,900 ^r
December	2,540	15,000 ^r	2,680	20,200 ^r
Total	27,600	165,000	30,000	222,000
2017:				
January ^r	2,160	14,000	2,940	19,100
February ^r	1,880	12,400	3,120	17,400
March ^r	2,040	14,300	3,450	19,800
April	2,290	14,500	3,810	20,600
Total	8,360	55,200	13,300	76,900

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Montana, New Mexico, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, and Washington.

TABLE 2
GOLD PRICES

(Dollars per troy ounce)

	Price	Date
Engelhard:		
2016:		
Low	1,077.98	Jan. 5
High	1,372.98	Jul. 6
Average	1,252.17	XX
2017:		
March:		
Low	1,203.69	Mar. 15
High	1,262.79	Mar. 27
Average	1,234.23	XX
April:		
Low	1,248.77	Apr. 3
High	1,290.64	Apr. 17
Average	1,270.85	XX
Year to Date:		
Low/date	1,152.10	Jan. 3
High/date	1,290.64	Apr. 17
Average	1,233.42	XX
Handy and Harman:		
2016, Average	1,248.40	XX
2017:		
March	1,231.09	XX
April	1,266.88	XX
Year to Date	1,230.59	XX
London Final:		
2016, Average	1,248.34	XX
2017:		
March	1,231.09	XX
April	1,265.63	XX
Year to Date	1,229.62	XX

XX Not applicable.

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD¹

(Kilograms, gold content unless otherwise specified)

Period and country	Ores and concentrates ²	Doré and precipitates	Refined bullion ³	Total ⁴	Waste and scrap (gross weight)	Metal powder (gross weight)	Gold compounds (gross weight)
Imports for consumption:							
2016	258	196,000	177,000	374,000	23,000 ^r	260	44,400
2017:							
March	--	14,700	12,600	27,400	1,760	22	346
April:							
Brazil	--	370	1,230	1,600	--	--	--
Canada	(5)	306	1,920	2,230	393	--	--
Chile	--	38	261	299	14	--	--
Colombia	--	1,910	576	2,480	--	--	--
Curacao	--	219	--	219	--	--	--
Ecuador	--	340	--	340	7	--	--
Guatemala	--	193	--	193	92	--	--
Guyana	--	--	379	379	--	--	--
Honduras	--	75	180	255	166	--	--
Japan	--	--	--	--	--	(5)	300
Mexico	--	4,580	385	4,960	15	--	--
Nicaragua	--	484	59	543	4	--	--
Peru	--	1,390	1,640	3,020	--	--	--
Switzerland	--	83	183	267	--	--	--
Other	--	286	184	470	307	11	22
Total	(5)	10,300	6,990	17,300	997	11	322
January–April	4	54,200	34,100	88,300	6,710	78	975
Exports:							
2016	4,220	147,000 ^r	241,000 ^r	393,000 ^r	321,000 ^r	438 ^r	1,060,000 ^r
2017:							
March	285 ^r	12,400	26,600 ^r	39,300 ^r	14,400	23 ^r	2,520 ^r
April:							
Australia	--	--	2,390	2,390	--	--	10
Canada	--	39	80	119	5,120	--	39
China	315	--	--	315	45	--	15
Hong Kong	4	--	5,250	5,250	--	3	1
India	--	5,790	32	5,820	--	6	21
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	2	--	53,100
Singapore	--	--	1	1	--	--	605
Switzerland	--	8,670	612	9,280	1,440	--	--
United Arab Emirates	--	1,290	60	1,350	--	--	--
United Kingdom	--	--	10,600	10,600	4,820	6	14
Other	--	--	247	247	37	5	311
Total	319	15,800	19,200	35,300	11,500	20	54,100
January–April	1,190	59,000	113,000	173,000	55,900	71	128,000

^rRevised. -- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes gold content of base metal ores, concentrates, and matte imported for refining.

³Bullion also moves in both directions between U.S. markets and foreign stocks on deposit in the Federal Reserve Bank. Monetary gold excluded.

⁴"Waste and scrap," "Metal powder," and "Gold compounds" are not included in "Total."

⁵Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.