

# Mineral Industry Surveys

**For information, contact:**

Kristin N. Sheaffer, Gold Commodity Specialist  
 National Minerals Information Center  
 U.S. Geological Survey  
 989 National Center  
 Reston, VA 20192  
 Telephone: (703) 648-4954, Fax: (703) 648-7757  
 Email: ksheaffer@usgs.gov

Kristi J. Simmons (Data)  
 Telephone: (703) 648-7962  
 Fax: (703) 648-7975  
 Email: kjsimmons@usgs.gov

**Internet:** <http://www.usgs.gov/centers/nmic>

## GOLD IN DECEMBER 2019

Production of gold by U.S. mines was about 16,700 kilograms (kg) in December 2019, a 3% decrease compared with revised November production, and a 18% decrease compared with December 2018 production (fig. 1, table 1). The 2019 annual gold production was 201,000 kg, an 11% decrease compared with 2018 annual production (table 1). The 11% decrease in mine production was attributed to decreases in production from the Bald Mountain, Carlin, and Cortez Mines in Nevada, and the Fort Knox and Pogo Mines in Alaska.

Based on unrounded data, the average daily gold production for U.S. mines was about 540 kg in December 2019, a revised 574 kg for November 2019, 550 kg for the year-to-date 2019, and 618 kg for the full year of 2018.

**Prices**

The average monthly Engelhard gold price in December 2019 increased to \$1,481.23 per troy ounce, a \$8.72 per troy ounce increase from the average price in November (fig. 2, table 2). The daily price in December ranged between a low of \$1,458.00 per troy ounce on December 2, and a high of \$1,523.00 per troy ounce on December 31.

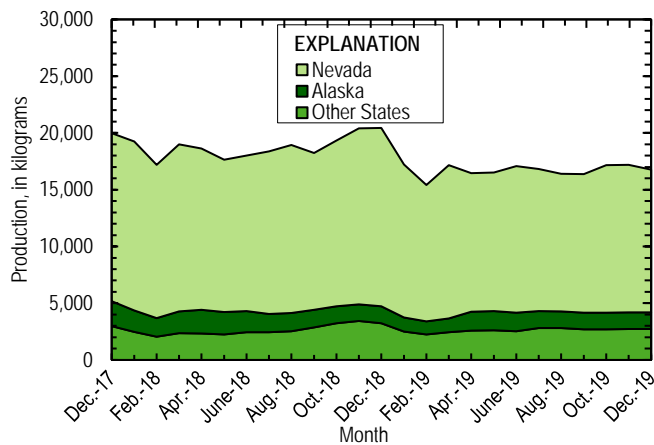


Figure 1. Domestic gold mine production from December 2017 through December 2019.

*List services and web feed subscribers are the first to receive notification of USGS minerals information publications and data releases. For information on how to subscribe, go to <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/nmic/minerals-information-publication-list-services>.*

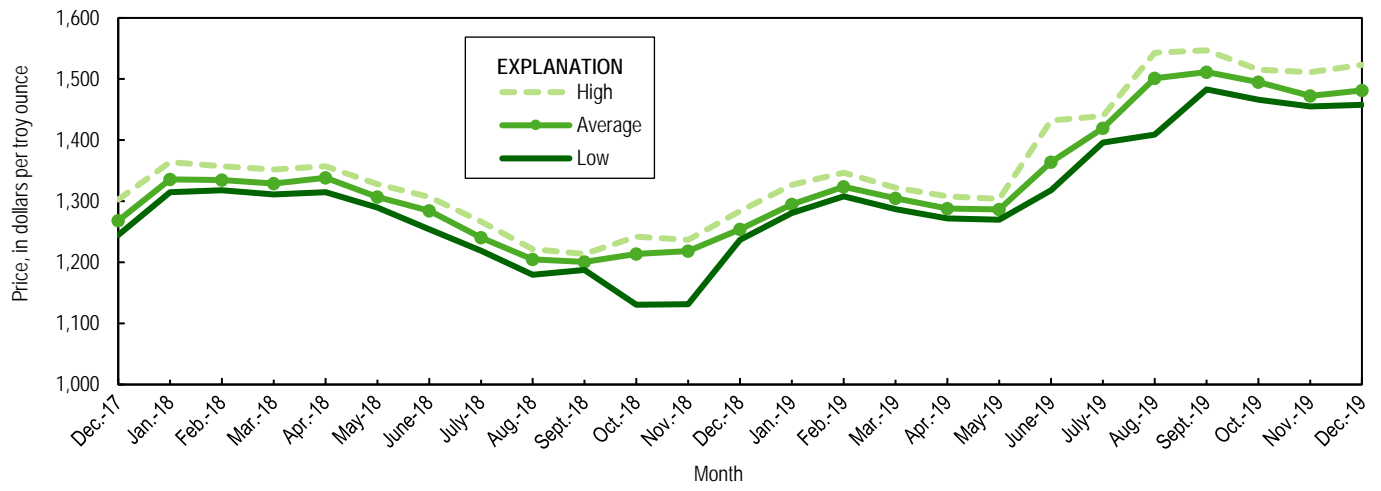


Figure 2. Engelhard monthly gold prices for December 2017 through December 2019. Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 1  
MINE PRODUCTION OF GOLD IN THE UNITED STATES,  
BY STATE<sup>1</sup>

(Kilograms)

	Alaska	Nevada	Other States <sup>2</sup>	Total
<b>2018:<sup>p</sup></b>				
January	1,870	14,900	2,480	19,300
February	1,640	13,500	2,050	17,200
March	1,940	14,700	2,350	19,000
April	2,090	14,200	2,340	18,600
May	1,980	13,400	2,250	17,700
June	1,860	13,700	2,440	18,000
July	1,610	14,300	2,450	18,300
August	1,610	14,800	2,520	18,900
September	1,560	13,800	2,860	18,300
October	1,510	14,600	3,230	19,400
November	1,460	15,500	3,440	20,400
December	1,510	15,700	3,230	20,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,600</b>	<b>173,000</b>	<b>31,600</b>	<b>226,000</b>
<b>2019:</b>				
January	1,220	13,500	2,510	17,300
February	1,150	12,000	2,250	15,400
March	1,210	13,500	2,460	17,200
April	1,650	12,200	2,600	16,500
May	1,680	12,200	2,620	16,500
June	1,630	12,900	2,540	17,100
July	1,490	12,500	2,820	16,800
August	1,490	12,100	2,800	16,400
September	1,450	12,200	2,710	16,300
October	1,450	13,000	2,710	17,200
November	1,450	13,000	2,740	17,200 <sup>r</sup>
December	1,450	12,600	2,730	16,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,300</b>	<b>152,000</b>	<b>31,500</b>	<b>201,000</b>

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Montana, New Mexico, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Utah.

TABLE 2  
GOLD PRICES<sup>1</sup>

(Dollars per troy ounce)

	Low	Date	High	Date	Average
<b>2018:</b>					
January	1,314.88	Jan. 9	1,363.96	Jan. 25	1,335.87
February	1,317.89	Feb. 9	1,357.45	Feb. 16	1,334.55
March	1,310.87	Mar. 1	1,351.94	Mar. 26	1,328.83
April	1,314.88	Apr. 30	1,356.95	Apr. 18	1,338.47
May	1,289.84	May 18	1,327.90	May 11	1,306.89
June	1,253.78	Jun. 29	1,306.87	Jun. 14	1,284.54
July	1,218.72	Jul. 31	1,266.80	Jul. 9	1,240.61
August	1,179.65	Aug. 16	1,221.72	Aug. 1	1,204.76
September	1,187.66	Sept. 27	1,213.71	Sept. 13	1,200.66
October	1,130.57	Oct. 19	1,241.76	Oct. 23	1,213.69
November	1,131.57	Nov. 7	1,236.75	Nov. 6	1,218.62
December	1,236.75	Dec. 14	1,283.83	Dec. 31	1,254.16
January–December	1,130.57	Oct. 19	1,363.96	Jan. 25	1,271.62
<b>2019:</b>					
January	1,280.82	Jan. 21	1,326.90	Jan. 31	1,294.69
February	1,307.87	Feb. 11	1,346.93	Feb. 20	1,323.47
March	1,286.83	Mar. 7	1,321.89	Mar. 25, 26	1,304.74
April	1,271.81	Apr. 23	1,307.87	Apr. 9	1,287.94
May	1,269.80	May 2	1,303.86	May 15	1,286.57
June	1,317.89	Jun. 3	1,432.08	Jun. 25	1,364.24
July	1,396.02	Jul. 9	1,439.59	Jul. 19	1,419.33
August	1,409.04	Aug. 1	1,543.00	Aug. 28	1,501.50
September	1,483.00	Sept. 30	1,547.00	Sept. 4	1,511.40
October	1,466.00	Oct. 1	1,515.50	Oct. 25	1,495.11
November	1,455.00	Nov. 12, 26, 27	1,511.00	Nov. 4	1,472.50
December	1,458.00	Dec. 2	1,523.00	Dec. 31	1,481.23
January–December	1,269.80	May 2	1,547.00	Sept. 4	1,395.85

<sup>1</sup>Quotes from Engelhard.

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3  
U.S. IMPORTS OF GOLD<sup>1</sup>

(Kilograms, gold content unless otherwise specified)

Country or locality	Ores and concentrates <sup>2</sup>		Doré and precipitates		Refined bullion <sup>3</sup>		Total <sup>4</sup>		Waste and scrap <sup>5</sup>	
	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)
2018	79	\$3,080	132,000	\$5,700,000	81,500	\$3,330,000	213,000	\$9,030,000	15,000	\$313,000
2019:										
November	--	--	9,460	450,000	12,700	596,000	22,100	1,050,000	995	26,100
December:										
Argentina	--	--	316	14,500	--	--	316	14,500	--	--
Bolivia	--	--	67	3,200	--	--	67	3,200	--	--
Brazil	--	--	--	--	498	26,100	498	26,100	--	--
Canada	--	--	210	9,970	14,800	731,000	15,000	741,000	271	5,770
Cayman Islands	--	--	--	--	290	13,700	290	13,700	--	--
Chile	--	--	177	9,050	--	--	177	9,050	23	522
Colombia	--	--	1,070	49,900	287	12,200	1,360	62,200	3	108
Curacao	--	--	44	2,070	--	--	44	2,070	--	--
Dominican Republic	--	--	245	11,700	12	551	257	12,300	127	4,060
Ecuador	--	--	430	19,900	--	--	430	19,900	23	663
Germany	--	--	--	--	769	36,300	769	36,300	167	7,620
Honduras	--	--	128	6,070	--	--	128	6,070	134	4,630
Italy	--	--	--	--	1,070	50,700	1,070	50,700	1	50
Mexico	--	--	5,430	258,000	376	17,900	5,810	276,000	181	3,590
Nicaragua	--	--	931	45,300	--	--	931	45,300	38	1,180
Panama	--	--	116	4,970	23	1,070	139	6,040	74	2,350
Paraguay	--	--	30	1,440	--	--	30	1,440	--	--
Peru	--	--	1,650	78,800	--	--	1,650	78,800	--	--
Russia	--	--	--	--	4,170	198,000	4,170	198,000	--	--
Switzerland	--	--	127	6,060	6,550	323,000	6,680	329,000	--	--
Other	--	--	94	4,230	78	3,480	172	7,710	307	3,510
Total	--	--	11,100	525,000	28,900	1,410,000	40,000	1,940,000	1,350	34,100
January–December	7	217	113,000	5,160,000	86,800	4,050,000	199,000	9,200,000	16,600	370,000

-- Zero.

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

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

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

<sup>4</sup>"Waste and scrap" is not included in "Total."

<sup>5</sup>Gross weight.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4  
U.S. EXPORTS OF GOLD<sup>1</sup>

(Kilograms, gold content unless otherwise specified)

Country or locality	Ores and concentrates <sup>2</sup>		Doré and precipitates		Refined bullion <sup>3</sup>		Total <sup>4</sup>		Waste and scrap <sup>5</sup>	
	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)
2018	4,740	\$192,000	171,000	\$6,970,000	299,000	\$12,200,000	474,000	\$19,400,000	124,000	\$910,000
2019:										
November	269	12,400	9,950	467,000	22,900	1,080,000	33,100	1,560,000	4,220	99,800
December:										
Armenia	--	--	--	--	6	282	6	282	--	--
Australia	--	--	1,530	72,600	1	61	1,530	72,600	--	--
Brazil	--	--	--	--	50	2,350	50	2,350	--	--
Canada	--	--	458	17,900	44	1,970	501	19,900	3,440	89,500
Cayman Islands	--	--	--	--	1	24	1	24	--	--
China	--	--	1	36	--	--	1	36	--	--
Germany	63	2,880	--	--	5	249	69	3,130	--	--
Hong Kong	--	--	--	--	3	119	3	119	--	--
India	--	--	3,430	163,000	23	1,080	3,460	164,000	--	--
Italy	--	--	1,210	52,400	62	2,910	1,270	55,300	--	--
Japan	85	3,830	--	--	--	--	85	3,830	40	1,110
Mexico	--	--	--	--	13	597	13	597	--	--
Netherlands	210	9,550	--	--	--	--	210	9,550	--	--
Peru	--	--	--	--	11	503	11	503	--	--
Switzerland	--	--	2,110	101,000	5,690	272,000	7,810	373,000	48	1,880
Thailand	--	--	--	--	4	201	4	201	2	74
Turkey	--	--	--	--	13	586	13	586	--	--
United Arab Emirates	--	--	305	14,500	--	--	305	14,500	--	--
United Kingdom	--	--	--	--	18,400	873,000	18,400	873,000	(6)	3
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	(6)	9	(6)	9	--	--
Other	--	--	--	--	(6)	7	(6)	7	1	27
Total	359	16,300	9,050	422,000	24,300	1,160,000	33,700	1,590,000	3,530	92,600
January–December	3,820	153,000	91,100	4,050,000	264,000	11,800,000	359,000	16,000,000	97,500	1,300,000

-- Zero.

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

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

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

<sup>4</sup>"Waste and scrap" is not included in "Total."

<sup>5</sup>Gross weight.

<sup>6</sup>Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.