

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GOLD IN DECEMBER 2021

Production of gold by U.S. mines was 15,700 kilograms (kg) in December 2021, a 3% increase compared with November 2021 production, and a 7% decrease compared with December 2020 production (fig. 1, table 1).

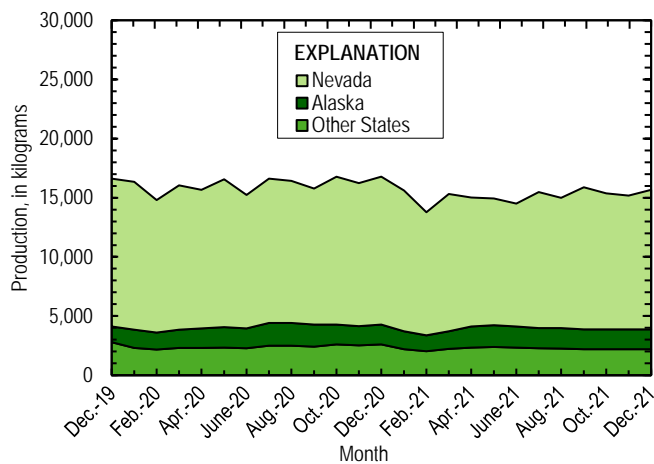


Figure 1. Domestic gold mine production from December 2019 through December 2021.

Based on unrounded data, the average daily gold production for U.S. mines was about 506 kg in December 2021, a revised 506 kg for November 2021, 498 kg for year-to-date 2021, and 528 kg for the full year of 2020. The 2021 annual gold production was 182,000 kg, a 6% decrease compared with 2020 annual production (table 1).

Prices

The average monthly Engelhard gold price in December 2021 decreased \$32.97 per troy ounce to \$1,790.38 per troy ounce from the average price in November (fig. 2, table 2). The daily price in December ranged between a low of \$1,770.00 per troy ounce on December 14, and a high of \$1,827.00 per troy ounce on December 31.

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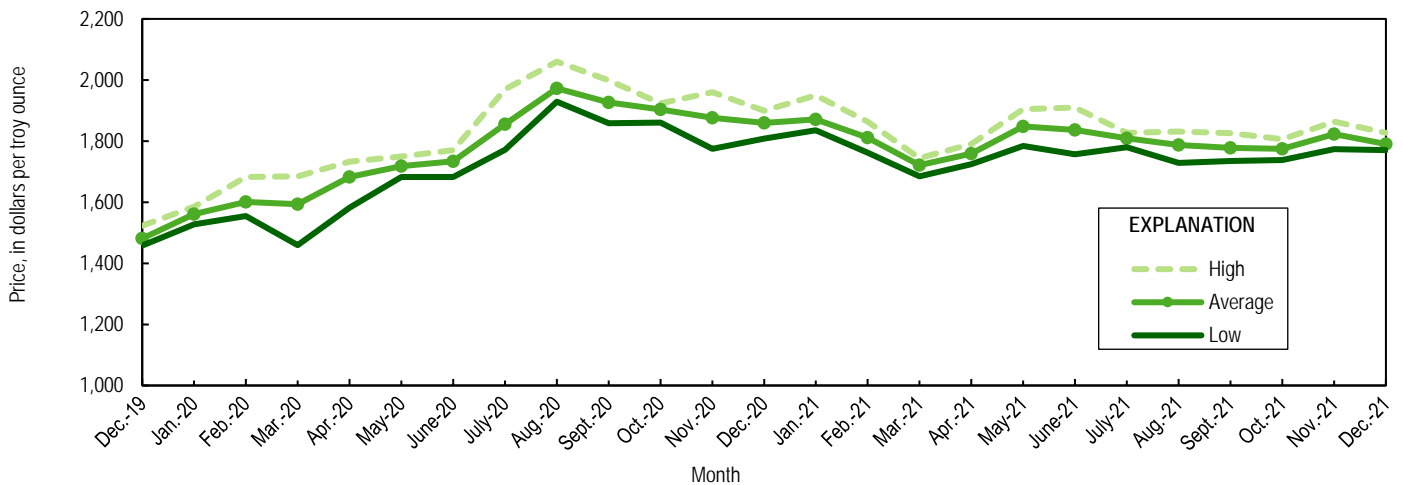


Figure 2. Engelhard monthly gold prices for December 2019 through December 2021. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

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

(Kilograms)

	Alaska	Nevada	Other States ²	Total
2020:				
January	1,540	12,500	2,310	16,400
February	1,440	11,200	2,160	14,800
March	1,540	12,200	2,300	16,000
April	1,670	11,700	2,290	15,600
May	1,720	12,500	2,340	16,600
June	1,670	11,300	2,270	15,300
July	1,920	12,200	2,500	16,700
August	1,920	12,000	2,500	16,400
September	1,860	11,500	2,420	15,800
October	1,670	12,500	2,600	16,800
November	1,620	12,100	2,510	16,200
December	1,670	12,500	2,610	16,800
January–December	20,200	144,000	28,800	193,000
2021:				
January	1,500	11,900	2,200	15,600
February	1,350	10,400	2,020	13,800
March	1,500	11,600	2,210	15,300
April	1,790	10,900	2,320	15,000
May	1,840	10,700	2,390	14,900
June	1,790	10,400	2,320	14,500
July	1,720	11,500	2,270	15,500
August	1,720	11,000	2,260	15,000
September	1,670	12,000	2,200	15,900
October	1,670	11,500	2,200	15,400
November	1,670	11,300	2,200	15,200
December	1,670	11,800	2,200	15,700
January–December	19,900	135,000	26,800	182,000

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

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

TABLE 2
GOLD PRICES¹

(Dollars per troy ounce)

	Low	Date	High	Date	Average
2020:					
January	1,528.00	Jan. 2	1,585.00	Jan. 27	1,561.07
February	1,555.00	Feb. 5	1,683.00	Feb. 24	1,600.37
March	1,459.00	Mar. 16	1,685.00	Mar. 6	1,593.48
April	1,582.00	Apr. 1	1,733.00	Apr. 24	1,682.71
May	1,682.00	May 1	1,750.00	May 18	1,717.63
June	1,682.00	Jun. 5	1,771.00	Jun. 29	1,734.11
July	1,772.00	Jul. 1	1,970.00	Jul. 31	1,855.45
August	1,929.00	Aug. 25	2,060.00	Aug. 6	1,972.67
September	1,858.00	Sep. 24	1,990.00	Sep. 1	1,926.24
October	1,861.00	Oct. 29	1,923.00	Oct. 12, 21	1,903.27
November	1,775.00	Nov. 30	1,960.00	Nov. 6	1,875.95
December	1,808.00	Dec. 1	1,899.00	Dec. 31	1,859.55
January–December	1,459.00	Mar. 16	2,060.00	Aug. 6	1,773.45
2021:					
January	1,835.00	Jan. 11	1,950.00	Jan. 5	1,871.58
February	1,762.00	Feb. 26	1,864.00	Feb. 1	1,811.58
March	1,685.00	Mar. 30	1,744.00	Mar. 25	1,721.74
April	1,724.00	Apr. 1, 5	1,790.00	Apr. 23	1,758.91
May	1,784.00	May 5	1,905.00	May 26	1,848.50
June	1,757.00	Jun. 29	1,910.00	Jun. 1	1,836.05
July	1,780.00	Jul. 1	1,827.00	Jul. 14	1,809.43
August	1,728.50	Aug. 10	1,831.00	Aug. 4	1,786.98
September	1,735.00	Sep. 28	1,826.00	Sep. 3	1,777.43
October	1,738.00	Oct. 15	1,806.00	Oct. 22	1,775.14
November	1,774.00	Nov. 3	1,864.00	Nov. 11, 17	1,823.35
December	1,770.00	Dec. 14	1,827.00	Dec. 31	1,790.38
January–December	1,685.00	Mar. 30	1,950.00	Jan. 5	1,799.44

¹Quotes from Engelhard.

Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS OF GOLD¹

(Kilograms, gold content unless otherwise specified)

Country or locality	Ores and concentrates ²		Doré and precipitates		Refined bullion ³		Total ⁴		Waste and scrap ⁵	
	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)
2020	29	\$955	119,000	\$6,470,000	426,000	\$23,300,000	545,000	\$29,800,000	15,400	\$426,000
2021:										
November	65	739	7,480	411,000	9,220	538,000	16,800	950,000	1,670	55,200
December										
Argentina	--	--	1,300	78,000	--	--	1,300	78,000	--	--
Australia	--	--	--	--	293	17,800	293	17,800	--	--
Bolivia	--	--	16	876	--	--	16	876	--	--
Canada	(6)	23	186	10,700	4,850	282,000	5,040	293,000	132	4,230
Chile	--	--	75	4,430	--	--	75	4,430	--	--
Colombia	--	--	1,710	96,500	1,140	61,700	2,850	158,000	(6)	6
Costa Rica	--	--	5	250	53	2,040	58	2,290	201	1,350
Dominican Republic	--	--	141	8,100	--	--	141	8,100	316	4,880
Ecuador	--	--	422	24,300	8	414	430	24,700	11	491
Germany	--	--	--	--	26	1,490	26	1,490	279	13,300
Guyana	--	--	26	1,370	--	--	26	1,370	--	--
Honduras	--	--	305	17,400	--	--	305	17,400	56	2,240
Lebanon	--	--	13	563	--	--	13	563	--	--
Mexico	--	--	3,540	210,000	393	22,700	3,930	233,000	420	13,000
Nicaragua	--	--	1,110	64,400	20	748	1,130	65,100	3	93
Panama	--	--	--	--	39	1,770	39	1,770	70	2,410
Paraguay	--	--	6	326	--	--	6	326	--	--
Peru	--	--	186	10,600	53	2,630	239	13,200	--	--
Switzerland	--	--	--	--	449	25,800	449	25,800	1	18
Venezuela	--	--	--	--	14	732	14	732	35	1,030
Other	--	--	2	124	7	431	10	555	158	3,000
Total	(6)	23	9,030	528,000	7,340	420,000	16,400	948,000	1,680	46,100
January–December	901	10,700	90,700	5,130,000	100,000	5,780,000	192,000	10,900,000	18,400	560,000

-- 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” is not included in “Total.”

⁵Gross weight.

⁶Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
U.S. EXPORTS OF GOLD¹

(Kilograms, gold content unless otherwise specified)

Country or locality	Ores and concentrates ²		Doré and precipitates		Refined bullion ³		Total ⁴		Waste and scrap ⁵	
	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)	Quantity	Value (thousand)
2020	3,900	\$207,000	50,700	\$2,800,000	243,000	\$13,900,000	297,000	\$16,900,000	73,000	\$2,490,000
2021:										
November	326	17,200	7,100	412,000	9,520	557,000	16,900	987,000	4,640	204,000
December										
Australia	--	--	--	--	473	27,500	473	27,500	--	--
Belgium	--	--	--	--	29	1,660	29	1,660	--	--
Bermuda	--	--	--	--	(6)	15	(6)	15	--	--
Canada	--	--	616	33,000	83	4,880	700	37,900	5,930	262,000
China	(6)	13	1	76	--	--	2	90	--	--
Germany	97	5,350	3	184	(6)	4	100	5,540	--	--
Guatemala	--	--	--	--	3	178	3	178	--	--
Hong Kong	--	--	--	--	3,010	173,000	3,010	173,000	--	--
India	--	--	24	1,410	12	692	37	2,110	--	--
Italy	--	--	116	6,440	--	--	116	6,440	--	--
Japan	136	7,820	--	--	1	58	137	7,880	12	691
Mexico	--	--	--	--	11	593	11	593	--	--
Norfolk Island	68	3,900	--	--	--	--	68	3,900	--	--
Peru	--	--	--	--	26	1,460	26	1,460	--	--
Singapore	--	--	--	--	911	56,800	911	56,800	--	--
Switzerland	--	--	2,700	155,000	10,400	614,000	13,100	769,000	178	10,100
Taiwan	128	7,160	--	--	(6)	21	128	7,180	--	--
United Arab Emirates	--	--	102	5,670	2	114	104	5,790	--	--
United Kingdom	--	--	(6)	12	11,600	669,000	11,600	669,000	(6)	12
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	(6)	12	(6)	12	--	--
Other	--	--	(6)	10	(6)	23	1	33	8	407
Total	430	24,200	3,560	202,000	26,600	1,550,000	30,500	1,780,000	6,130	273,000
January–December	3,860	213,000	52,600	3,060,000	329,000	18,900,000	386,000	22,200,000	67,900	2,900,000

-- 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” is not included in “Total.”

⁵Gross weight.

⁶Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.