

U.S. Geological Survey

National Minerals Information Center

The mission of the USGS National Minerals Information Center (formerly the Minerals Information Team) is to collect, analyze, and disseminate information on the domestic and international supply of and demand for minerals and mineral materials essential to the U.S. economy and national security. More than 90 mineral commodities are covered, ranging from low-unit-value bulk mineral materials such as cement to high-unit-value specialty metals such as rhenium.

The Center's goal is to provide decisionmakers with the information required to ensure that the Nation has an adequate and dependable supply of minerals and materials to meet its defense and economic needs at acceptable costs related to environment, energy, and economics. These needs have been changing with changes in technology.

The public and private sectors rely on USGS minerals information to understand better the use of materials and the ultimate disposition of materials in the economy, to use national resources efficiently, and to forecast future supply and demand for minerals. Domestic and international minerals information is used in the analysis of policies, in formulating plans to deal with shortages and interruptions in supplies of minerals, and in the development of strategies to maintain a competitive position in the global economy. This is especially important for mineral commodities on which the United States is import-reliant.

The Center's minerals and materials analysis specialists are experts on mineral industries and markets and are available to answer inquiries from Federal and State agencies, domestic and international organizations, foreign governments, and the general public.

Partnerships

The National Minerals Information Center canvasses the nonfuel mining and mineral-processing industry in the United States for data on mineral production, consumption, recycling, stocks, and shipments. More than 140 surveys are conducted annually on mineral commodities—from abrasive materials to zirconium. Aggregated U.S. statistics are published because individual company data are proprietary and are not released. More than 18,000 producer and consumer establishments voluntarily complete about 40,000 survey forms annually. The USGS has cooperative agreements with the U.S. State governments to exchange data. In addition, the Center reports U.S. trade data collected by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

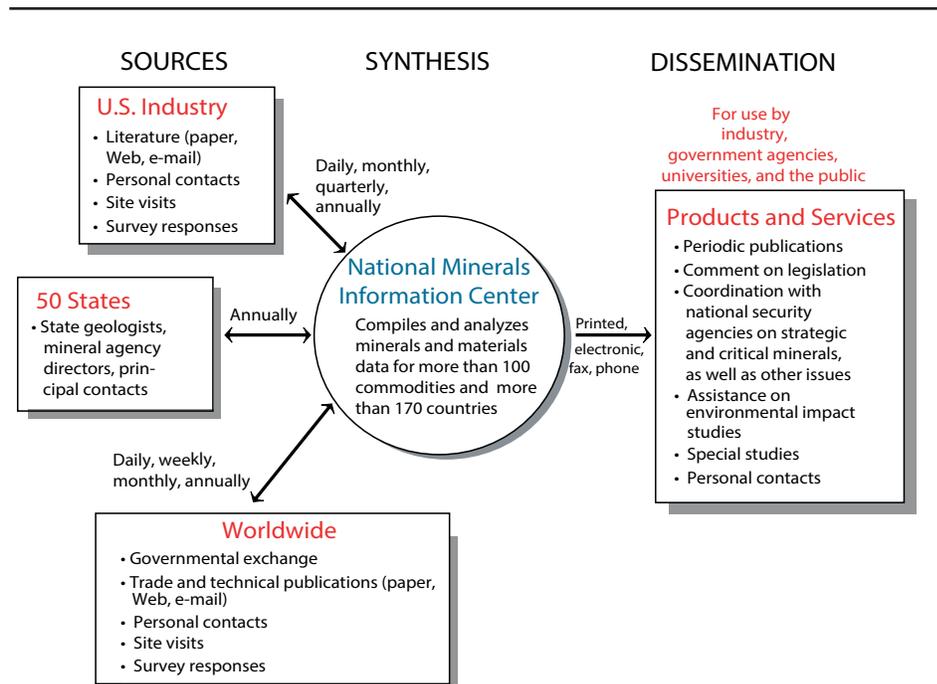
The Center also collects and publishes production data, trade data, and other

information for most of the countries of the world. International minerals information is directly obtained through questionnaires and exchanges from more than 150 countries annually.

Core Publications—Periodicals

Information is organized and published by commodity, country, and State:

- Mineral Commodity Summaries (annual, by commodity; includes preliminary statistics)
- Minerals Yearbook (annual)
 - Volume I: Metals and Minerals* (by commodity; includes all survey results, and information on economic and technical trends and developments)
 - Volume II: Area Reports—Domestic* (by State; relates geographically-pertinent mineral commodity statistics, and information from State agencies)



THE FLOW OF MINERALS INFORMATION

Volume III: Area Reports—

International (by country; provides an annual review of mineral production and trade and of mineral-related government and industry developments throughout the world)

- Mineral Industry Surveys (by commodity; presents monthly, quarterly, or other periodic survey results, and other salient statistics)
- Metal Industry Indicators (monthly; supplies leading and coincident indexes for primary metals, steel, copper, primary aluminum, and aluminum mill products)
- Nonmetallic Mineral Products Industry Indexes (monthly; supplies leading and coincident indexes for the Nonmetallic Mineral Products Industry)

Data Series Products

- Historical Statistics for Mineral Commodities in the United States
- International Mineral Exploration Activities From 1995 Through 2009 (with annual updates via special publications through 2014)
- Metal Prices in the United States 1900 through 2010 (with selected updates via periodicals up to 2015)
- Use of Raw Materials in the United States From 1900 Through 2010

Special Publications

The Center also conducts analyses of and develops information on minerals-related issues, including minerals conservation, sustainability, materials flow, availability, and the economic health of the U.S. minerals industry.

Examples:

Current Events

- Conflict Minerals from the Democratic Republic of the Congo - a series of fact sheets on the supply chains of tin, tantalum, tungsten and gold in response to U.S. legislation aimed at identifying and removing the supply chain links between the trade in these minerals and

civil unrest in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and adjacent countries

- The Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak and the Mineral Sectors of Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone
- Recent Trends in Cuba's Mining and Petroleum Industries

Materials Flow, Sustainability, and Stocks

- Byproduct Metals and Rare-Earth Elements Used in the Production of Light-Emitting Diodes—Overview of Principal Sources of Supply and Material Requirements for Selected Markets
- Cobalt Mineral Exploration and Supply From 1995 Through 2013
- Estimated Water Requirements for the Conventional Flotation of Copper Ores
- Estimates of Electricity Requirements for the Recovery of Mineral Commodities, with Examples Applied to Sub-Saharan Africa
- Flows of Selected Materials Associated with World Copper Smelting
- Material Use in the United States—Selected Case Studies for Cadmium, Cobalt, Lithium, and Nickel in Rechargeable Batteries

Recycling

- Comparison of the U.S. Lead Recycling Industry in 1998 and 2011
- Flow Studies for Recycling Metal Commodities in the United States (26 metals from aluminum to zinc)

Where To Obtain Products

- World Wide Web at URL <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/nmic>

Includes all periodic publications in PDF and XLS formats.

- Email notification for new information products is available; instructions are provided at <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/listservices.html>.
- Printed publications are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office

(GPO). Products sold by GPO may be purchased by credit card or check and may be ordered by fax, phone, mail, or online. The National Minerals Information Center and GPO list stock numbers and prices on their Web pages.

GPO telephone sales: **866-512-1800**

GPO fax: **202-512-2104**

GPO URL: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/>

Contacts and Organization

The National Minerals Information Center is part of the Northeast Region of the U.S. Geological Survey. The program sections listed below are composed of mineral commodity specialists, country specialists, and materials flow analysts. The support sections include computer specialists, statistical assistants, and statisticians.

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