

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## GOLD IN DECEMBER 2018

Production of gold at U.S. mines was about 19,200 kilograms (kg) in December, a slight decrease compared with revised November production and a 4% decrease compared with December 2017 production (fig. 1, table 1). The preliminary 2018 annual gold production was 211,000 kg, an 11% decrease compared to 2017 annual production (table 1).

Based on unrounded data, the average daily gold production for U.S. mines was about 620 kg in December 2018, about 645 kg for November 2018, about 579 kg for 2018, and about 649 kg for 2017.

**Prices**

The average monthly Engelhard gold price in December increased for the third consecutive month to \$1,254.16 per troy ounce, a \$35.54 per troy ounce increase from the average price in November 2018 (table 2) (fig. 2). The daily price in December ranged between low of \$1,236.75 per troy ounce on December 14 and a high of \$1,283.83 per troy ounce on December 31.

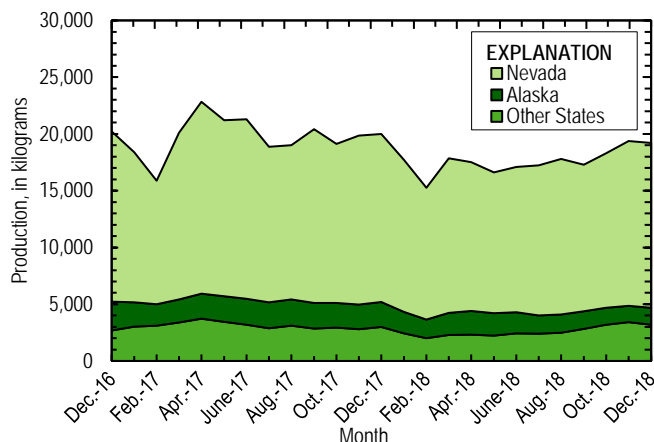


Figure 1. Domestic gold mine production from December 2016 through December 2018.

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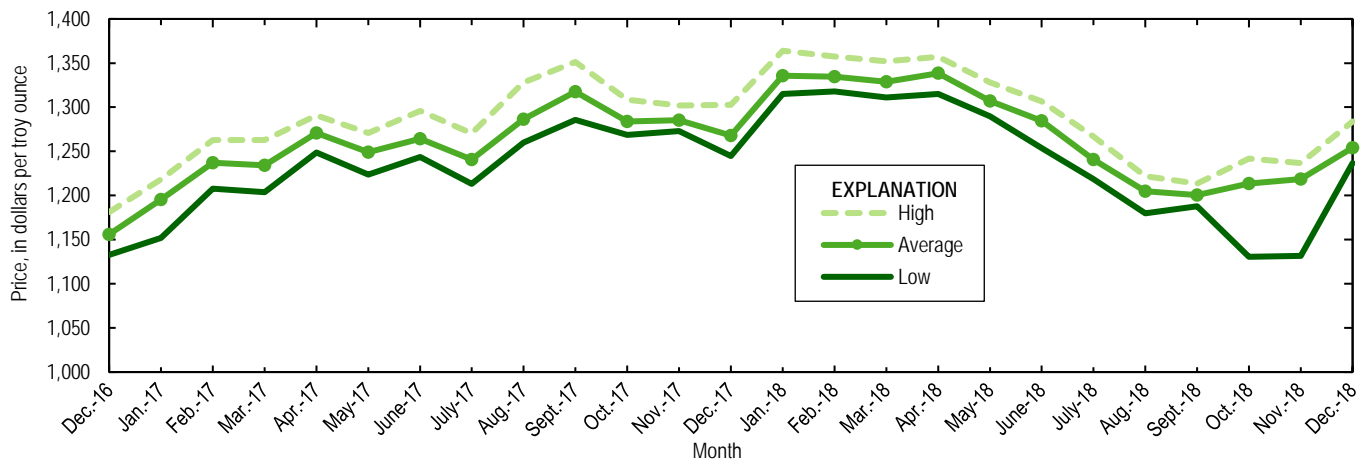


Figure 2. Engelhard monthly gold prices for December 2016 through December 2018. Source: Platts Metals Week.

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

(Kilograms)

	Alaska	Nevada	Other States <sup>2</sup>	Total
<b>2017:<sup>P</sup></b>				
January	2,160	13,200	3,020	18,300
February	1,880	10,900	3,110	15,900
March	2,040	14,700	3,380	20,100
April	2,210	16,900	3,720	22,800
May	2,270	15,500	3,440	21,200
June	2,280	15,800	3,200	21,200
July	2,290	13,700	2,870	18,900
August	2,310	13,600	3,100	19,000
September	2,260	15,300	2,850	20,400
October	2,190	14,000	2,930	19,200
November	2,150	14,900	2,810	19,800
December	2,200	14,800	2,990	20,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,200</b>	<b>173,000</b>	<b>37,400</b>	<b>237,000</b>
<b>2018:</b>				
January	1,870	13,400	2,440	17,700
February	1,640	11,600	2,010	15,300
March	1,940	13,600	2,300	17,800 <sup>r</sup>
April	2,090	13,100	2,330	17,600
May	1,980	12,400	2,240	16,600 <sup>r</sup>
June	1,860	12,800	2,430	17,100
July	1,610 <sup>r</sup>	13,200	2,410	17,200 <sup>r</sup>
August	1,610 <sup>r</sup>	13,700	2,480	17,800 <sup>r</sup>
September	1,560 <sup>r</sup>	12,900	2,820	17,300 <sup>r</sup>
October	1,510 <sup>r</sup>	13,600 <sup>r</sup>	3,190 <sup>r</sup>	18,300
November	1,460 <sup>r</sup>	14,500 <sup>r</sup>	3,410 <sup>r</sup>	19,400 <sup>r</sup>
December	1,510	14,500	3,190	19,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,600</b>	<b>159,000</b>	<b>31,300</b>	<b>211,000</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, Utah, and Washington.

TABLE 2  
GOLD PRICES

(Dollars per troy ounce)

	Price	Date
<b>Engelhard:</b>		
2017:		
Low	1,152.10	Jan. 3
High	1,351.44	Sep. 8
Average	1,261.04	XX
2018:		
November:		
Low	1,131.57	Nov. 7
High	1,236.75	Nov. 6
Average	1,218.62	XX
December:		
Low	1,236.75	Dec. 14
High	1,283.83	Dec. 31
Average	1,254.16	XX
Year to Date:		
Low	1,130.57	Oct. 19
High	1,363.96	Jan. 25
Average	1,271.62	XX
<b>Handy and Harman:</b>		
2017, Average	1,257.53	XX
2018:		
November	1,220.65	XX
December:	1,250.40	XX
Year to Date	1,268.67	XX
<b>London Final:</b>		
2017, Average	1,257.13	XX
2018:		
November	1,220.95	XX
December	1,247.92	XX
Year to Date	1,267.98	XX

XX Not applicable.

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3  
U.S. IMPORTS AND 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 (gross weight)	Metal powder (gross weight)	Gold compounds (gross weight)
<b>Imports for consumption:</b>							
2017	342	154,000	99,900	255,000	18,300	216	1,980
<b>2018:</b>							
November	--	9,500	8,100	17,600	1,360	18	156
<b>December:</b>							
Canada	16	372	1,510	1,900	383	--	--
Chile	--	185	--	185	--	--	--
Colombia	--	740	199	939	11	--	--
Curacao	--	121	--	121	--	--	--
Dominican Republic	--	138	--	138	160	--	--
Ecuador	--	351	--	351	54	--	--
Honduras	--	132	--	132	94	--	--
Mexico	--	6,250	671	6,920	188	3	--
Nicaragua	--	500	134	634	100	--	--
Peru	--	2,320	1,730	4,040	--	--	--
South Africa	--	--	4,900	4,900	--	--	--
Switzerland	--	218	13	231	--	--	13
Other	--	74	187	261	187	26	110
Total	16	11,400	9,340	20,800	1,180	29	123
January–December	79	132,000	81,200	213,000	15,000	464	3,460
<b>Exports:</b>							
2017	3,610	176,000	281,000	461,000	114,000	382	766,000
<b>2018:</b>							
November	329	8,060	18,500	26,800	10,500	54 <sup>r</sup>	75,600
<b>December:</b>							
Canada	--	9	22	30	8,330	--	35
Hong Kong	--	3,000	29	3,030	--	2	--
India	--	4,320	1	4,320	1	16	27
Italy	--	399	--	399	385	--	--
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	17,100	--	49
Mexico	--	--	144	144	--	--	485
Netherlands	399	--	--	399	--	--	--
Singapore	--	1	--	1	--	--	312
Switzerland	--	2,990	283	3,280	--	--	--
United Arab Emirates	--	398	142	541	--	--	--
United Kingdom	--	--	16,100	16,100	--	2	1
Other	108	3	43	154	69	3	192
Total	507	11,100	16,700	28,400	25,900	24	1,100
January–December	4,710	170,000	299,000	474,000	124,000	525	472,000

-- Zero. <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 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," "Metal powder," and "Gold compounds" are not included in "Total."

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.