Minerals Make Economic Growth

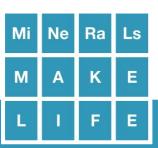
By creating high-paying jobs and providing the raw materials essential to manufacturing, minerals mining helps stimulate economic recovery.

Jobs and Wages

- A job in U.S. metals mining carries an average salary of approximately \$85,500 a year—74 percent higher than the combined average of all private sector jobsⁱ.
- More than 1.3 million U.S. jobs are supported through minerals mining 433,000 Americans are directly employed and more than 872,000 are indirectly employedⁱⁱ.
- For every job in metals mining, an estimated 2.9 additional jobs are generated, and for every nonmetals mining job, an additional 1.8 jobs are createdⁱⁱ.
- In July 2011, 9,000 Americans found jobs in mining—including minerals mining— despite 9.1 percent unemployment nationwideⁱⁱⁱ.

Economic Contributions and Taxes

- Minerals mining paid more than \$27 billion in federal, state and local taxes in 2011^{iv}.
- The mining of just eight minerals (zinc, lead, potash, silver, molybdenum, gold, copper and iron ore) is worth \$6 billion^v.
- The estimated value of mineral raw materials produced at U.S. mines in 2012 was \$76 billion^{vi}.
- In 2012, domestically produced and recycled minerals were used to process materials—such as aluminum, brick, copper, fertilizers and steel—worth \$700 billion^{vi}.
- Construction, manufacturing and other major U.S. industries used mineral materials to generate products that added more than \$2.3 trillion to the economy in 2012 roughly 15 percent of GDP^{vi}.



Sources

Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2012

- ⁱⁱ NMA calculations based on MSHA mine employment data and the IMPLAN modeling system (2011 database)
- iii Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Situation Summary July 2011
- $^{\mbox{\scriptsize iv}}$ NMA calculations based on IMPLAN modeling system (2011 database)
- ^v U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Department of Defense
- vi U.S. Geological Survey, Mineral Commodity Summaries 2013

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