



NEWS RELEASE

NRCan forecasts 2015 Exploration Expenditures: up 28% in Nunavut, down 9% in NWT and down 2% in Yukon

(Yellowknife, NT – November 6, 2015) Revised Federal government projections for 2015 mineral exploration and deposit appraisal spending are ‘up’ in Nunavut and down in Yukon and the Northwest Territories. Natural Resources Canada’s (NRCan) latest semi-annual report *Exploration and Deposit Appraisal Expenditures, by Province and Territory* provides the following spending intentions for 2015:

- \$93 million in the NWT, down \$8.7 million (9%) from 2014 expenditures of \$101.7 million;
- \$202.5 million in Nunavut, an increase of \$44.5 million (28%) from \$158 million in 2014; and
- \$104.8 million in Yukon, a decrease of \$2.3 million (2%) from \$107.1 million in 2014.

The majority of spending in the NWT in 2015 is expected to be for diamonds and in Nunavut on precious metals. Junior companies in the NWT are projected to dominate exploration spending at 57% of the 2015 total, while in Nunavut the seniors are expected to spend the majority at 60% of the total exploration with senior companies spending the majority. In the NWT, 56% of the spending is projected to be on grassroots exploration, the remainder on deposit appraisal. In Nunavut, 39% of the spending is projected to be on grassroots exploration, with the majority on deposit appraisal.

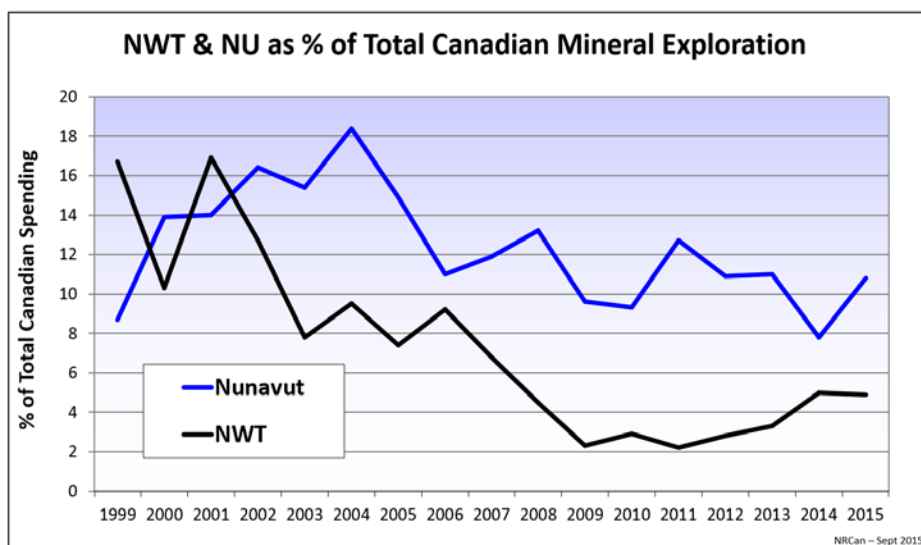
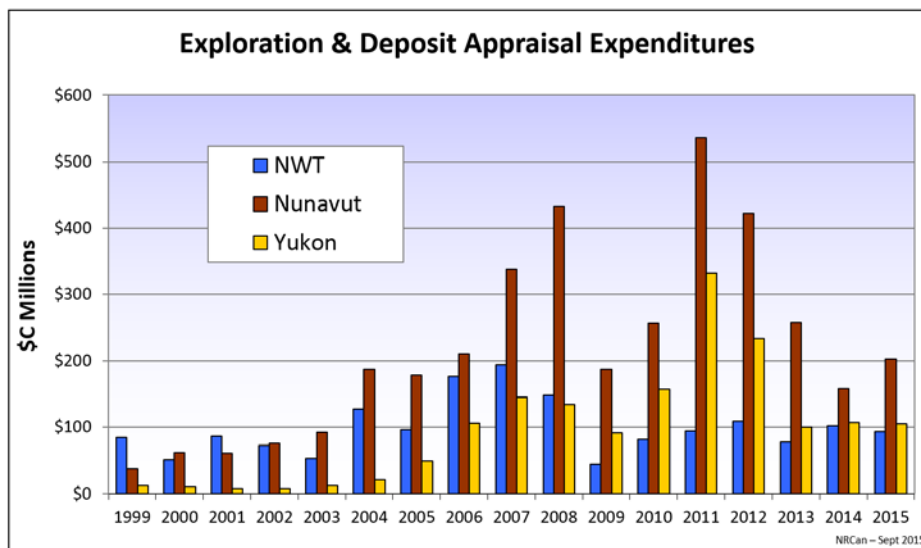
As a share of projected Canadian investment, Nunavut remains in fifth place, the Yukon remains in sixth place, and the NWT rises to seventh place.

NRCan projects that total Canadian exploration and deposit appraisal expenditures for 2015 will be \$1,879.8 million, a decrease of 7% from \$2,017.4 million for 2014.

Charts for northern Canada’s historical and projected performance are attached as a **Backgrounder** to this release. NRCan’s data can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).

For more information on the NWT and Nunavut mining industries, contact Tom Hoefer, Executive Director at Tel: 867-873-5281 or email: executivedirector@miningnorth.com. Visit the Chamber website at: www.miningnorth.com.

BACKGROUNDER



Note: Expenditures reported include on-mine-site and off-mine-site activities, field work, overhead costs, engineering, economic and pre- or production feasibility studies, environment, and land access costs. 2015 figures are revised spending intentions as of September 2015.

Source: Natural Resources Canada, from the federal-provincial-territorial Survey of Mineral Exploration, Deposit Appraisal and Mine Complex Development Expenditures. Exploration and deposit appraisal activities include only the search for and appraisal of deposits and do not include work for extensions of known reserves. Natural Resources Canada's data can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).