



NEWS RELEASE

Nunavut and Northwest Territories Mining Revenues Down But Still Significant

Yellowknife, NT (April 4, 2016) The value of mining production has decreased in the Northwest Territories and in Nunavut over the last year, as they have in Canada according to Federal government statistics released in March.

Preliminary estimates for 2015 mineral production posted by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) show that the total value of NWT mining production is \$1.791 billion, down \$92 million (5%) from \$1.882 billion in 2014. Of this:

- Diamond production value is \$1.726 billion, down \$66 million (4%) from \$1.791 billion;
- Tungsten value is \$56.5 million, down \$28 million (33%) from \$84.3 million; and
- Copper value is \$1.35 million, down \$0.43 million (24%) from \$1.78 million.

In Nunavut, the total value of mining production was \$567 million, down \$69 million (12%) from \$636 million in 2014. Of this:

- Gold production value was \$563 million, down \$71 million (11%) from \$634 million in 2014; and
- Silver production value was \$4.6 million up \$1.8 million (63%) from \$2.9 million last year.

In Canada, preliminary estimates for 2015 production are also down to \$42.766 billion, a drop of \$1.134 billion (3%) from \$43.900 billion in 2014.

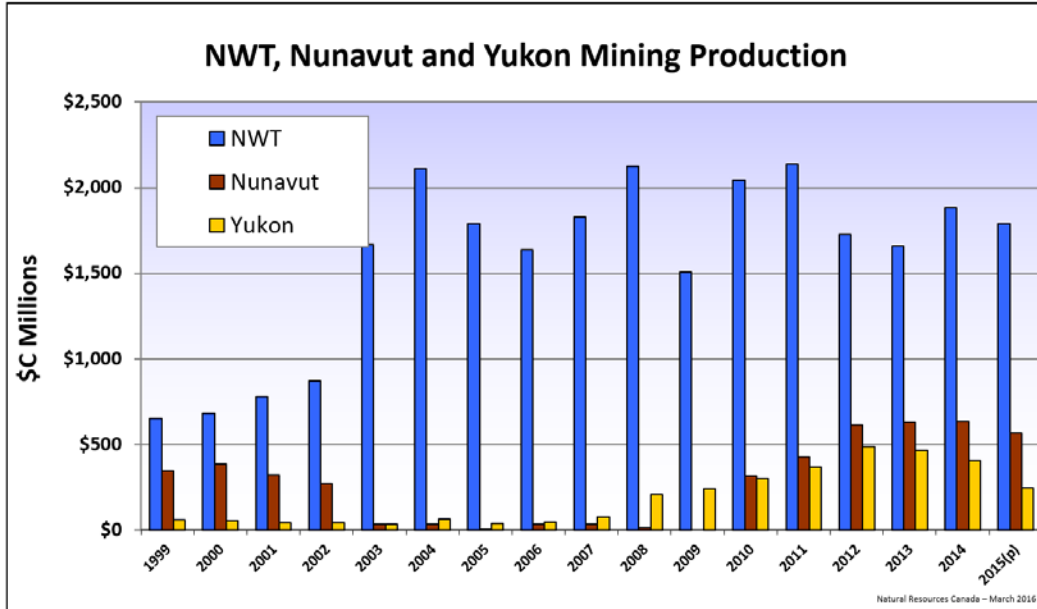
“As price takers in the market place, our northern mines are not immune to global commodity prices. As a result, mineral production is down in all three northern territories, as it is in Canada. However, the revenue and benefits produced from mining continue to be important contributors to our economies,” said Chamber of Mines President Gary Vivian. “Markets are cyclical, and this will turn around in time. Of course, we still need to encourage exploration and investment to sustain our industry. Two mine closures in the NWT remind us of the importance of taking actions to attract exploration investment to help us find the mines of tomorrow. The keys to creating an attractive investment climate are regulatory reform and landlord clarity as well as increasing the supply of infrastructure and other incentives that can help address the higher cost of doing business in the North.”

See attached **Backgrounder** for charts of the NWT and Nunavut data. Visit NRCan’s site [here](#) to examine detailed source statistics.

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

BACKGROUNDER

Value of Mineral Production, 2015(p)



Commodity	2015(p)	2014	Difference	% change
Northwest Territories (\$ millions)				
Diamonds	\$1,725.559	\$1,791.342	-\$65.78	-4%
Tungsten	\$56.536	\$84.331	-\$27.80	-33%
Copper	\$1.350	\$1.780	-\$0.43	-24%
Sand & Gravel	na	na		
Stone	na	na		
Total NWT (\$millions)	\$1,790.566	\$1,882.373	-\$91.81	- 5%
Nunavut (\$ millions)				
Gold	\$562.541	\$633.573	-\$71.03	- 11%
Silver	\$4.647	\$2.851	\$1.80	+ 63%
Total Nunavut (\$millions)	\$567.188	\$636.424	-\$69.24	- 11%
Note: na – detailed data not published				
Canada (\$ millions)				
Total Canada (\$ millions)	\$42,765.966	\$43,900.395	-\$1,134.429	- 3%

Click [here](#) for Natural Resources Canada's detailed statistics.