



# information

## BULLETIN

MARCH 2008

## MINERAL PRODUCTION

### 2007 Canadian Mineral Production<sup>1</sup> Exceeds \$40 Billion

In 2007, Canadian mineral production reached \$40.4 billion, a 19.0% increase from 2006. This increase was due to significant growth in the value of both metallic and nonmetallic mineral production. Metallic mineral production for 2007 reached \$26.3 billion, an increase of 25.1%, while nonmetallic mineral production increased by 13.0% to \$11.3 billion. The 2007 value of coal production decreased to \$2.8 billion in 2007 from \$2.9 billion in 2006, a decline of 4.3%.

#### Metals

The overall value of metallic mineral production increased 25.1% in 2007, up from \$21.1 billion in 2006. Nickel and uranium showed dramatic increases in value of 60.6% and 76.3%, respectively.

Nickel production reached \$9.9 billion in 2007. A contributing factor to this increase was the 45.9% rise in the price of nickel from \$27.46/kg in 2006 to \$40.39/kg in 2007. This growth meant that the value of nickel production accounted for almost 25% of Canada's total mineral production. The volume of nickel production in Canada rose by 9.2% from 2006.

Uranium saw a significant increase in its value of production from \$1.4 billion in 2006 to \$2.5 billion in 2007 due to the 89.8% increase in its price; its production volume decreased 7.0% from 2006.

Gold showed a moderate increase in its value of production (4.2%), but had a slight decrease in volume (3.2%). The value of copper production increased only slightly in 2007 to \$4.5 billion. However, it still comprised over 11% of Canada's total mineral production. Zinc declined 4.3% in value to \$2.1 billion in 2007.

Other metals that boasted significant increases in value of production for 2007 were bismuth (89.0%), cadmium (88.3%), cobalt (78.9%), and lead (72.0%).

#### Nonmetals

Nonmetallic mineral production in 2007 reached \$11.3 billion, up from \$10.0 billion in 2006. Potash, diamonds, cement, and sand and gravel all contributed to the increase.

In 2007, potash topped the list of nonmetallic minerals with the largest production increases in both volume (34.1%) and value (40.2%). This moved potash's rank to the third leading mineral by value of output in Canada, up from fifth in 2006. Higher demand for potash contributed to this increase.

Canadian diamond production in 2007 recorded a 28.1% increase in volume, to 17.0 million carats, and a 12.7% increase in value compared to 2006.

Cement accounted for almost 16.0% of the total nonmetallic mineral production in Canada. The 2007 volume of cement stayed fairly stable with a slight increase of 1.0%, but its value rose by 7.7% to \$1.8 billion.

The quantity of sand and gravel produced dipped slightly in 2007 by 1.6%, but the value grew 3.2% overall. Stone fell in volume and value of production, but still managed to rank 11th overall in value of output. Quartz had a notable 5.5% increase in volume and a significant 16.2% increase in value.

#### Coal

In terms of Canadian mineral production, coal ranks fourth by value of output in Canada and, at \$2.8 billion, makes up 6.8% of Canada's total mineral production. In 2007, coal saw an increase of 5.5% in volume produced, but a drop of 4.3% in value.

#### Provincial and Territorial Perspectives

Nine of the thirteen provinces and territories boasted increases in their overall value of mineral production in 2007.

Newfoundland and Labrador showed an impressive 65.7% increase in its overall value of mineral production. This was mainly due to a 60.4% rise in the volume of nickel produced in the province and a 135.9% increase in the value of nickel production.

Saskatchewan's sizeable increase of 50.4% in value of total mineral production was attributable to a 73.2% increase in the value of metallic mineral production and a 36.4% increase in the value of other mineral production. The value of uranium produced in the province reached a record high \$2.5 billion, an increase of 76.3% from 2006.

Quebec's 2007 value of mineral production rose by 21.0% to \$5.5 billion due, in part, to a 57.5% increase in the value of nickel produced.

The percentage increases in the value of mineral production for the rest of Canada were as follows: Manitoba, 19.4%; Nunavut, 16.4%; Yukon, 14.8%; Northwest Territories, 12.6%; Ontario, 12.1%; Alberta, 8.6%; and New Brunswick, 2.0%. The only decreases in 2007 occurred in British Columbia (5.3%), Nova Scotia (7.1%), and Prince Edward Island (18.9%).

Ontario continued to lead the country in its percentage share of Canada's mineral output in 2007 at 26.4%, just slightly down from 2006. Saskatchewan moved into second place with 14.4%, just edging out British Columbia who was third at 14.0%. Quebec dropped to fourth place with 13.7% and Newfoundland and Labrador held onto its fifth-place ranking with a 12.4% share.

<sup>1</sup> Canadian mineral production reflects the shipments of metallic minerals, nonmetallic minerals, and coal produced in mines and quarries in Canada.



## PRODUCTION OF CANADA'S LEADING MINERALS, 2007 (p)

	Production 2007 (p)	Change From 2006	Value 2007 (p)	Change From 2006
	(000 tonnes except where noted)	(%)	(\$ millions)	(%)
<b>METALLIC MINERALS</b>				
Nickel	245.1	9.2	9 902.2	60.6
Copper	577.3	-1.6	4 533.2	1.4
Uranium (1)	9.1	-7.0	2 522.7	76.3
Iron ore	33 158.3	-1.1	2 512.1	-0.7
Gold (kg)	100 156.8	-3.2	2 376.9	4.2
Zinc	584.7	-2.8	2 087.9	-4.3
Other metals	n.a.	n.a.	2 410.0	20.7
<b>Total metals</b>	n.a.	n.a.	26 344.9	25.1
<b>NONMETALLIC MINERALS</b>				
Potash (K <sub>2</sub> O) (2)	11 426.2	34.1	3 142.3	40.2
Cement (3)	14 737.5	1.0	1 802.4	7.7
Diamonds (000 ct)	17 007.9	28.1	(a) 1 444.7	(r) -9.6
Stone (4)	145 824.5	-5.2	1 333.1	-2.9
Sand and gravel (4)	234 658.4	-1.6	1 316.5	3.2
Other nonmetals	n.a.	n.a.	2 230.6	4.8
<b>Total nonmetals</b>	n.a.	n.a.	11 269.5	13.0
<b>FUELS</b>				
Coal	69 541.0	5.5	2 761.0	-4.3

n.a. Not applicable; (p) Preliminary; (r) Revised.

(a) The value for diamonds has been revised to \$1 779.8 million.

(1) Uranium value is calculated using spot market prices. (2) Excludes shipments to potassium sulphate plants.

(3) Includes exported clinker minus imported clinker. (4) Excludes shipments of sand and gravel and stone to Canadian cement, lime and clay plants.

## TOTAL VALUE OF CANADIAN MINERAL PRODUCTION, 2006 AND 2007 (p)

	2006	2007 (p)	Change
	(\$ millions)		%
Metals	21 056.6	26 344.9	25.1
Nonmetals	9 973.8	11 269.5	13.0
<b>Total non-fuels</b>	31 030.4	37 614.4	21.2
Coal	2 886.2	2 761.0	-4.3
<b>Total production</b>	33 916.6	40 375.4	19.0

Sources: Natural Resources Canada; Statistics Canada.  
(p) Preliminary.

## PERCENTAGE SHARE OF CANADA'S MINERAL OUTPUT IN 2007 (p)

Ontario	26.4
Saskatchewan	14.4
British Columbia	14.0
Quebec	13.7
Newfoundland and Labrador	12.4
Manitoba	6.2
Alberta	4.3
New Brunswick	3.9
Northwest Territories	3.7
Nova Scotia	0.7
Yukon	0.1
Nunavut	0.1
Prince Edward Island	...

... Amount too small to be expressed;  
(p) Preliminary.

## MINERAL PRODUCTION BY PROVINCE AND TERRITORY, 2007 (p)

	Metallics	Nonmetallics	Coal	Total
	(\$000)			
Newfoundland and Labrador	4 971 829	47 811	–	5 019 640
Prince Edward Island	–	4 089	–	4 089
Nova Scotia	–	x	x	300 000
New Brunswick	1 231 301	x	x	1 569 239
Quebec	3 935 994	1 579 789	–	5 515 783
Ontario	8 182 307	2 492 810	–	10 675 117
Manitoba	2 359 839	133 617	–	2 493 455
Saskatchewan	2 555 720	x	x	5 831 555
Alberta	1 247	x	x	1 716 423
British Columbia	2 987 344	719 615	1 964 626	5 671 586
Yukon	47 417	5 763	–	53 179
Northwest Territories	71 875	1 421 010	–	1 492 885
Nunavut	–	32 431	–	32 431
<b>Total</b>	26 344 873	11 269 529	2,760,980	40 375 382

Sources: Natural Resources Canada; Statistics Canada.

– Nil; (p) Preliminary; x Confidential.

Notes: Numbers may not add due to rounding. Production is based on shipments. For full details of the methods used in computing the mineral production of Canada, please refer to the Appendix in Statistics Canada cat. no. 26-202-XIB.

## LEADING MINERALS BY VALUE OF OUTPUT IN 2007 (p)

	(\$ billions)
Nickel	9.9
Copper	4.5
Potash (K <sub>2</sub> O) (1)	3.1
Coal	2.8
Uranium (2)	2.5
Iron ore	2.5
Gold	2.4
Zinc	2.1
Cement (3)	1.8
Diamonds	1.4
Stone (4)	1.3
Sand and gravel (4)	1.3

(p) Preliminary.

(1) Excludes shipments to potassium sulphate plants. (2) Uranium value is calculated using spot market prices.

(3) Includes exported clinker minus imported clinker. (4) Excludes shipments of sand and gravel and stone to Canadian cement, lime and clay plants.

### For more information:

Further details on the most recent production survey results are available on Natural Resources Canada's Minerals and Mining Statistics Division's web site at [http://mmsd1.mms.nrcan.gc.ca/mmsd/production/default\\_e.asp](http://mmsd1.mms.nrcan.gc.ca/mmsd/production/default_e.asp) or by contacting:

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**Additional information is available at these Internet sites:**  
**Minerals and Metals:** [www.nrcan.gc.ca/mms/topi-suje/met\\_e.htm](http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/mms/topi-suje/met_e.htm)  
**Mining in Canada:** [www.nrcan.gc.ca/mms/topi-suje/min\\_e.htm](http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/mms/topi-suje/min_e.htm)



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