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# Key Facts From the 2014-2023 Mining Sector Performance Report

#### **Mineral Production**

The value of Canada's mineral production increased by an average of **3%** annually between 2014 and 2023 with some fluctuation during the period. An initial increase and decrease during the first seven years were followed by an increasing trend from 2020 until the end of the period.



Sources: Natural Resources Canada; Statistics Canada

#### Capital Expenditures

Capital expenditures in the minerals sector experienced an average annual increase of 5% between 2014 and 2023. The increase was driven by spending in the mining and quarrying (not including oil and gas) subsector, which contributed an average of 71% of total sector investment



Source: Natural Resources Canada calculations, based on Statistics Canada data

#### Mineral Trade

The value of Canada's domestic mineral exports increased by an average of **3%** each year between 2014 and 2023 and reached a 10-year high of **\$151 billion** in 2019. The minerals sector routinely makes a positive contribution to Canada's overall balance of trade, with a surplus of just over **\$275 billion** between 2014 and 2023.



Source: Natural Resources Canada calculations, based on Statistics Canada data

#### R&D Spending

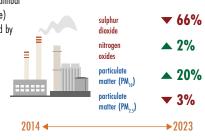
Business expenditures on research and development in the minerals sector increased an average of 1% each year between 2016 and 2023 (complete data for 2014, 2015, 2017 were unavailable). The dollar value of spending decreased overall from \$954 million in 2016 to \$759 million in 2023.



Source: Statistics Canada

#### Air Emissions

Between 2014 and 2023, average annual air emissions of  $SO_2$  (sulphur dioxide) and  $NO_x$  (nitrogen oxides) decreased by **9% and 0.02%**, respectively. Over the same period, average annual emissions of  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  (particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometres and less than 10 micrometres) increased by **0.3% and 4%**, respectively.



Sources: Environment and Climate Change Canada; National Pollutant Release Inventory

#### **Employment**

The number of people employed in the minerals sector grew from 375,670 in 2014 to 401,435 in 2023, with an average annual increase of 1%. Over the same period, the proportion of Indigenous Peoples employed in the industry increased annually by an average of 7%. The wage gap between men and women in the sector was highly variable, with women averaging \$3.94 less per hour worked than their male

Source: Labour Force Survey (Statistics Canada)

#### | Greenhouse Gas Emissions

There was an average annual decrease of 3% in the intensity of greenhouse gas emissions in the minerals sector between 2014 and 2023.

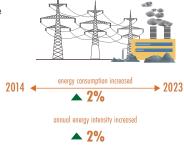


401,435

Sources: Canadian Energy and Emissions Data Centre; Statistics Canada

#### **Energy Intensity**

Average annual energy consumption in the minerals sector increased **2%** and average annual energy intensity increased **2%** between 2014 and 2023. The sector accounted for an average of 10% of total Canadian energy use each year during the same period.



Sources: Canadian Energy and Emissions Data Centre; Statistics Canada

## Workplace Health and Safety

The rate of fatal injuries in the minerals sector decreased by an average of **3%**, while the rate of non-fatal injuries increased by **3%** each year between 2014 and 2022. Data for 2023 were not available.



 $Sources: Association \ of \ Workers' \ Compensation \ Boards \ of \ Canada; \ Statistics \ Canada$ 

#### Mine Effluent and Releases to Surface Water

The number of mines subject to Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations increased **42%** from 125 to 178 operations between 2014 and 2023. Between **97%** and **100%** of reported data for arsenic, copper, cyanide, lead, nickel, radium 226, zinc, total suspended solids and pH were within authorized limits.



Sources: Environment and Climate Change Canada; National Pollutant Release Inventory