

# 2015 Mining Sector Review

The mining sector contributes to employment creation and economic prosperity across various communities in New Brunswick. In 2015, the sector comprised around 70 primary mining businesses that generated about \$440 million in revenues. Potash, peat, stone, and zinc are the main mineral commodities. New Brunswick is the largest exporter of mineral products in the Maritimes estimated at about \$590 million in 2015. The main export destinations are the United States, Brazil and Colombia, accounting for 62 per cent, 13 per cent and 7 per cent of export share, respectively. In 2015, the sector created approximately 2,300 full time equivalent jobs in primary activities and 3,500 full time equivalent jobs in processing activities.

## 2015 Highlights

- New Brunswick's total value of primary mining production remained relatively stable at around \$440 million in 2015 compared to 2014.
- A large share of the total value comes from potash mining. However, one main mine closed down in November 2015, while another suspended its operations in January 2016. These changes are expected to significantly reduce potash production in 2016.
- The value of peat rose by \$6 million (12 per cent) in 2015 to a total of \$62 million. This resulted mainly due to an increase in the harvested volume by 30,000 tonnes (9 per cent), to 371,000 tonnes in 2015.

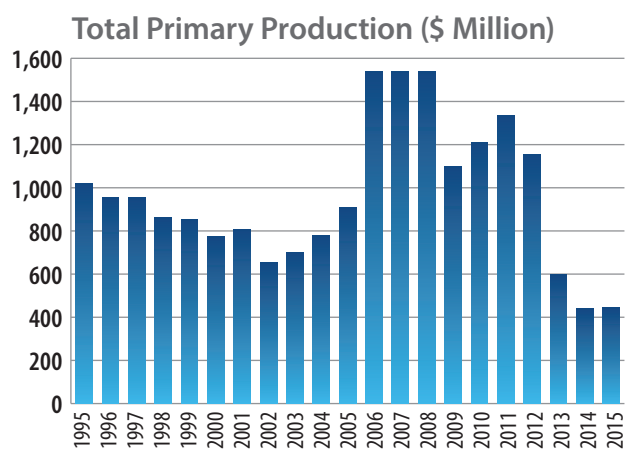
## Industry at a Glance

Number of primary mining businesses	73
Number of processing mining businesses	158
Value of primary mining production	\$444 million
Value of processed mining product shipments	x
Value of exports	\$590 million
GDP (direct)	\$826 million
Employment-primary (FTEs)	2,300
Employment-processing (FTEs)	3,500

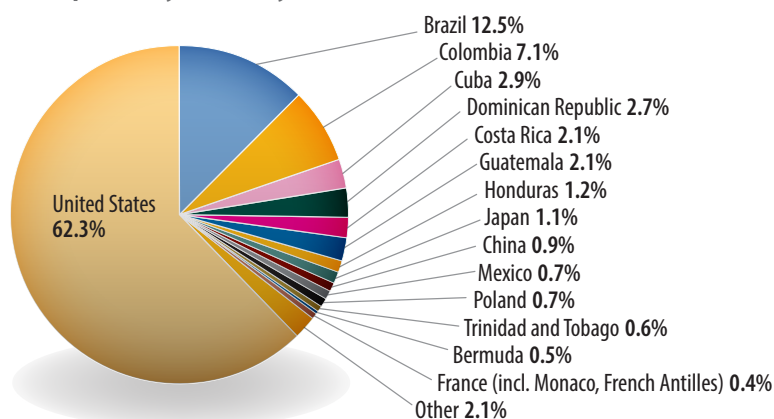
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## Exports by Country

Country	Value (\$ Million)	
	2014	2015
United States	418.3	368.0
Brazil	22.0	74.0
Colombia	36.7	42.0
Cuba	27.1	17.0
Dominican Republic	14.3	16.0
Costa Rica	8.2	12.5
Guatemala	9.8	12.3
Honduras	11.0	7.2
Japan	8.7	6.3
China	5.4	5.3
Mexico	8.9	4.3
Poland	0.2	4.3
Trinidad and Tobago	4.2	3.5
Bermuda	0.1	2.8
France (incl. Monaco, French Antilles)	1.1	2.6
Other	11.7	12.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>587.6</b>	<b>590.4</b>



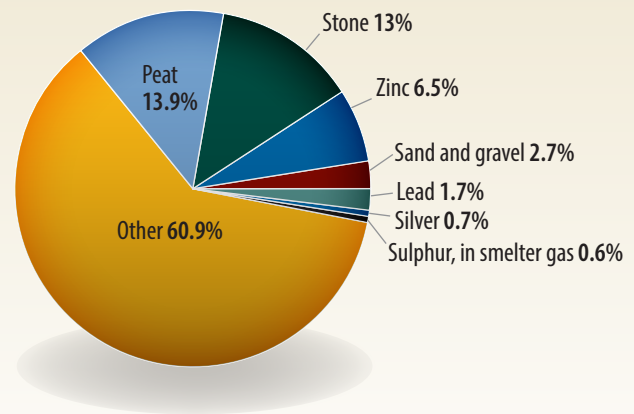
## Exports by Country (\$590 Million)



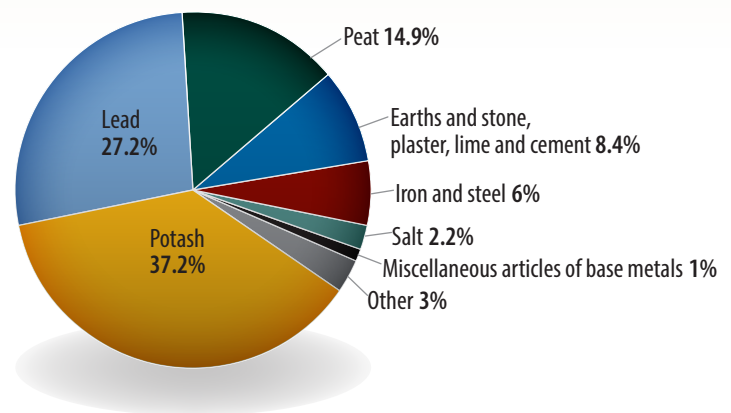
## 2015 Highlights Continued

- The value of stone production increased by about \$5 million (9 per cent) to nearly \$58 million in 2015. This was attributable to gains from an increase in harvested volume outweighing a slight drop in average price. Particularly, harvested volume increased by over 1 million tonnes (19 per cent) to approximately 7 million tonnes in 2015, while the average price fell \$0.69 (8 per cent) to \$7.99.
- In 2015, the value of zinc products reported in New Brunswick was \$28 million. This value corresponds to 13,000 tonnes of zinc produced in 2015.
- The value of sand and gravel remained stable at approximately \$12 million in 2015. Although the volume of sand and gravel increased by 370,000 tonnes (17 per cent), the average price dropped \$0.76/tonne (14 per cent) to \$4.72/tonne, stabilizing the total value.
- New Brunswick mining export revenues stabilized at \$590 million in 2015.
- The United States continues to be New Brunswick's most important trading partner for mineral commodities with \$368 million in sales, down 13 per cent from 2014.
- Brazil and Colombia were the next most important destinations for New Brunswick's mineral exports at \$74 million and \$42 million, respectively. Exports to Brazil more than tripled in 2015, while those to Colombia were up nearly 15 per cent, compared to 2014. This resulted from higher potash sales to these countries.
- Potash exports were stable at about \$220 million in 2015, contributing close to 40% of total mineral exports. However, these exports are expected to be significantly lower in 2016 due to the closure of main potash mines.

Primary Production Value (\$444 Million)



Exports by Product (\$590 Million)



### Primary Production

Product	Volume (000 Tonnes)		Value (\$ Million)	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
Peat	341	371	55.1	61.6
Stone	6,104	7,233	52.9	57.8
Zinc	0	13	0.0	28.8
Sand and gravel	2,198	2,568	12.0	12.1
Lead	0	3	0.0	7.8
Silver	0	0.005	0.0	3.1
Sulphur, in smelter gas	3	12	0.5	2.5
Other	..	..	318.5	270.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>439.1</b>	<b>444.5</b>

.. Data are not available.

Other consists of gypsum, lime, potash, quartz (silica), and salt. Due to confidentiality reasons the individual data are suppressed.

### Exports by Product

Product	Value (\$ Million)	
	2014	2015
Potash	217.2	219.8
Lead	183.8	160.7
Peat	80.2	88.2
Earths and stone, plaster, lime and cement	43.7	49.7
Iron and steel	36.5	35.2
Salt	11.2	13.0
Miscellaneous articles of base metals	5.3	6.0
Other	9.8	17.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>587.6</b>	<b>590.4</b>