

The social and economic contribution of gold mining

Introduction

Gold mining operations are geographically diverse and often located in areas with little existing infrastructure or alternative economic activity. When undertaken responsibly, gold mining can play an important role in contributing to socio-economic development in its host nations.

This data update quantifies the direct social and economic contributions of 30 World Gold Council member companies in 2022. The data comprises 242 operational mines and 111 non-producing sites (including head offices) spread across 34 countries. Their impact has been quantified in five main categories:

- Payments to governments (including taxes and royalties)
- Payments to suppliers
- Payments to employees
- Payments to communities
- Workforce data (disaggregated by gender and national vs international)

Gold mining is a complex, multi-year business that involves high capital outlays upfront, long lead times, and uncertain returns. This data is based solely on a one-year snapshot and does not represent the full mining cycle. The World Gold Council has been quantifying the socio-economic contribution of its Members in the past two years. More can be found here: [Gold's Contribution to Society | World Gold Council](#)

Chart 1: In-country payments

Total in-country payments \$57.7bn



1. Details on how community investments in the gold industry contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals can be found in these reports.
2. [The Social and Economic Contribution of Gold Mining 2021](#)

Highlights

In 2022, World Gold Council member companies directly contributed a total of US\$57.7bn to host economies.

This comprised US\$38.3bn of payments to in-country suppliers, US\$10.1bn in employee wages and US\$9.3bn in payments to governments.

On top of this, in 2022 contributions of USD\$570mn were made to local communities and Indigenous groups in the 34 countries of operations. This is a \$118mn increase from last year.¹

In 2022, World Gold Council member companies directly employed over 207,000 people and 156,000 contractors.

Every job in the gold mining industry also supports six more indirect jobs in the supply chain or almost ten more if induced jobs are included.²

Recent company efforts to train and develop local skills, as opposed to bringing in expatriates, has led to 95% of employees coming from the host country of operation.



Chart 2: Payments to communities

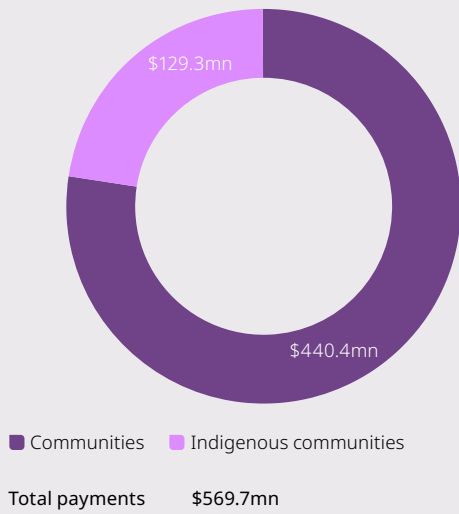
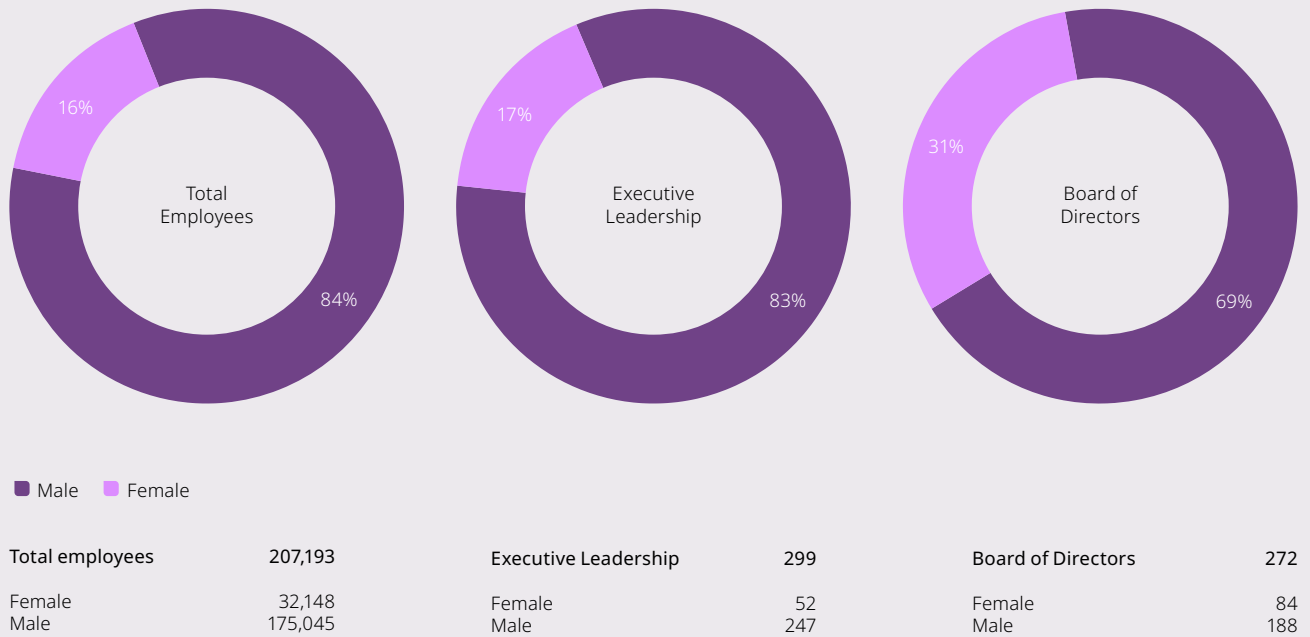


Chart 3: Supporting livelihoods



Chart 4: Gender diversity





Global data

Table 1: Consolidated data from survey 2022

Country	In-country expenditure in US\$m					Employees and contractors
	Total	Payments to governments	Payments to suppliers	Payments to employees	Payments to communities	
Argentina	2,877.0	394.7	2,020.2	432.5	29.6	15,715
Australia	8,568.5	1,389.5	6,261.1	900.8	17.2	22,260
Brazil	2,664.4	334.6	2,085.7	240.9	3.2	19,942
Burkina Faso	2,006.7	488.2	1,276.8	214.4	27.3	10,816
Canada	8,635.2	469.3	5,959.4	2,059.3	147.2	28,262
Chile	723.2	172.5	476.4	72.4	1.9	12,616
China	3,698.1	476.3	2,389.5	832.2	-	57,177
Colombia	283.9	93.3	118.3	71.3	1.0	4,246
Cote d'Ivoire	496.8	89.3	357.0	45.8	4.8	4,868
Ghana	2,887.9	676.8	1,846.4	326.1	38.5	18,996
Mali	1,360.2	505.7	800.9	50.8	2.8	8,750
Mexico	4,051.2	753.2	2,707.4	531.6	59.0	16,856
Peru	1,571.8	199.5	1,168.5	175.4	28.5	13,794
Philippines	387.4	77.3	269.3	33.6	7.3	3,863
Senegal	686.5	219.2	375.7	86.2	5.4	4,714
South Africa	2,156.0	184.4	1,173.2	722.9	75.5	35,520
Suriname	772.3	193.2	448.8	127.9	2.4	4,250
Tanzania	1,574.9	410.1	963.4	181.2	20.1	11,223
Turkey	512.3	115.8	365.0	29.4	2.1	3,552
USA	5,939.4	523.4	3,620.9	1,767.2	27.9	17,023
Other ³	6,422.8	1,502.0	3,659.6	1,193.1	68.2	49,635
Total	58,276.6	9,268.4	38,343.6	10,094.9	569.7	364,078

Source: World Gold Council member data

Note: Only includes countries where 2 or more member companies operate. All other country information can be found under 'Other'.

Year-on-year data

	Gold Output (Moz)	Gold revenue (US\$bn)	Total in-country payments (US\$bn)	Payments to governments (US\$bn)	In-country payments to suppliers (US\$bn)	In-country payments to suppliers (% of total)	Payments to employees (US\$bn)	Payments to communities (US\$bn)
2022	35	61.6	57.7	9.3	38.3	88%	10.1	569.7
2021	36	65.5	57.1	10.0	35.4	90%	11.7	451.8

	Total Executive Leadership	Female Executive Leadership (%)	Total Board of Directors	Female Board of Directors (%)	Total Employees	National Employees (%)	Female Employees (%)	Total Contractors
2022	299	17%	272	31%	207,193	95%	16%	156,885
2021	299	17%	283	27%	246,271	95%	16%	140,713

Methodology

The research is based on 2022 data from 30 World Gold Council member companies producing 34.8mn ounces of gold and operating across 34 countries.

3. Countries include: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Finland, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Serbia, and Tajikistan.



World Gold Council members that contributed to this report

