



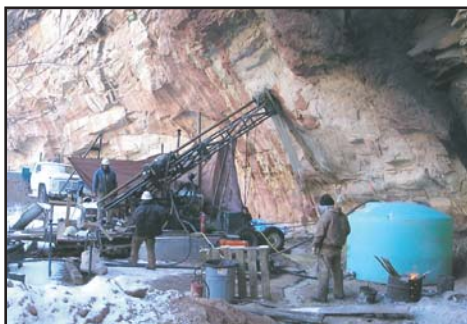
2004

Colorado MINERALS

FACT SHEET

The total 2004 value of non-fuel minerals and uranium is estimated to be **\$952 million**. This is a 35% increase over the 2003 value of \$702 million.

- METALS (gold, silver, molybdenum, uranium, vanadium) = **\$464 million**
- INDUSTRIAL MINERALS (sand, gravel, stone, clay, gypsum, cement, etc.) = **\$488 million**



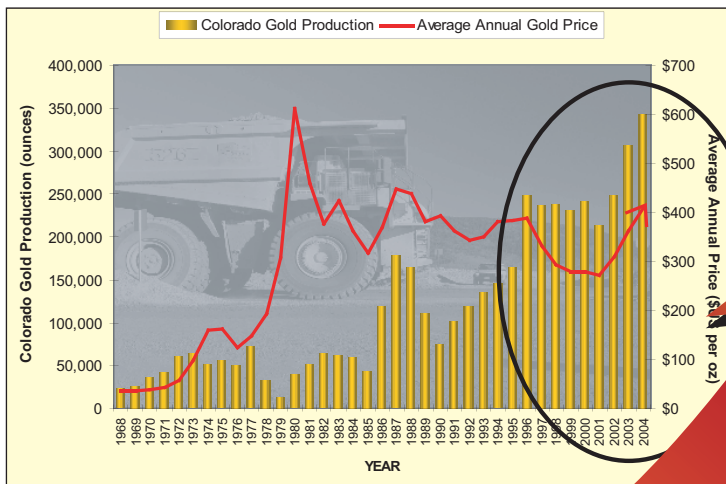
Exploration drilling at the Cashin Copper Mine in Montrose County (photo by J. Thorson)

MOLYBDENUM

- Colorado is 2nd only to Arizona in production of molybdenum in the U.S.
- The Henderson Mine in Clear Creek County is the nation's largest primary molybdenum mine; the mine produced 28 million pounds of molybdenum oxide in 2004.
- The spot price of molybdenum skyrocketed from around \$8 per pound at the end of 2003 to over \$30 per pound in early 2005.

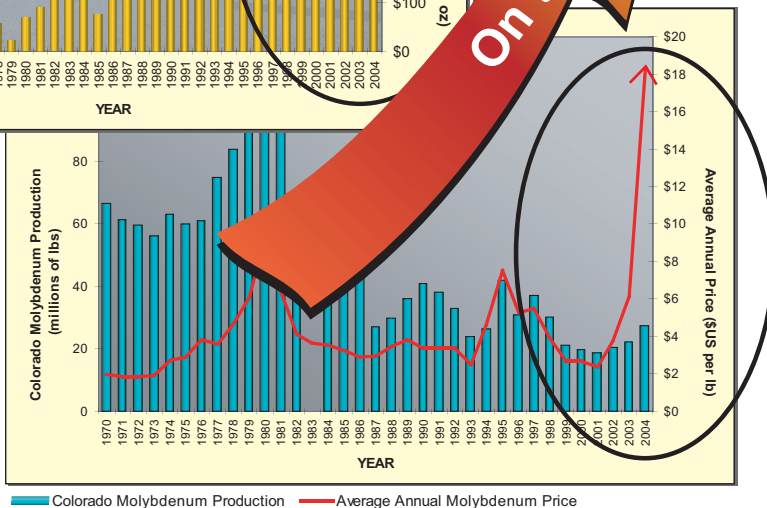
GOLD

- Colorado ranked 3rd in the U.S. for gold production - Nevada and Alaska are 1st and 2nd, respectively.
- The Cripple Creek and Victor Mine in Teller County is the top Colorado producer of gold and silver.



URANIUM and VANADIUM

- Uranium and vanadium are once again being mined in western Colorado from the famous Uravan mineral belt of the Colorado Plateau.
- Colorado is the only state presently producing vanadium ore. Vanadium is an additive used to help prevent rust and to strengthen steel.



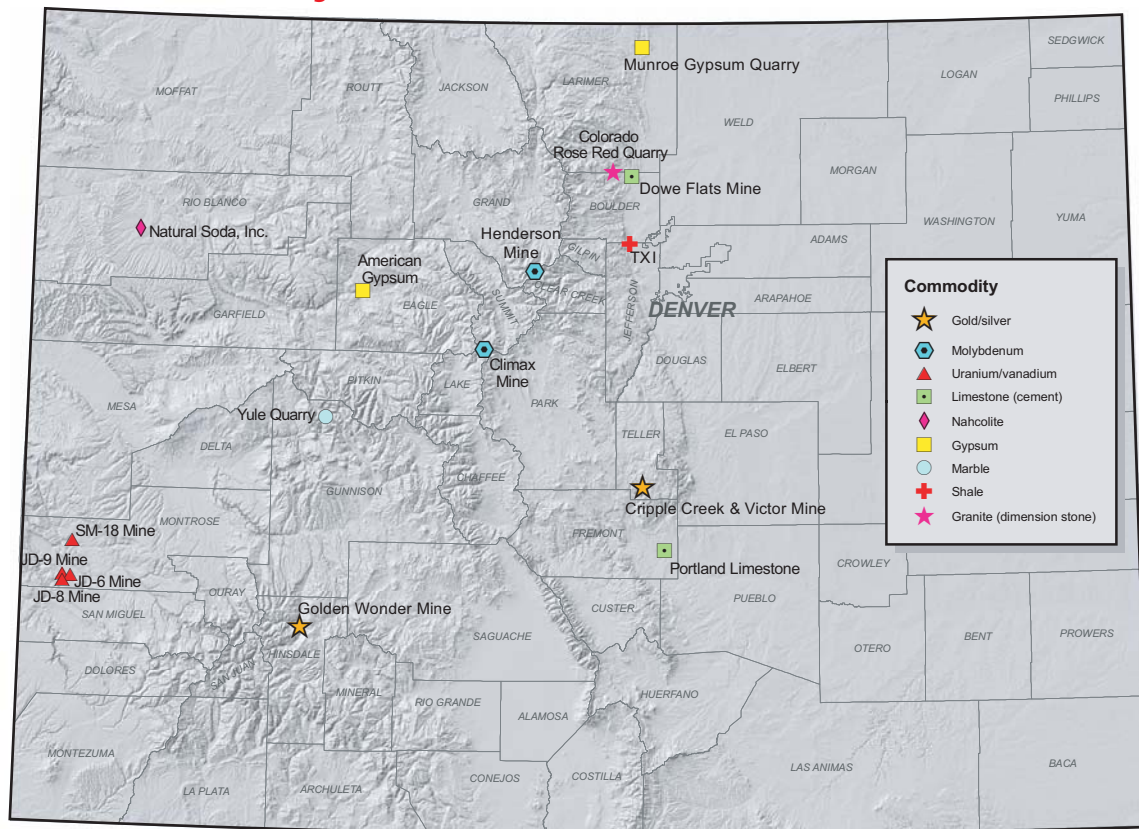
CONSTRUCTION MINERALS



Mining gypsum at the American Gypsum Mine in Eagle County (photo by L. Wray)

- Colorado ranked 6th in the nation in production of sand and gravel.
- More than 400 tons of sand, gravel, and crushed stone are utilized in construction of a typical home.
- Roughly 1.4 million clay bricks were used in the construction of Coors Field.
- Most Colorado gypsum is mined near the town of Gypsum and is used to make wallboard (drywall).
- Nahcolite is dissolved from the ground using hot water. The resulting slurry is pumped to the surface where the water is evaporated leaving behind the recrystallized nahcolite, otherwise known as baking soda.

Major Active Mines in Colorado*



*Sand and gravel pits, crushed rock quarries, and clay pits not shown



Yule Marble



Rhodochrosite



Aquamarine

For more information on minerals and mineral resources visit:

- Colorado Geological Survey Mineral Resources, <http://geosurvey.state.co.us/Default.aspx?tabid=228>
- U.S. Geological Survey Mineral Commodity Summaries, <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/mcs/>
- Colorado Division of Minerals and Geology, <http://mining.state.co.us/>
- Mineral Information Institute, <http://www.mii.org>
- The Mineral Database, <http://www.mindat.org>
- Colorado Mining Association, <http://www.coloradomining.org>



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