

The social and economic contribution of gold mining 2025 data

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.

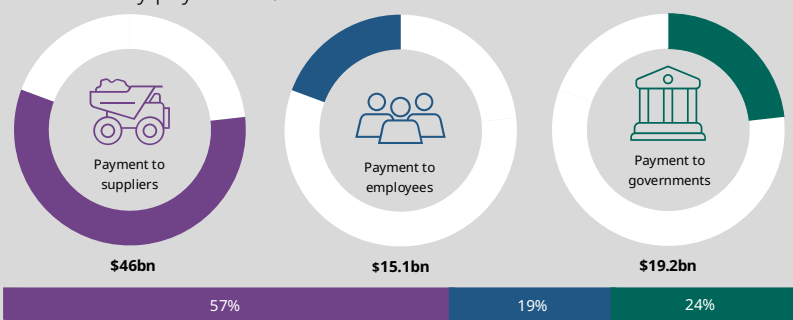
This data update quantifies the direct social and economic contributions of 28 World Gold Council member companies in 2025. The data comprises 228 operational mines and 76 non-producing sites (including head offices) spread across 36 countries. Their impact has been quantified in five main categories:

- 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. The 2025 data update, which is summarised in **Table 1**, 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 five years, and this data can be found in **Table 2**. More can be found here: [Gold's Contribution to Society | World Gold Council](#)

Chart 1: In-country payments³

Total in-country payments \$80.2bn



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](#)
3. Data may not sum to totals shown due to rounding.

Highlights

In 2025, World Gold Council member companies directly contributed a total of US\$80.2bn to host economies.

This comprised US\$46bn in payments to in-country suppliers, US\$15.1bn in employee wages and US\$19.2bn in payments to governments.

On top of this, in 2025, contributions of US\$866.7mn were made to local communities and Indigenous groups in 34 countries of operations. This is a US\$125.8mn increase from last year.¹

Payments to governments increased by 84% compared to 2024, an additional US\$8.7bn directed to government coffers.

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

Ongoing 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.

The percentage of female board members has been steadily climbing, now constituting 34% of the total.



Chart 2: Payments to communities

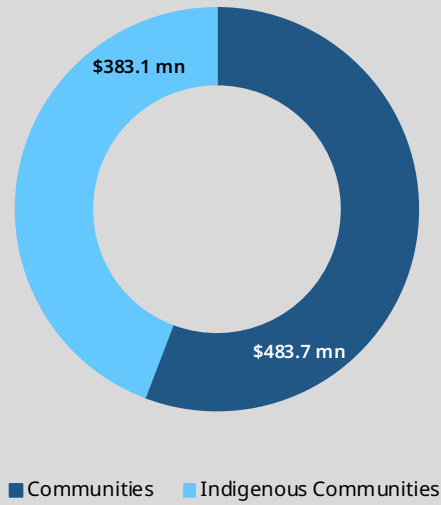
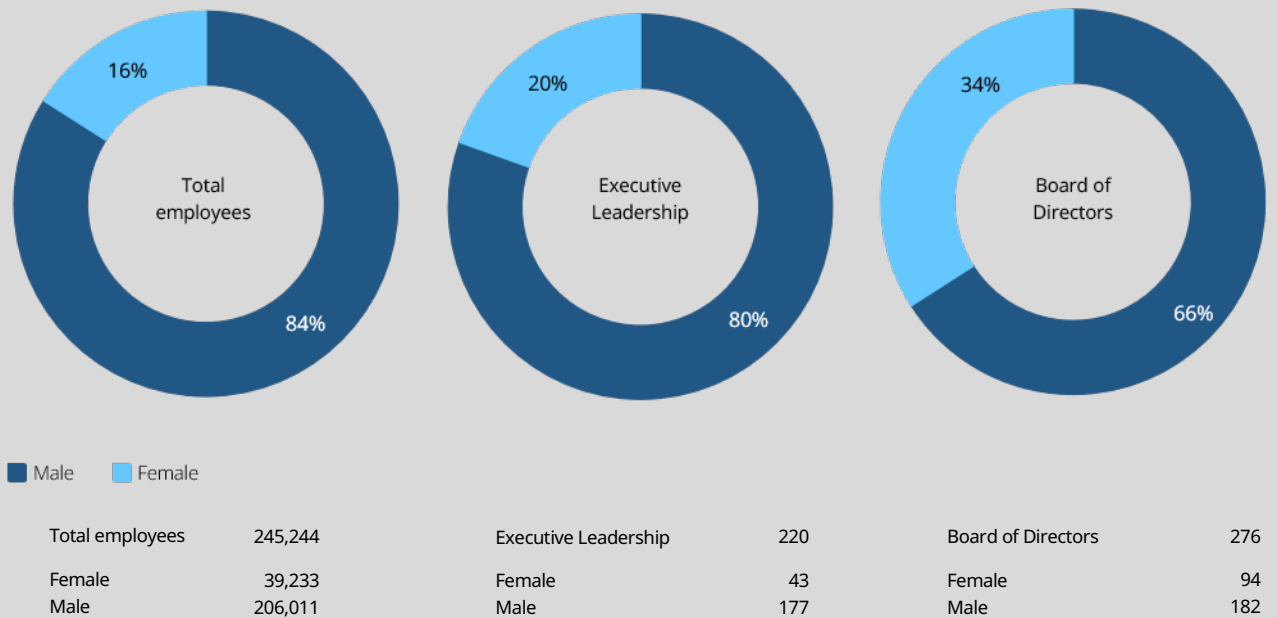


Chart 3: Supporting livelihoods



Chart 4: Gender diversity





Global data

Table 1: Consolidated data from survey (2025 data)⁴

Country	In-country expenditure in US\$m					Employees and contractors
	Total	Payments to governments	Payments to suppliers	Payments to employees	Payments to communities	
Argentina	2,568.1	293.9	1,805.6	455.7	12.9	10,557
Australia	9,242.5	1,939.0	6,128.5	1,162.5	12.5	15,813
Brazil	3,220.4	617.1	2,306.8	281.7	14.7	23,043
Burkina Faso	2,273.8	849.7	1,198.5	183.8	41.9	7,963
Canada	11,855.6	1,308.9	7,489.3	2,795.5	262.0	30,944
Chile	1,435.4	240.8	954.1	237.4	3.2	10,310
China	7,718.7	2,251.1	4,083.0	1,327.4	57.2	83,788
Colombia	568.9	233.6	255.6	48.8	30.9	4,778
Cote d'Ivoire	1,474.8	476.3	870.8	101.9	25.8	8,085
Ghana	4,863.1	1,775.3	2,625.6	380.9	81.3	25,106
Mali	1,765.3	1,091.7	503.0	164.7	6.0	12,553
Mexico	3,396.2	851.6	1,892.8	608.8	43.0	12,057
Papua New Guinea	1,033.2	213.9	544.3	260.2	14.9	7,442
Peru	2,323.1	593.5	1,296.5	388.3	44.8	18,877
Philippines	589.6	279.6	256.1	38.9	15.0	3,143
Senegal	696.7	247.5	350.5	93.5	5.3	3,368
South Africa	2,475.8	83.0	1,593.8	785.0	14.0	31,394
Suriname	767.2	221.9	383.8	158.2	3.3	4,595
Tanzania	2,329.0	884.2	1,241.6	180.6	22.6	13,679
Türkiye	844.0	251.0	487.0	101.7	4.4	2,995
USA	9,946.9	1,098.5	4,946.9	3,856.0	45.5	14,891
Other	9,722.6	3,366.6	4,763.1	1,487.0	105.9	73,849
Total	81,110.9	19,168.6	45,977.1	15,098.5	866.7	419,230

Year-on-year data

Table 2: Data trends (2021-2025)

	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\$mn)
2025	33.4	113.9	81.1	19.2	46.0	88	15.1	866.7
2024	34.6	82.1	66.4	10.4	43.6	89	12.4	740.9
2023	34.3	65.7	60.1	8.1	40.4	87	11.0	642.3
2022	34.8	61.6	58.2	9.2	38.3	88	10.1	571.6
2021	35.5	65.5	57.3	9.9	35.4	90	11.6	442.5
Total (2021-2025)	172.6	388.8	323.1	56.8	203.7		60.2	3,264.0

	Total Executive Leadership	Female Executive Leadership (%)	Total Board of Directors	Female Board of Directors (%)	Total Employees	National Employees (%)	Female Employees (%)	Total Contractors
2025	220	20	276	34	245,244	95	16	173,986
2024	266	19	272	33	220,879	97	16	160,501
2023	309	19	270	34	210,797	95	16	158,402
2022	299	17	272	31	207,108	95	16	156,885
2021	299	17	283	27	246,271	95	16	140,413

4. Table 1 includes disaggregated data for countries where 2 or more members operate. Countries included within 'Other': Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Finland, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Serbia, Tajikistan.



World Gold Council members that contributed to this report

