

Mineral Industry Surveys

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SILVER IN APRIL 2017

U.S. mines produced 97,300 kilograms (kg) of silver in April, a 3% increase compared with March’s revised production and a 6% increase compared with that in April 2016 (table 1). Based on unrounded data, the average daily silver production in April was 3,240 kg, a 6% increase compared with 3,060 kg in March and 6% more than 3,070 kg for April 2016. This was a 3% increase from the average daily silver of 2016, which was 3,130 kg.

slightly to \$18.04 per troy ounce in April 2017. The trends in monthly silver prices (high, low, and average) from April 2015 through April 2017 are shown in figure 1.

The daily price in April ranged between a high of \$18.56 per troy ounce on April 13 and a low of \$17.25 per troy ounce on April 28 (table 2).

Prices

The average monthly Engelhard silver, which has trended upward since December with a slight dip in March, increased

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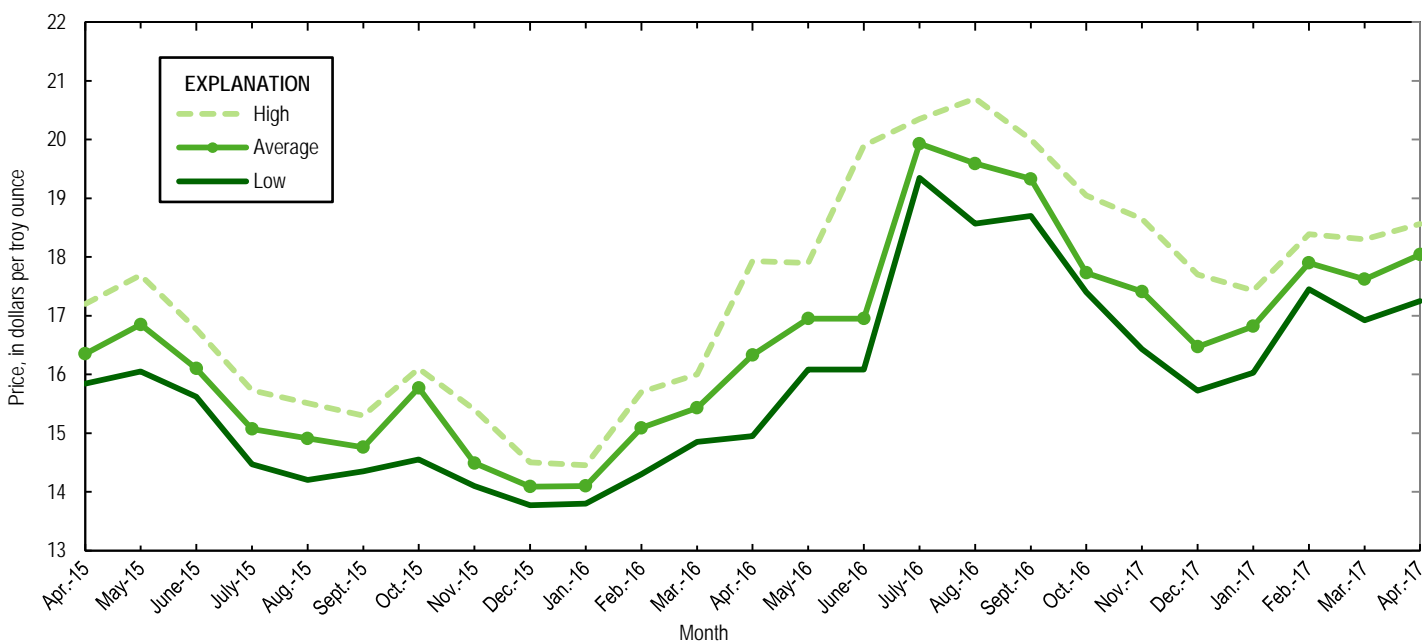


Figure 1. Engelhard monthly silver prices for April 2015 through April 2017. Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 1
MINE PRODUCTION OF RECOVERABLE SILVER
IN THE UNITED STATES, BY STATE¹

(Kilograms)

	Nevada	Other States ²	Total
2016: ^P			
April	22,600	69,600	92,200
May	22,900	70,900	93,800
June	22,000	68,600	90,600
July	23,500	67,500	91,000
August	24,300	79,700	104,000
September	23,600	74,900	98,500
October	23,900	76,200	100,000
November	24,500	70,200	94,600
December	25,800	70,300	96,100
January–December	276,000	871,000	1,150,000
2017:			
January ^f	22,700	75,100	97,700
February ^f	23,200	62,500	85,700
March ^f	22,900	71,800	94,700
April	22,800	74,400	97,300
January–April	91,600	284,000	375,000

^PPreliminary. ^fRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, South Dakota, and Utah.

TABLE 2
SILVER PRICES

(Dollars per troy ounce)

	Price	Date
Engelhard:		
2016:		
Low	13.80	Jan. 14
High	20.70	Aug. 2
Average	17.20	XX
2017:		
February:		
Low	17.45	Feb. 3
High	18.39	Feb. 24
Average	17.90	XX
March:		
Low	16.92	Mar. 15
High	18.30	Mar. 2
Average	17.62	XX
April:		
Low	17.25	Apr. 28
High	18.56	Apr. 13
Average	18.04	XX
Year to date:		
Low	16.03	Jan. 3
High	18.56	Apr. 13
Average	17.60	XX
Handy and Harman:		
2016, Average	18.00	XX
2017:		
February	17.93	XX
March	17.62	XX
April	18.03	XX
Year to date	17.62	XX
London Final: ¹		
2016, Average	17.98	XX
2017:		
February	17.87	XX
March	17.59	XX
April	18.06	XX
Year to date	17.58	XX

XX Not applicable.

¹Reported as "London Spot/US Equiv."

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS OF SILVER¹

Period and country	Bullion		Doré		Ores and concentrates ² Ash and residues		Total	
	Silver content (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Silver content (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Silver content (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Silver content (kilograms)	Value (thousands)
2016	4,870,000	\$2,680,000	1,290,000	\$1,090,000	172	\$46	6,160,000	\$3,770,000
2017:								
February	413,000	236,000	70,200	62,000	1,130	377	484,000	299,000
March	304,000	171,000	107,000	106,000	375	125	411,000	278,000
April:								
Argentina	5,080	5,460	5,040	5,360	--	--	10,100	10,800
Bolivia	--	--	7,430	4,190	--	--	7,430	4,190
Canada	92,000	53,800	(³)	7	267	739	92,200	54,600
Chile	23,100	13,500	--	--	--	--	23,100	13,500
Guatemala	--	--	5,340	3,870	--	--	5,340	3,870
Korea, Republic of	72,300	42,400	--	--	--	--	72,300	42,400
Mexico	149,000	87,200	37,600	37,100	--	--	187,000	124,000
Peru	12,800	7,420	27,300	16,000	--	--	40,200	23,400
Poland	18,500	10,400	--	--	--	--	18,500	10,400
United Kingdom	203	135	66	39	--	--	269	174
Other	10	4	58	41	--	--	68	45
Total	373,000	220,000	82,900	66,600	267	739	457,000	288,000
January–April	1,500,000	843,000	345,000	314,000	2,240	768	1,850,000	1,160,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes silver content of base metal ores and concentrates.

³Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
U.S. IMPORTS OF REFINED SILVER¹

Period and country	Other unwrought silver (gross weight)		Metal powder (gross weight)		Silver nitrate (gross weight)		Semi manufactured forms ² (gross weight)		Waste and scrap (gross weight)	
	Quantity (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (kilograms)	Value (thousands)
2016	343,000	\$164,000	356,000	\$52,500	3,390	\$731	692,000	\$357,000	6,650,000	\$260,000
2017:										
February	37,600	17,900	37,700	2,430	719	79	7,270	4,180	334,000	26,000
March	50,800	27,600	29,700	3,880	934	118	77,200	43,600	433,000	35,900
April:										
Canada	6,700	171	2,020	84	24	14	20,200	11,400	18,900	4,630
Chile	--	--	--	--	--	--	22,300	12,700	--	--
China	--	--	3,760	186	58	3	--	--	17,400	72
Colombia	--	--	--	--	--	--	227	130	--	--
Costa Rica	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	510	154
Dominican Republic	--	--	42	10	--	--	--	--	562	367
Egypt	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3,210	347
France	--	--	4,290	197	--	--	--	--	--	--
Germany	451	300	135	89	--	--	49	43	126,000	12,300
Hungary	--	--	7,520	425	--	--	--	--	--	--
Israel	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3,850	194
Japan	24	24	17,400	1,670	--	--	--	--	--	--
Korea, Republic of	--	--	124	21	--	--	19,300	10,400	176	80
Malaysia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	211,000	968
Mexico	18,700	10,600	--	--	--	--	11,000	4,050	43,800	741
Netherlands	5,180	176	--	--	--	--	--	--	4,960	84
Portugal	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	158	28
Singapore	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	933	61
South Africa	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1,840	187
Sweden	--	--	60	23	--	--	--	--	4,310	8
Switzerland	--	--	265	160	--	--	(3)	3	--	--
United Kingdom	--	--	99	63	--	--	60	37	2,150	78
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	16,500	320
Other	86	69	50	2	--	--	62	18	174	323
Total	31,200	11,400	35,700	2,930	82	17	73,200	38,800	456,000	20,900
January–April	167,000	81,100	116,000	13,300	2,020	268	216,000	118,000	1,750,000	103,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Containing 99.5% or more by weight of silver.

³Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
U.S. EXPORTS OF SILVER¹

Period and country	Bullion		Doré		Ores and concentrates ²		Total	
	Silver content (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Silver content (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Silver content (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Silver content (kilograms)	Value (thousands)
2016	237,000	\$139,000	35,800	\$21,300	15,900	\$27,500	289,000	\$188,000
2017:								
February	3,320	2,190	10,200	8,110	2,680	3,090	16,200	13,400
March	6,600	3,900	4,160	2,620	1,000	1,040	11,800	7,560
April:								
Australia	1,140	598	177	60	--	--	1,320	658
Canada	398	364	--	--	90	40	488	404
China	--	--	--	--	182	1,070	182	1,070
Germany	301	162	435	274	--	--	736	436
India	117	75	762	517	--	--	879	592
Italy	--	--	260	150	--	--	260	150
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	1,000	2,080	1,000	2,080
Mexico	351	224	10	10	--	--	361	234
Singapore	63	36	246	149	--	--	309	185
Switzerland	--	--	411	260	--	--	411	260
United Arab Emirates	--	--	259	147	--	--	259	147
United Kingdom	23	12	689	412	--	--	712	424
Other	124	129	37	23	(3)	3	161	155
Total	2,520	1,600	3,290	2,000	1,270	3,190	7,080	6,790
January–April	26,700	17,000	25,900	19,600	6,180	10,800	58,800	47,300

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes silver content of base metal ores and concentrates.

³Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6
U.S. EXPORTS OF REFINED SILVER¹

Period and country	Other unwrought silver (gross weight)		Metal powder (gross weight)		Silver nitrate (gross weight)		Semi manufactured forms ² (gross weight)		Waste and scrap (gross weight)	
	Quantity (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (kilograms)	Value (thousands)	Quantity (kilograms)	Value (thousands)
2016	231,000	\$166,000	772,000	\$468,000	43,600	\$4,040	702,000	\$427,000	13,400,000	\$1,460,000
2017:										
February	8,260	4,060	74,500	43,400	5,380	313	35,900	19,700	1,310,000	107,000
March	12,700	7,320	56,600	38,300	2,740	352	37,900	22,100	1,080,000	128,000
April:										
Australia	13	9	--	--	47	17	615	306	3	80
Belgium	--	--	923	619	--	--	--	--	117,000	7,090
Brazil	--	--	198	198	--	--	24	12	--	--
Canada	1,400	884	1,350	903	1,590	149	16,700	10,000	86,600	12,800
China	106	73	7,830	4,740	--	--	944	660	509	113
Costa Rica	155	82	--	--	--	--	127	74	--	--
Ethiopia	--	--	--	--	5,980	147	--	--	--	--
France	6	7	4,660	2,980	335	9	456	259	--	--
Germany	1	4	3,370	2,520	--	--	209	124	231,000	19,400
Hong Kong	497	304	1,600	1,070	--	--	295	456	169	250
India	3,690	1,890	--	--	--	--	764	506	--	--
Ireland	--	--	10	8	--	--	4,160	2,650	--	--
Italy	--	--	1,770	2,590	--	--	213	128	114,000	29,100
Japan	--	--	2,790	2,110	--	--	42	17	274,000	11,000
Korea, Republic of	14	6	4,470	2,760	15	3	1,790	1,240	134	1,500
Malaysia	--	--	124	107	--	--	480	224	54	19
Mexico	357	283	989	618	1,120	256	7,840	4,150	33,700	4,950
Netherlands	--	--	821	554	--	--	--	--	12	58
Philippines	--	--	--	--	--	--	145	172	--	--
Singapore	--	--	21,200	13,500	335	133	380	281	--	--
Spain	--	--	--	--	--	--	837	419	--	--
Sweden	--	--	--	--	--	--	506	246	181,000	4,660
Switzerland	81	139	--	--	--	--	465	244	--	--
Taiwan	--	--	7,900	4,950	--	--	221	114	--	--
Thailand	458	222	1	7	--	--	595	277	15	55
United Kingdom	63	12	2,950	2,130	--	--	1,720	938	20,700	4,620
Other	195	120	5	8	191	40	1,570	839	30	148
Total	7,040	4,030	63,000	42,400	9,620	754	41,100	24,400	1,060,000	95,900
January–April	36,100	19,700	259,000	162,000	21,600	1,690	173,000	98,900	4,390,000	446,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Containing 99.3% or more by weight of silver.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.