

# Mineral exploration

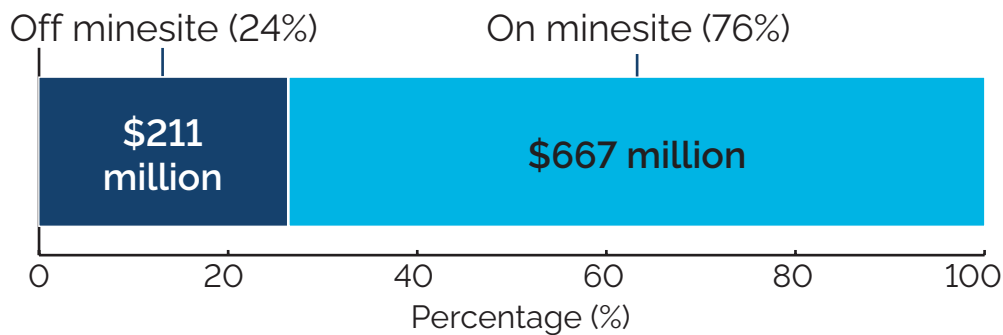
## Ontario 2022

### Highlights

Ontario is a world-class mining jurisdiction and is among the top 10 jurisdictions in the world for mineral exploration spending. Ontario is one of the leading producers of gold, nickel and platinum group elements.

In 2021, gold was the most sought-after mineral in Ontario, with exploration spending of \$626 million, totalling 71% of the province's total exploration spending.

### Exploration spending in 2021

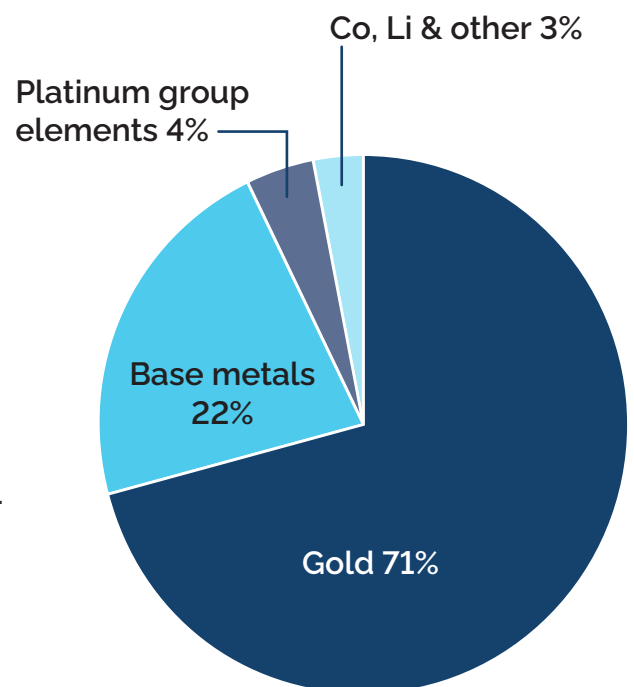


Value of exploration spending in 2021:

**\$878 million**

### Exploration spending by mineral

Mineral	Exploration spending (\$ million)	Percentage (%)
Gold	626	71
Base metals*	190	22
PGE**	36	4
Co, Li & other***	26	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>878</b>	<b>100</b>



\* Base metals include: copper (Cu), nickel (Ni) and zinc (Zn).

\*\* Platinum Group Elements (PGE) include: platinum (Pt), palladium (Pd), rhodium (Rh), ruthenium (Ru), iridium (Ir) and osmium (Os).

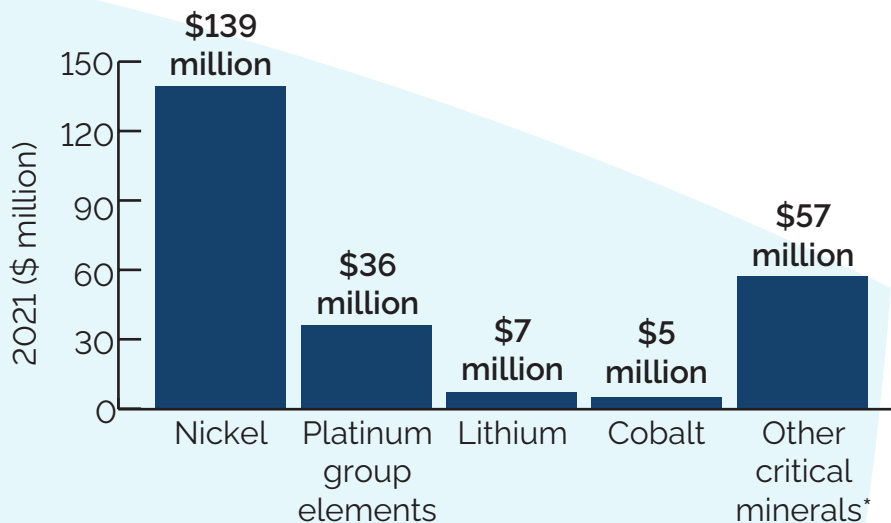
\*\*\* Cobalt (Co), lithium (Li) and other

**Note:** Data has been aggregated to preserve confidentiality, numbers may not add up due to rounding.

## Exploration spending by critical mineral type

Ontario is well-positioned to be a global supplier of critical minerals with its vast supply of minerals, processing capabilities and world-class mining supply and services sector.

\* Other critical minerals include the remaining minerals on the preliminary Ontario critical minerals list.



## Mining lands activity



### Did you know?

You can acquire and register mining claims, obtain or renew a prospector's licence and maintain your mining lands online 24/7 through the Mining Lands Administration System (MLAS).

317,426

Number of active mining claims in Ontario as of December 31, 2021.

## World's largest mining capital market: TSX & TSX-V

Toronto, Ontario is the mining finance capital of the world.

The Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX) and Toronto Venture Exchange (TSX-V) list more mining companies than any other exchange (over 1,150 listed in 2021), are first among exchanges worldwide in equity capital raised, and are home to almost half (about 43%) of the public mining companies in the world.

For more information about Ontario's mineral resources:

[ontario.ca/mineralsector](https://ontario.ca/mineralsector)

[mineralsinfo@ontario.ca](mailto:mineralsinfo@ontario.ca)

+1 888 415-9845

Note: 2020 = Preliminary Estimate, 2021 = Spending Intentions.  
All figures are in Canadian dollars. April 2022.

Source: Natural Resources Canada & the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry.