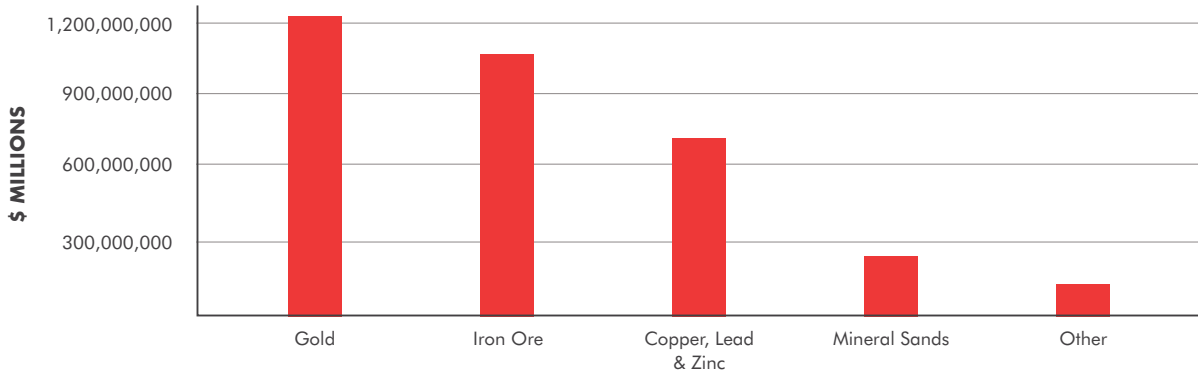


# Mining

## OVERVIEW

Mining is the largest value adding and exporting sector in the Mid West, with \$3.3 billion of production and a workforce of over 3,525 employees. This equates to 2.89% of the total minerals and petroleum production across WA.

Value of Minerals by Commodity 2017



The Mid West's mining sector has been a consistent employer for the past decade, despite recent commodity market instability, particularly in iron ore. This is due to the diversity of resources mined, and a strong exploration and mining support services sector.

A majority of Mid West iron ore is exported via the Geraldton Port to China (95%), with the balance going to South Korea, Taiwan and Japan. This single commodity accounted for 74% of total volumes exported from the Port in 2016-2017.

### **Opportunities have been identified for Greater Geraldton to capture demand for local services that will further support mining sector growth in areas including:**

- > Exploration and Mining Support Services (\$7.1m).
- > Professional Services (\$3.9m).
- > Finance and Insurance (\$1.2m).
- > Civil Engineering and Construction (\$1.7m).
- > Energy Generation (\$3.1m).

## KEY COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

- > One of Australia's most diverse mining provinces.
- > Geographically close to global markets.
- > Strong existing ties with significant Chinese provinces.
- > Over 2016/17 Mid West ports exported nearly 11 million tonnes of iron ore.

The development of Oakajee will provide infrastructure that will cater for increased export capacity of commodities such as gold and iron ore.

Mining is currently operating well below its five-year average, implying a relatively significant capacity for future opportunities and further value addition.

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