IGF

INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORUM on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development

COUNTRY PROFILE

Peru

POPULATION
34.16 million (2025)

TOTAL AREA
1.285 million km²

CAPITAL
Lima

GDP
334.85 billion (2025)

IGF MEMBER

1. Geological Considerations

1.1 Mining-Relevant Scorecard

Mining-relevant scorecard

Published critical mineral strategy[C]

2021

Lithium and its derivates are designated as public necessity, national interest, and a strategic resource.

International coordination mechanisms (mining related, in force)[F]

2026

Multiple: Canada (2025); United States (2023); Chile (2025)

Logistics Performance Index (1–5)[B]

2022

Score: 3.0

Mineral rents (% GDP)[H]

2021

Share: 12.1%

Trade or export restrictions[G]

2026

None

Electricity access (% of the population)[H]

2023

Score: 96.2%

Internet Access (% of population)[H]

2024

Score: 82

State-owned/affiliated mining company[A, E]

2025

Activos Mineros S.A.C. (AMSAC) wholly owned by the state and operating under FONAFE,* the public holding entity responsible for exercising the state's shareholder rights.

Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Membership[D]

2025

Yes

Note: *Fondo Nacional de Financiamiento de la Actividad Empresarial del Estado (or National Fund for Financing State Business Activity in English) oversees Peru's state-owned enterprises.

AMSAC is not an operating mining company. Its main functions are to remediate mining liabilities, administer state-owned mining assets, and represent the state in contracts through which mining projects were transferred to private investors. It supervises contractual commitments associated with projects such as Las Bambas, Toromocho, Michiquillay, La Granja and Bayóvar.

Sources: [A]Activos Mineros S.A.C., n.d.; [B]Arvis et al., 2023; [C]Congreso de la República del Perú, 2021; [D]Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, 2025; [E]Fondo Nacional de Financiamiento de la Actividad Empresarial del Estado, n.d.; [F]International Energy Agency (IEA), 2025a; [G]Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), 2025; [H]World Bank Open Data, n.d.

1.2 Reserves

Reported key mineral reserves of major mining products in Peru as of 2025

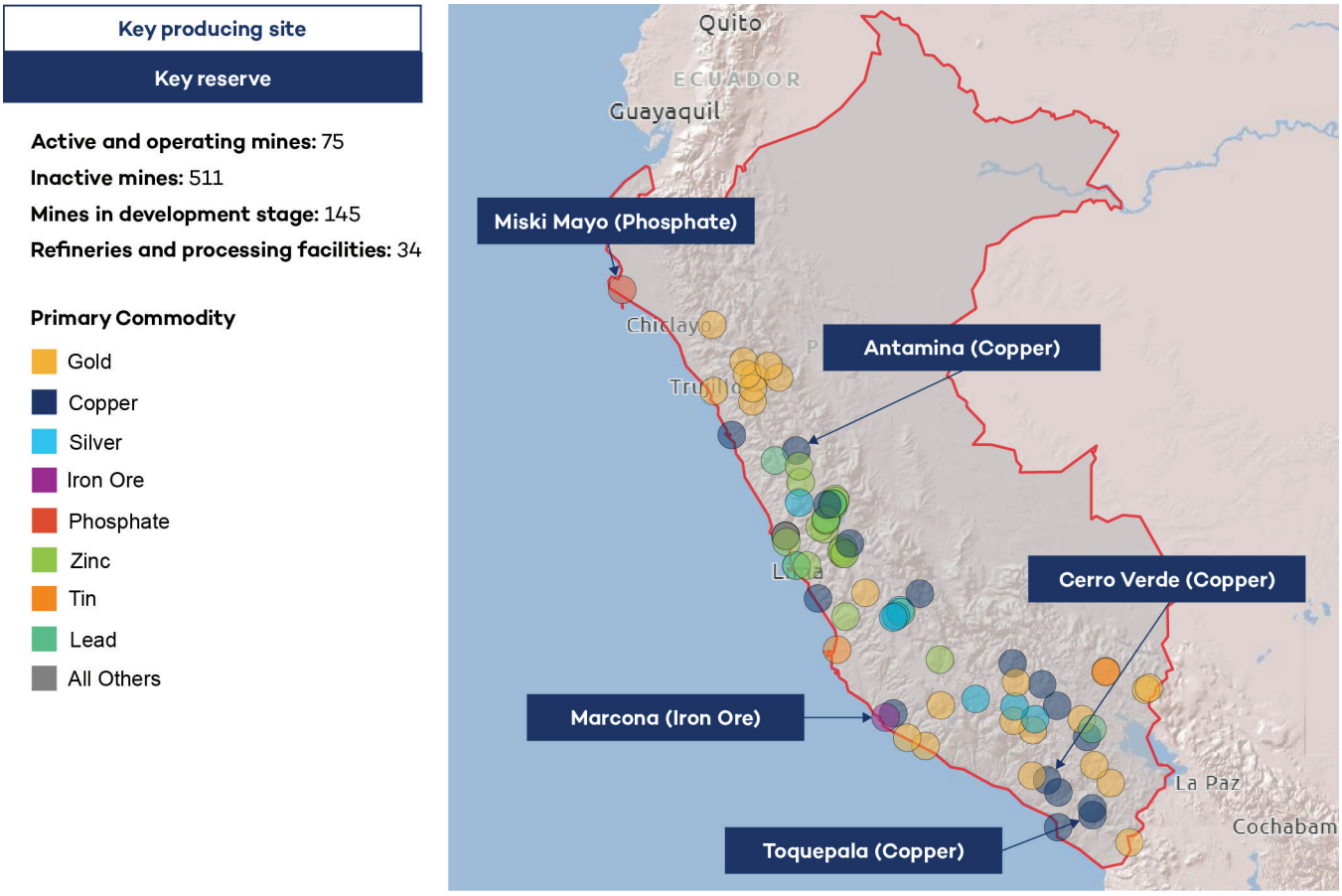
Commodity	Quantity (thousand of metric tonnes, '000 mt)	Notes
Boron	4,000	Crude borates
Copper	85,400	Copper content
Gold	2,2	Gold content
Iron ore	1,000,000	Iron content
Lead	5,000	Lead content
Molybdenum	1,000	Molybdenum content
Phosphate rock	210	Marketable phosphate rock
Selenium (estimate)*	19	Selenium content
Silver	110	Silver content
Tin	150	Tin content
Zinc	18,000	Zinc content

*Selenium in Peru is typically recovered as a by-product of copper refining, particularly from anode slimes, rather than mined as a primary commodity, as such reserves cannot be reliably quantified; hence, only estimated reserves are presented.

Sources: U.S. Geological Survey, n.d.-a, n.d.-b.

1.3 Key Mines and Producing Sites

Key mining regions and producing sites (active and operational only) by commodity, 2025



Note: Points illustrated in the high-level map above represent only active and operational projects in Peru, as of January 2026, to allow for visualization.

Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence, 2026a, 2026b.

1.4 Key Mining Projects

Key operational mining projects by commodity, Peru, 2025*

Cerro Verde
Main commodity: Copper
Global production share: 2% Cu, 4% Mo, 0.4% Ag
Production (2025e): 506,000 mt Cu, 11,000 mt Mo, 112 mt Ag
Controlling company: Freeport-McMoRan Inc.
Notable by-products: Molybdenum, silver

Antamina
Main commodity: Copper
Global production share: 2% Cu, 4% Zn, 3% Mo, 1% Ag
Production (2025e): 382,000 mt Cu, 455,000 mt Zn, 8,000 mt Mo, 314 mt Ag
Controlling company: BHP Group & Glencore plc.
Notable by-products: Lead, molybdenum, silver, zinc

Toquepala
Main commodity: Copper
Global production share: 1% Cu, 3% Mo, 0.5% Ag
Production (2025e): 232,000 mt Cu, 9,000 mt Mo, 96 mt Ag
Controlling company: Southern Copper Corp.
Notable by-products: Gold, molybdenum, rhenium, silver

Marcona
Main commodity: Iron Ore
Global production share: 0.60%
Production (2025e): 2,200,000 mt (iron ore concentrates)
Controlling company: Shougang Group
Notable by-products: Copper, gold

Miski Mayo
Main commodity: Phosphate
Global production share: 2%
Production (2025e): 4,800,000 mt
Controlling companies: The Mosaic Co.
Notable by-products: None

Yanacocha
Main commodity: Gold
Global production share: 0.5%
Production (2025e): 16,000 mt
Controlling companies: Newmont
Notable by-products: Silver

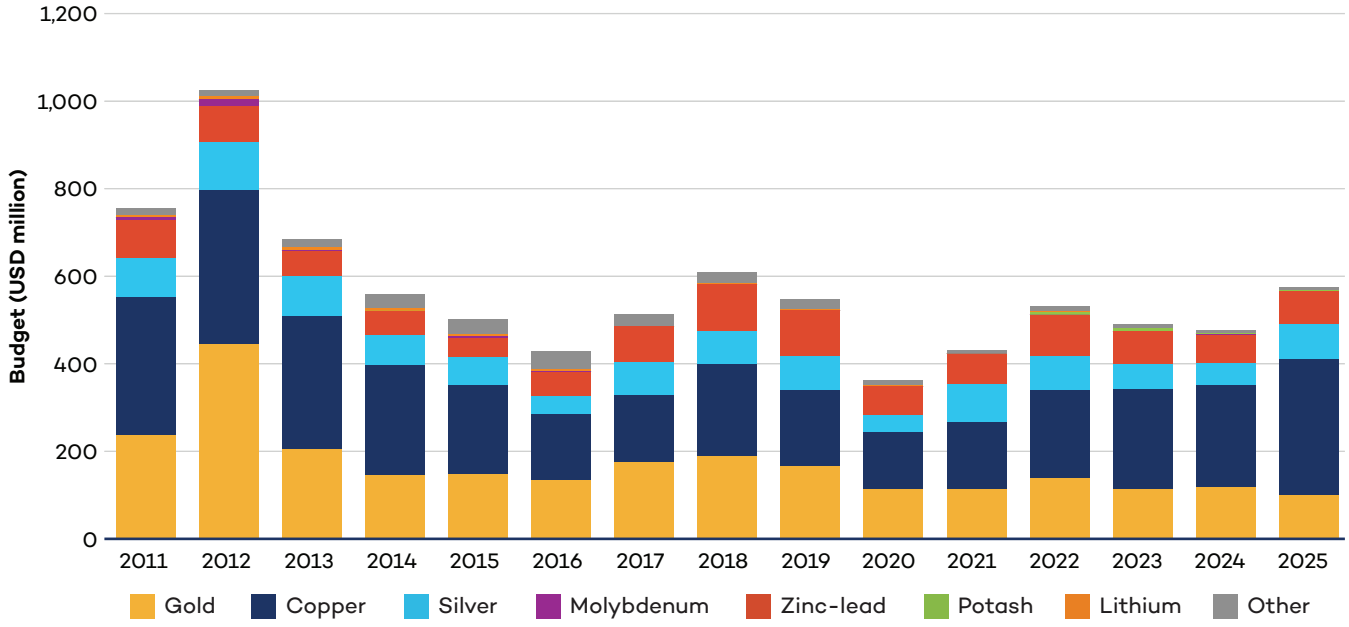
Cerro Lindo
Main commodity: Zinc
Global production share: 0.7%
Production (2025e): 87,000 mt
Controlling companies: Nexa Resources S.A.
Notable by-products: Copper, lead, silver

***Methodology note:** The selected minerals and metals represent Peru's top revenue-producing commodities; the mining properties listed are the top active and operational projects by production volume for selected commodities.*

Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence, 2026a; U.S. Geological Survey, n.d.-a, n.d.-c.

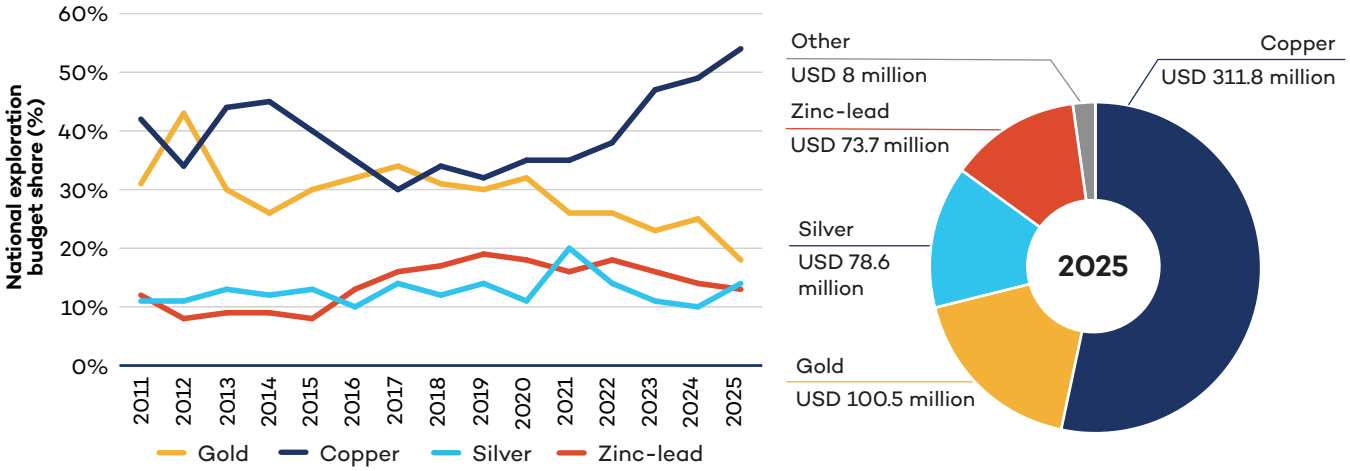
1.5 Exploration

(i) Exploration budget (USD million) 2011–2025



Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence, 2026a.

(ii) National exploration budget share per commodity (%) 2011–2023



Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence, 2026a.

Peru's mineral endowment is dominated by polymetallic deposits, commonly containing copper, gold, silver, molybdenum, lead, and zinc. In estimating exploration expenditures, S&P Global Market Intelligence allocates spending by commodity based on the metal composition of each deposit. As a result, the apparent distribution of exploration spending across individual commodities does not reflect exploration of discrete, single metal deposits; rather, it represents investment in polymetallic deposits that contain multiple metals.

1.6 Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining

Artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM)

Law No. 27651, approved by the Congress of the Republic of Peru in 2002, established Peru's first regulatory framework for ASM (Alliance for Responsible Mining [ARM], 2024). Building on this framework, the government introduced additional measures in 2016 and 2017 to further formalize the sector. Most notably, Legislative Decree No. 1293, issued on December 30, 2016, declared the formalization of artisanal and small-scale mining to be a matter of national interest (ARM, 2024).

Peru's National Multisector Policy for ASM to 2030 (Política Nacional Multisectorial para la Pequeña Minería y Minería Artesanal al 2030, or PNM-PMMA) has been developed to provide a coordinated framework for future action in the sector. The policy aims to strengthen access to formal mineral supply chains, support the acquisition of mining rights, and improve coordination among public institutions with responsibilities related to ASM (ARM, 2024).

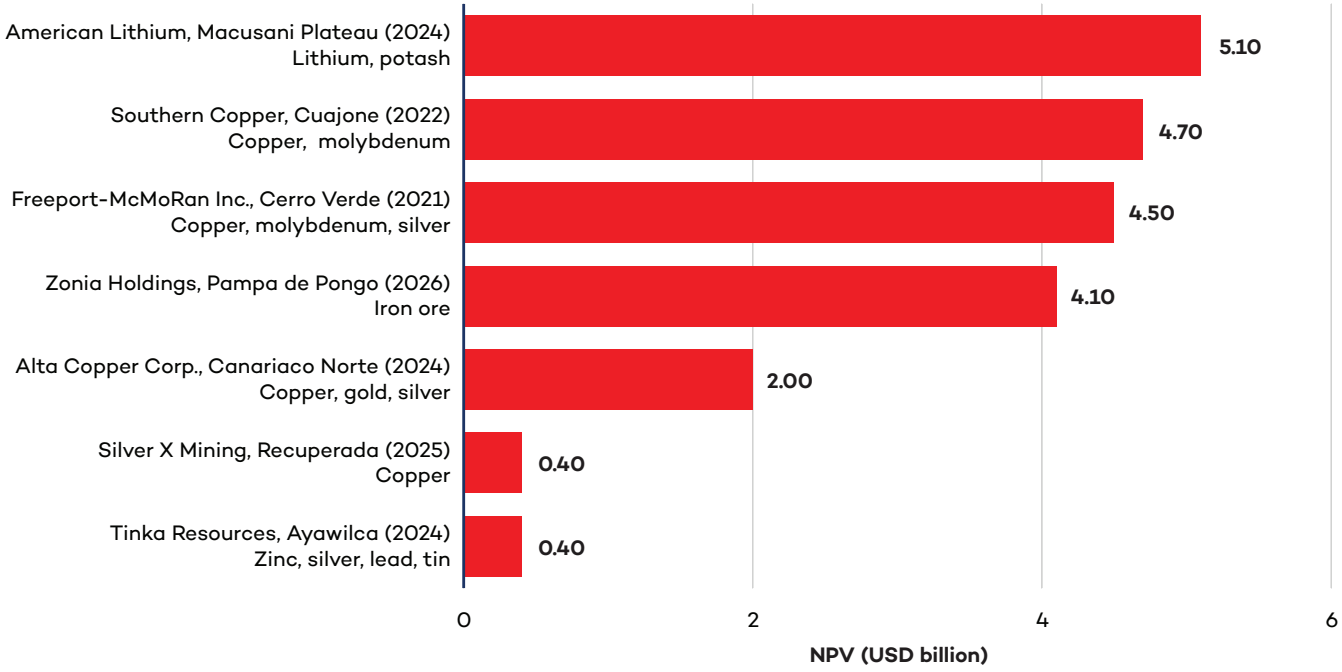
Peru's formalization framework requires artisanal and small-scale miners to be registered in the Comprehensive Mining Formalization Registry, REINFO, as a condition for legally mining and trading minerals, including gold and copper. Available estimates suggest that direct employment in Peru's ASM sector remains difficult to quantify and varies significantly across sources, from approximately 60,000–150,000 workers around 2014 to 180,000–575,000 workers in estimates published since 2020 (USAID, 2020; ARM, 2024).

Most ASM workers in Peru are active in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), which remains a significant source of national gold output. In 2019, ASGM accounted for approximately 22% of Peru's gold production (USAID, 2020). ASGM in Peru takes place in both hard-rock and alluvial settings. Hard-rock operations commonly involve blasting, while alluvial operations may use dredging and high-power water hoses. In regions such as Madre de Dios, alluvial ASGM, often associated with illicit activity, has been a major driver of deforestation and environmental degradation (USAID, 2020). Rising gold prices, improved access linked to road infrastructure, including the Interoceanic Highway, limited local government capacity, and the growing influence of organized crime have contributed to the expansion of ASGM in Madre de Dios since 2002 (USAID, 2020).

Aside from gold, copper is Peru's next significant ASM commodity. Direct employment in artisanal and small-scale copper mining is estimated at around 50,000 workers engaged solely in copper mining, with an additional 50,000 workers involved in both copper and gold mining (ARM, 2024). Miners focused exclusively on ASM copper are concentrated mainly in the departments of Apurímac and Huancavelica (ARM, 2024). Despite its employment significance, small-scale copper mining remains a marginal contributor to national output, accounting for an estimated 0.2% of Peru's copper production in 2022 (ARM, 2024).

1.7 Top Five Development Projects by Net Present Value

Key development projects by estimated net present value (NPV), 2000–2026 (USD billion)



Methodology note: *The bar chart shows a non-exhaustive list of Peru's top development projects (2020–2026) NPV in USD million; only base case values (most likely set of assumptions, serving as the main reference scenario) are shown. For the reported NPV, if after-tax data is not available, the pre-tax value is reported. Key development projects include those at the preliminary economic assessment, prefeasibility, full feasibility, and mine plan stages.*

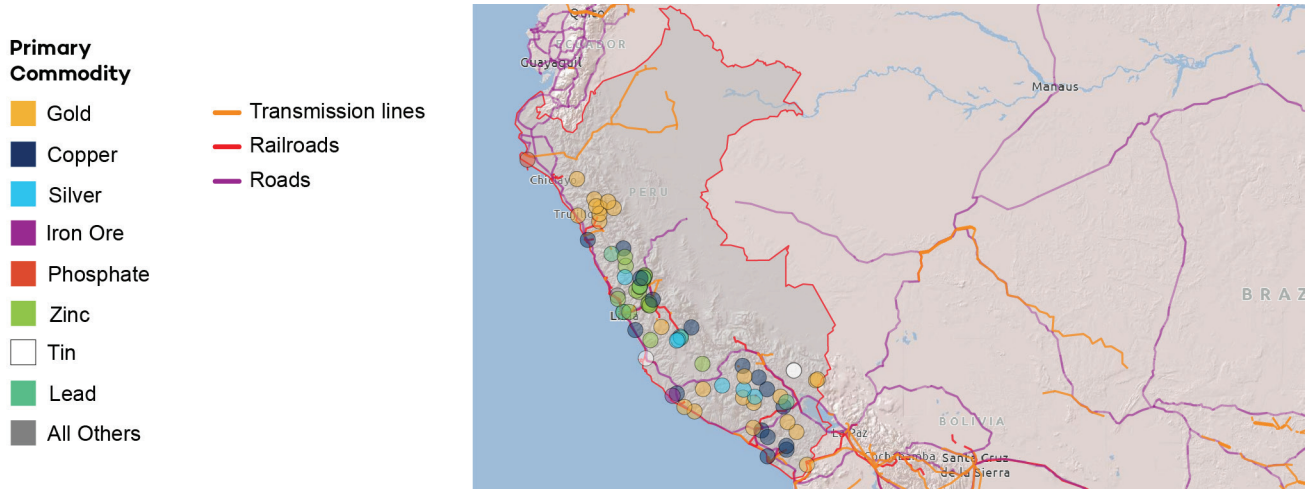
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence, 2026a.

This figure highlights the potential for Peru to diversify its copper-gold mining industry with significant developments of lithium, iron ore, and polymetallic projects. American Lithium's Macusani Plateau project records the highest NPV among the lithium and potash projects assessed and has a projected mine life of more than 43 years. This project is part of a global push to explore for lithium and expand production capacity. Major expansions and pre-construction projects are planned by Southern Copper, Freeport-McMoRan, and Zonia Holdings to target copper, iron ore, and precious metals with multi-decade mine lives. Together, these three projects represent approximately USD 13.3 billion in potential economic value, reinforcing Peru's importance in global mineral supply chains.

2. Industrial Considerations

2.1 Mining, Infrastructure, and Energy Map

Mining, infrastructure, and energy map, 2025



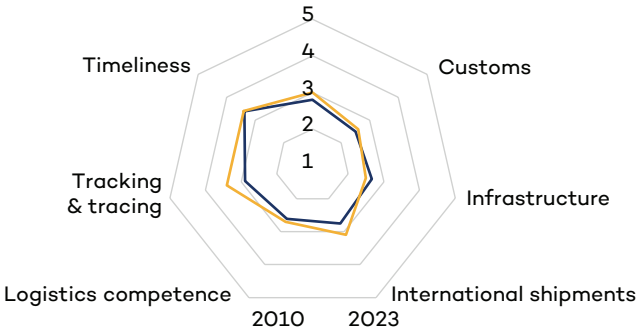
Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence, 2026b.

The map highlights spatial relationships between mining activities (circles), power transmission lines (orange), railways (red), and major roads (purple) across Peru. As shown, Peru's transport and energy infrastructure is highly concentrated along the coastal and central highland corridors. The country's rugged Andean geography significantly shapes infrastructure development, with connectivity declining sharply toward remote high-altitude mining districts, where access often depends on narrow access roads. Similarly, renewable power infrastructure development is shaped by its hydroelectric generation potential from Amazonian and Andean rivers, with transmission lines extending to proximate cities and mining hubs (United Nations Office for Project Services, 2025).

Meanwhile, rail infrastructure development across Peru is increasingly driven by the expanding need to link mineral-rich central regions (Cajamarca and Chiclayo) to ports on the Pacific coast to facilitate bulk mineral export (Bnamericas, 2024). In recent years, government programs, like the Plan Nacional de Infraestructura Sostenible para la Competitividad, and private investments tied to copper and lithium projects have led to prioritized upgrading of highways and transmission capacity to support industrial policy development (Global Business Reports, 2017).

2.2 Logistics Performance Index

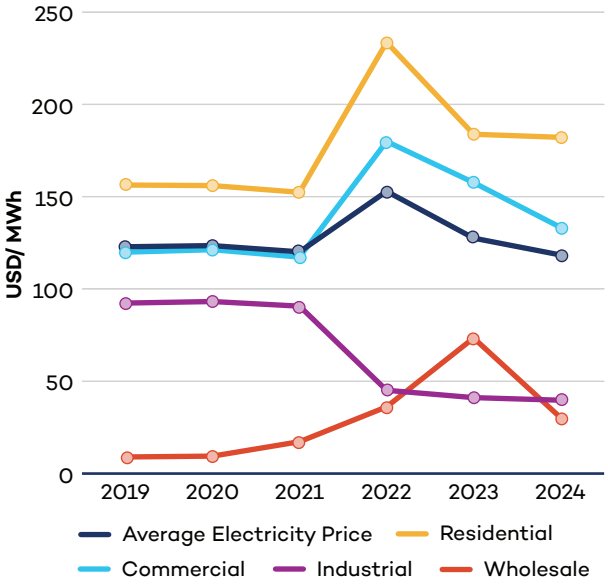
(i) Logistics Performance Index (LPI), 2010 versus 2023



Methodology note: *The radial chart shows the disaggregated World Bank LPI for Peru (ranked 1 = low and 5 = high). LPI is a composite measure disaggregated into six key dimensions: 1) Efficiency of the clearance process (i.e., speed, simplicity and predictability of formalities) by border control agencies, including customs; 2) Quality of trade- and transport-related infrastructure (e.g., ports, railroads, roads, information technology); 3) Ease of arranging competitively priced shipments; 4) Competence and quality of logistics services (e.g., transport operators, customs brokers); 5) Ability to track and trace consignments; 6) Timeliness of shipments in reaching destination within the scheduled or expected delivery time (Arvis et al., 2023).*

Source: Arvis et al., 2023.

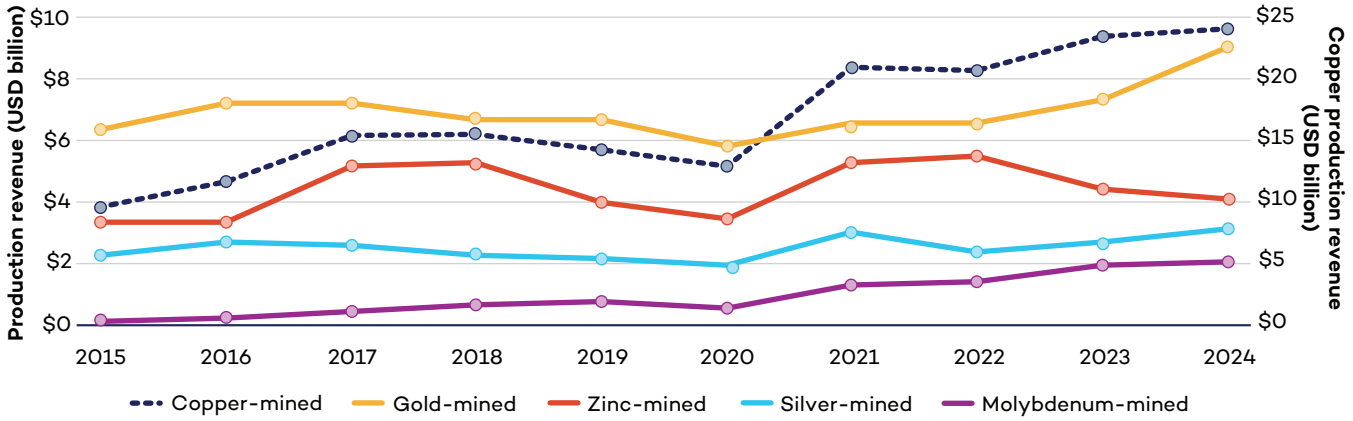
(ii) Electricity prices in Peru (megawatt hour, MWh), 2019–2024



Source: BloombergNEF, n.d.

2.3 Trade: Mining and refining evolution

(i) Peru's top revenue-producing commodities (USD billion)

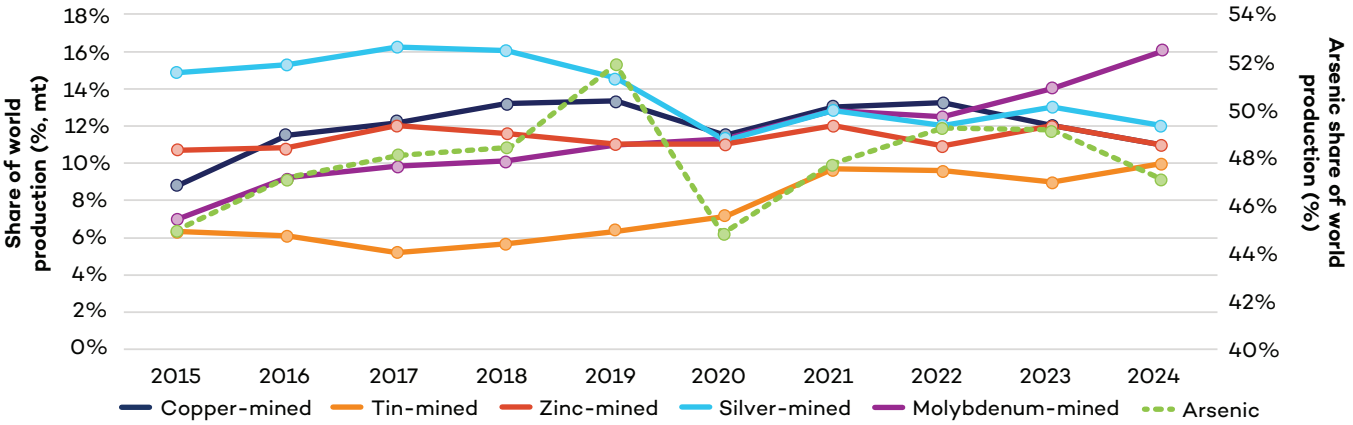


Methodology note: *Figure (i) shows the revenue generated by production of selected commodities, in USD billion. This is calculated as the average annual price times annual country-level production. Figure (ii) below shows the country's share of world production for selected commodities.*

Sources: U.S. Geological Survey, n.d.-a, n.d.-b.

Figure (i) shows how copper has dominated Peruvian mineral production revenue since 2015. Revenue for copper rose to nearly USD 25 billion in 2024 from about USD 10 billion in 2015 due to mine development and expansion such as at Quellaveco, Mina Justa, Toromocho, and Toquepala. Copper revenue suffered in 2020 due to COVID-19-related disruptions but recovered in 2021 with significantly higher growth rates compared to other commodities. Gold, the second highest-revenue-producing commodity, maintained a consistent level between USD 5 billion and USD 7.5 billion. On the other hand, zinc, silver, and molybdenum are characterized by lower levels of revenue generation compared to copper and gold, and have remained relatively the same throughout the decade, resulting in lower combined revenue generation compared to copper revenue alone.

(ii) Global production shares by commodity



Source: U.S. Geological Survey, n.d.-a, n.d.-b.

Peru accounts for a notably high share of global arsenic production, increasing slightly from around 45% in 2015 to 47% in 2024, it also ranked first producers of arsenic the same year, reflecting the recovery of arsenic-bearing materials associated with copper and polymetallic sulphide deposits rather than dedicated arsenic mining.

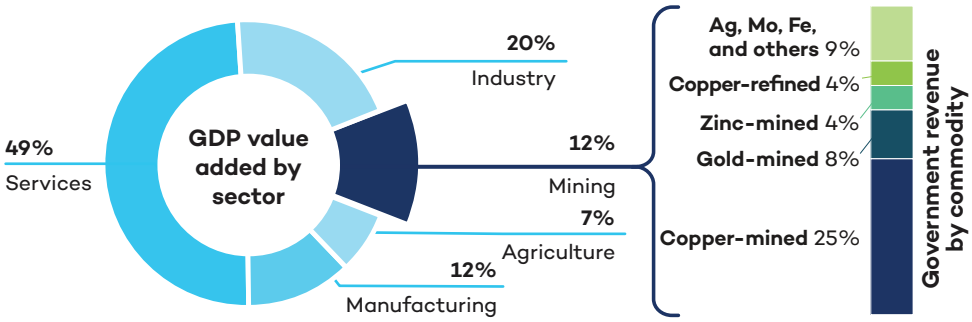
Peru's share of global production across copper, silver, zinc, molybdenum, and tin ranges from approximately 10% to 16%. In 2024, its production ranked second in zinc, third in mined copper, silver and tin, and fourth in molybdenum. This is consistent with the structure of Peru's mineral economy, which remains dominated by copper and precious metals. In 2024, production value was led by copper at USD 24.1 billion, followed by gold at USD 7.7 billion, zinc at USD 3.6 billion, silver at USD 2.8 billion, and molybdenum at USD 1.9 billion.

3. Geopolitical and Economic Considerations

3.1 Sectoral Contribution

Peru's GDP by sector and government revenue from mining by commodity (excluding oil and gas), 2024

GDP	USD 289.2 billion
GDP per capita rank	107
Mining government revenue	USD 3 billion
Mining exports (% of total)	68%
Mineral rents (% GDP) (2021)	12.1%



Methodology note: *The data to the far left of the donut graphs covers GDP, GDP per capita world ranking, total estimated government revenues from mining, and mining as a share of total exports. The centre donut graph presents each sector's share of GDP, with the mining sector highlighted in blue. The right-most figure estimates each commodity's revenue contribution to the mining sector.*

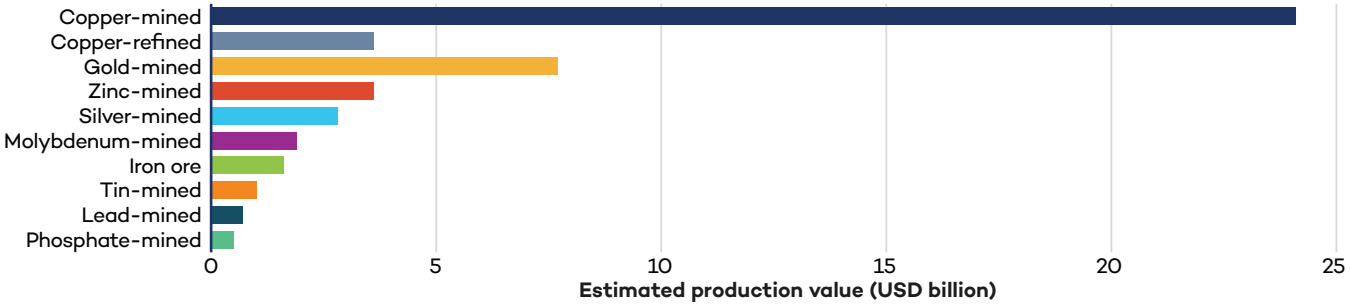
Sources: EITI, 2026; World Bank Open Data, n.d.

Peru has the economic profile of an emerging upper-middle-income country, with services providing approximately 60% of employment and accounting for around 50% of GDP. Agriculture remains an important source of livelihoods, employing roughly one quarter of the workforce, but contributes only about 7% of GDP. Manufacturing and industry are closely linked to mining, excluding oil and gas, which remains a central pillar of Peru's productive base.

Peru's mining sector is supported by a diverse geological endowment, dominated by porphyry and skarn copper-gold systems, as well as epithermal gold deposits. While copper and gold are the country's leading revenue-generating minerals, these deposit types also support significant production of associated and by-product metals, including zinc, silver, molybdenum, and other minerals.

3.2 Mined Production Value for Selected Commodities

Estimated production value of selected commodities (USD billion), 2024



Sources: U.S. Geological Survey Mineral Commodity Summaries, n.d.; U.S. Geological Survey, n.d.-b.

3.3 Trade and Export Restrictions

(i) Overview of Peruvian mining-related international coordination mechanisms (in force)

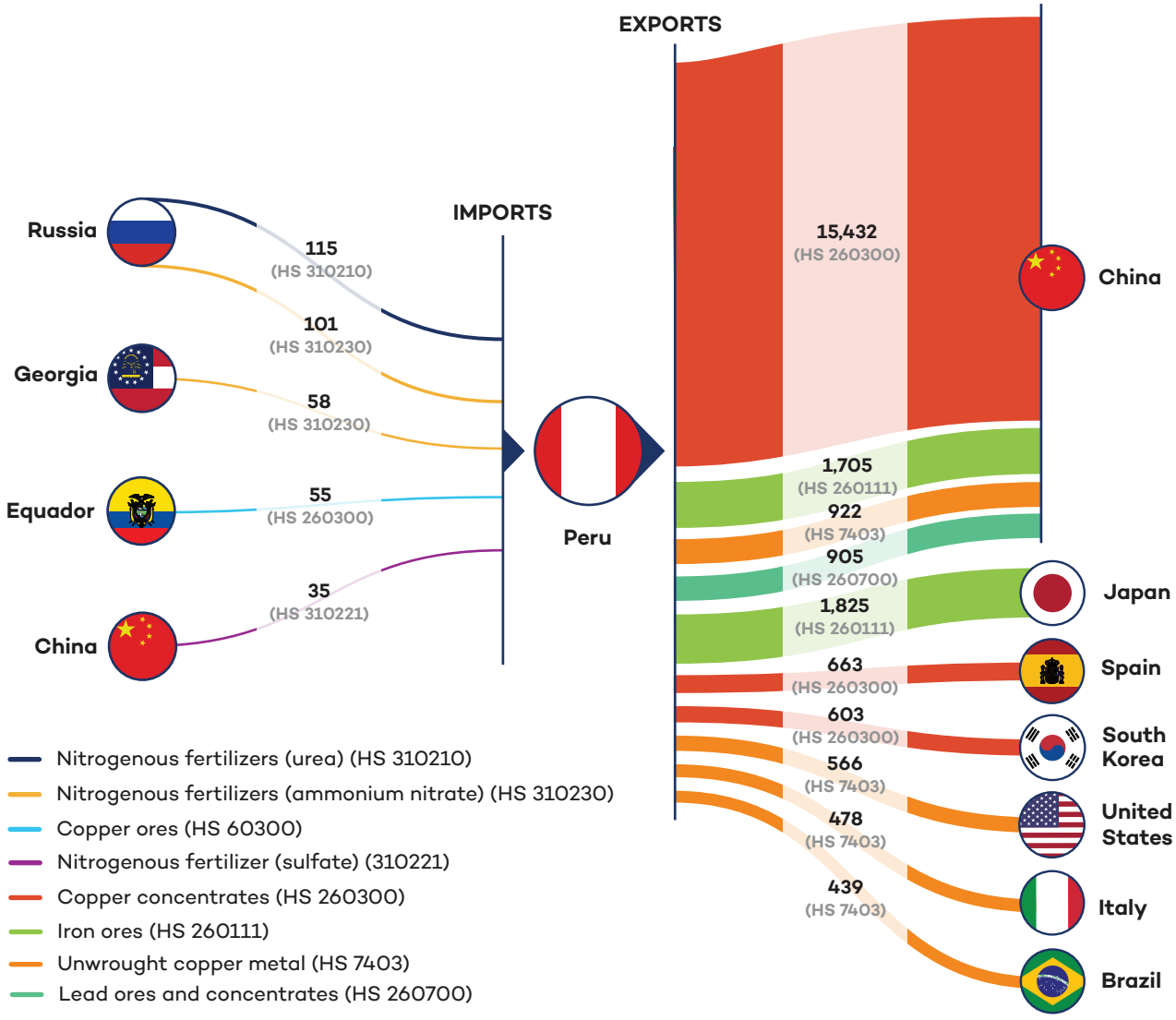
Partner country	Date signed	Agreement/memorandum of understanding
Canada	2026	Memorandum of understanding on cooperation on critical minerals and sustainable mining
United States	2024	Memorandum of understanding on cooperation on critical minerals
Chile	2025	Bilateral agreement on mining cooperation (signed at PERUMIN 2025)

Source: Forbes Peru, 2024; Natural Resources Canada, 2025; U.S. Embassy in Peru, 2024.

Peru promotes an open, competitive, and predictable investment environment by allowing mineral exports without export restrictions or export taxes. This policy helps maintain relatively low operating costs, supports foreign currency inflows, and contributes to continued investment in existing operations, expansions, and new mining projects. Instead of taxing exports, Peru generates mining-related revenues through general taxes, including corporate income tax, dividend tax, and value-added tax, as well as sector-specific royalties and mining taxes. These mining-specific instruments are applied on a sliding scale linked to profits, allowing government revenues to adjust with changes in commodity prices. Peru also offers mining companies stability agreements, which lock in the applicable tax regime for 10 to 15 years, further reinforcing predictability for long-term mining investment.

3.4 Major Mining Trades

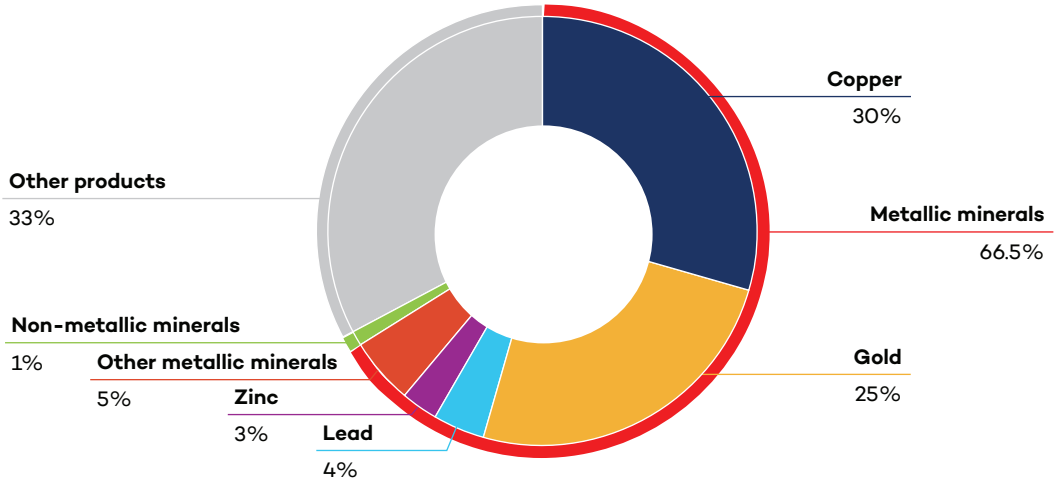
Major selected mining trades (excluding oil and gas) in Peru, 2024 (USD million)



Source: United Nations Statistics Division, 2026.

Peru's mining exports (excluding oil and gas) are strongly oriented toward China, its largest mining export partner, with trade exceeding USD 20 billion and dominated by copper, iron, and silver concentrates. The scale of concentrate exports highlights Peru's limited domestic processing and refining capacity, particularly for high-value mineral products. Expanding this capacity could allow Peru to retain more value in-country and attract strategic investment in mineral processing and midstream infrastructure. At the same time, Peru depends heavily on imports of nitrogenous fertilizers from countries such as Russia, Georgia, and China to support its agricultural sector.

(ii) Breakdown of metallic mineral export value by share, 2025



Source: Ministerio de Energía y Minas, 2026.

4. Environmental, Social, and Governance Considerations

4.1 Environmental

Environmental

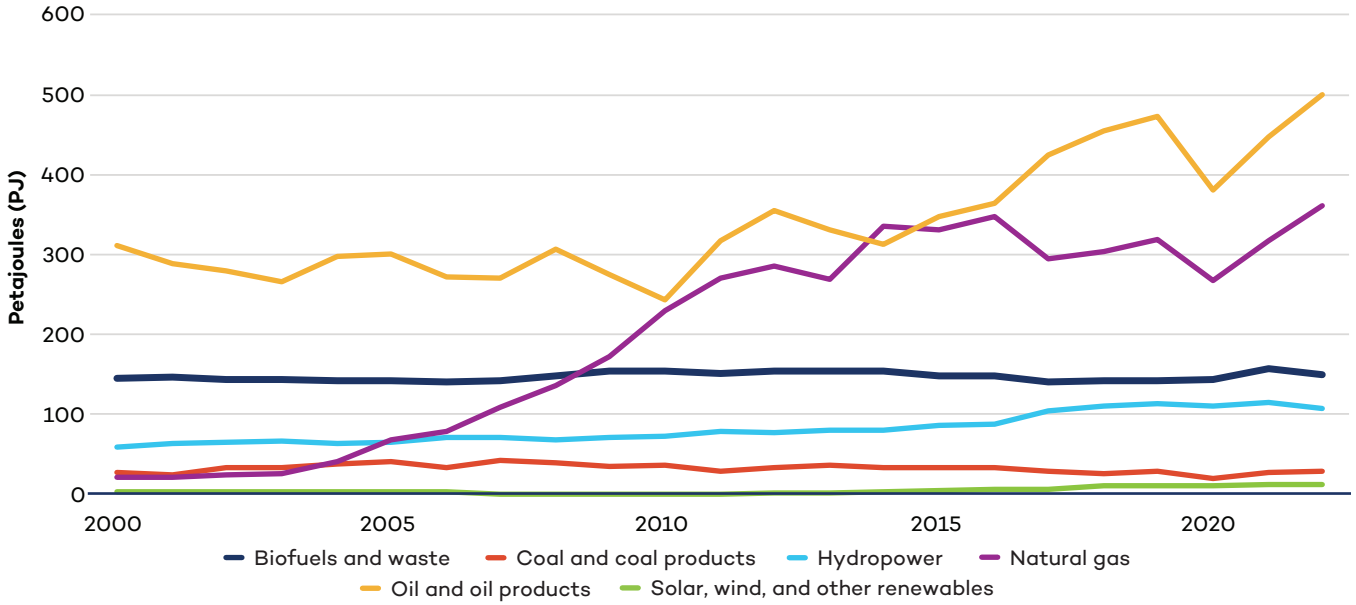
Indicator	Year	Score	% change
Annual greenhouse gas emissions[A] (million mt CO_2e) (including LULUCF*)	2000 2023	**190,000** **243,000**	↑ 27.0%
Energy sector emissions[A] (million mt CO_2e)	2000 2023	**31.6** **65.0**	↑ +105.7%
Industry/IPPU GHG emissions**[A] (million mt CO_2e)	2000 2023	**2.03** **7.98**	↑ +293.1%
Industrial energy intensity[C] (petajoules [PJ])	2000 2023	**143,071** **269,080**	↑ +88.1%
Modern renewables in final energy consumption[C] (%)	2000 2022	**16** **15.5**	↓ -3.2%
Hydropower energy generation[C] (% share of non-combustibles)	2000 2023	**99** **89**	↓ +10.10%
Tree cover loss[B] (kilohectares [kha])	2001 2024	**86** **270**	↑ +231.9%

**LULUCF = land use, land-use change, and forestry; **IPPU = industrial processes and product use.*

Sources: [A]Climate Watch, 2025; [B]Global Forest Watch, 2025; [C]IEA, 2025b.

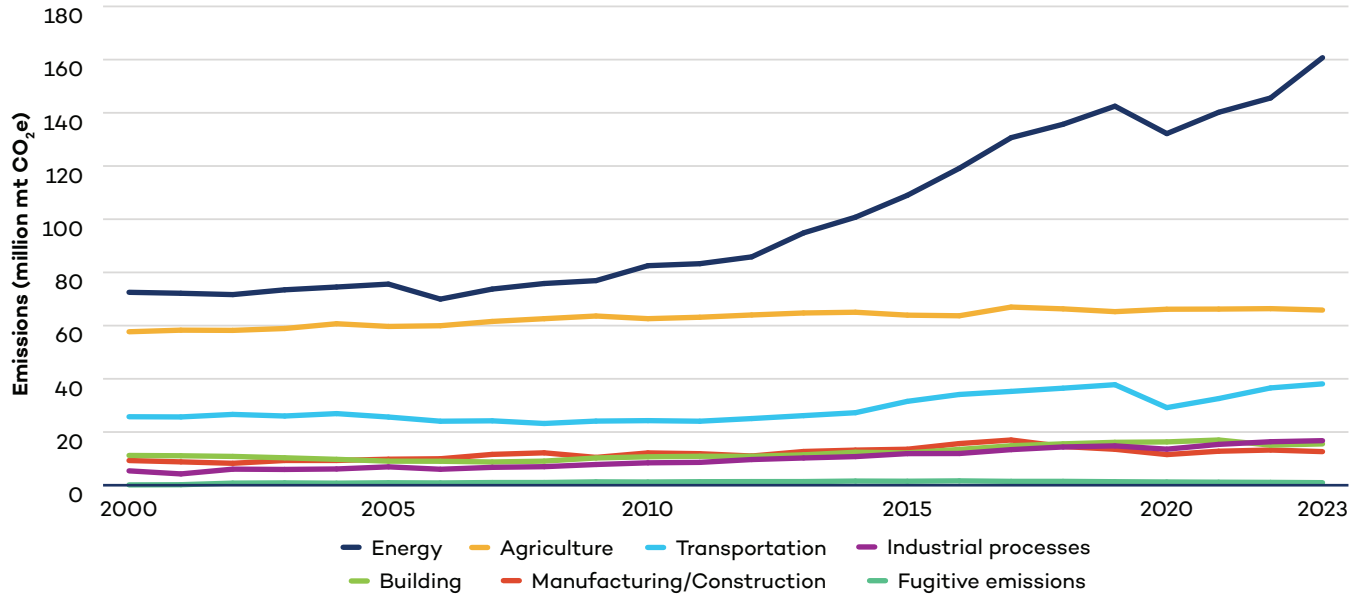
4.1.2 Emissions and Energy Mix Overview

(i) Peru's energy supply by source (2000–2024)



Source: IEA, 2025b.

(ii) Historical emissions by sector, 2000–2023



Source: Climate Watch, 2025.

Peru contributes little to global GHGs, with a national emission (without LULUCF) of 112.64 million mt CO_2e in 2022 (Climate Watch, 2025). In addition, compared to other sectors such as land-use change and forestry (48%), energy (29%) and agriculture (11%), the mining industry represents a minor proportion of total GHG emissions (2.4%). According to Peru's National Inventory Document, direct mining emissions are primarily associated with transportation (Scope 1) and energy consumption (Scope 2). Given Peru's role as a major producer and exporter of mineral commodities, a significant share of mining-related emissions is generated upstream through extraction, hauling, and the production and use of energy and other inputs required for mining operations (Ministry of Environment, 2025).

4.2 Social

4.2.1 Social Scorecard

Social

Indicator	Year	Score
Gini coefficient[E] (0–100)	2024	40.1
Prevalence of undernourishment[A] (%) (3-year av.)	2024	6.9%
Total workforce mining and quarrying[C] (c)	2026	272,423
Representation of female staff in the mining workforce[D] (%)	2019	6.78
Resilience index[B] (0-100)	2023	48

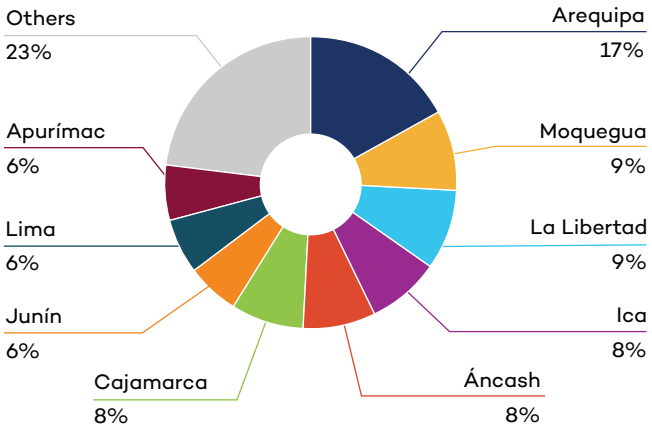
The Gini Index measures income (or consumption) inequality, ranging from 0 (perfect equality) to 100 (perfect inequality), with higher values indicating greater inequality.

Normalized score is a 0–100 country percentile ranking across all countries covered by the aggregate indicator, where 0 corresponds to the lowest rank and 100 to the highest.

Sources: [A]Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2025; [B]Lloyd's Register Foundation, 2024; [C]Ministerio de Energía y Minas, 2025; [D]Vaccaro, 2022; [E]World Bank Open Data, n.d.

4.2.2 Gender Equity and Social Inclusion

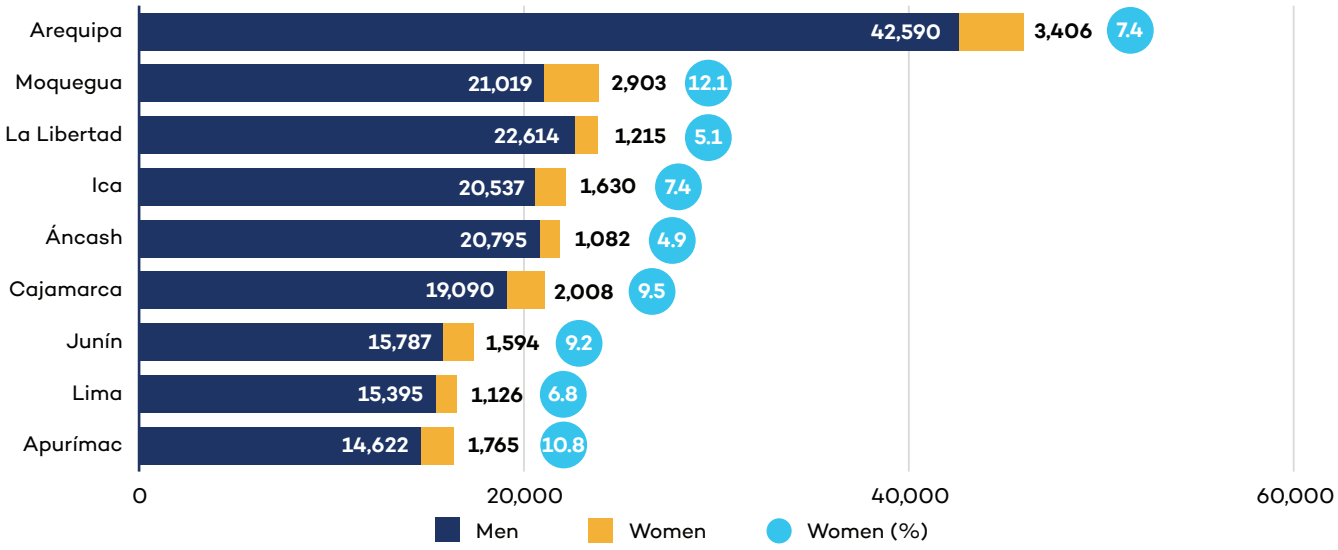
(i) Mining employment by department (January 2026, % of total mining workforce)



Source: Ministerio de Energía y Minas, 2026.

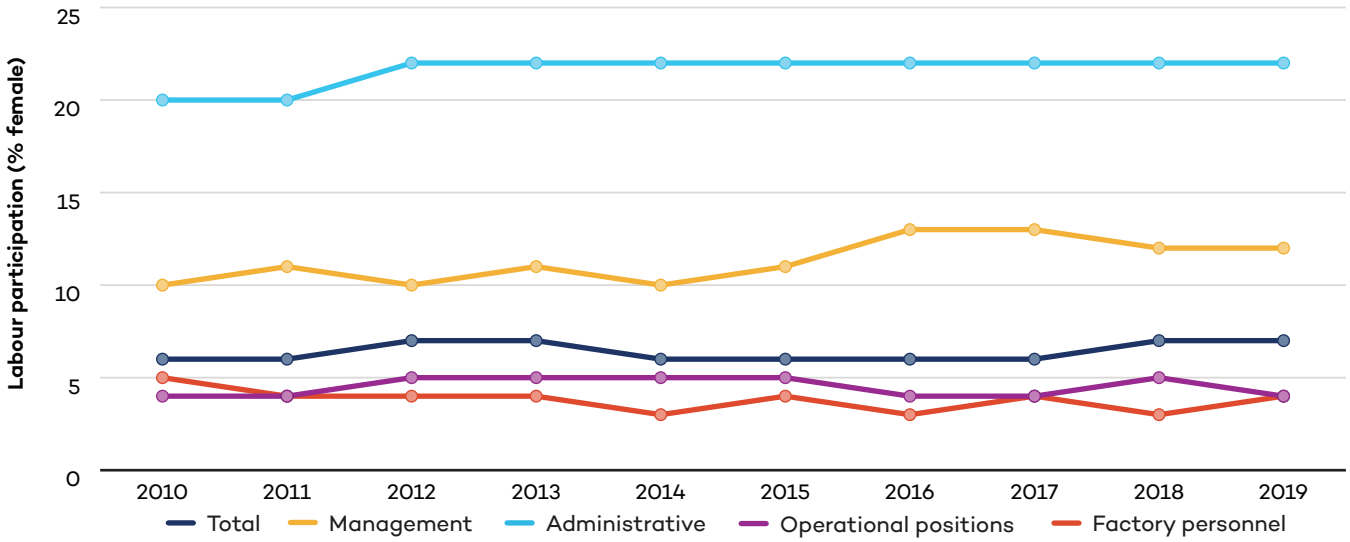
Figure (i) presents mining-related employment in Peru by department, as a percentage of the total workforce. Percentage shares are based on data from the General Directorate of Mining–MINEM. Arequipa ranks first with 45,996 workers, accounting for 16.9% of total employment; Moquegua ranks second, contributing 8.8% of total employment, and La Libertad ranks third, with 8.7% of the workforce. In these three departments, the largest shares of mining employment are associated with Sociedad Minera Cerro Verde S.A.A., Anglo American Quelaveco S.A., and Compañía Minera Poderosa S.A., respectively.

(ii) Mining employment share by department and gender (January 2026)



Source: Vaccaro, 2022; MINEM, 2026.

(iii) Women's labour participation in large-scale mining by occupational group, 2022



Source: Vaccaro, 2022.

Women's participation in Peru's large-scale mining sector remains limited and unevenly distributed across departments (Figure i), occupational groups (Figure ii), and mining stages (Vaccaro, 2022). Across departments, female workforce participation (% share) is highest in Moqueaqua (12.1%) and Apurimac (10.8%), and lowest in Áncash (4.9%) and La Libertad (5.1%). Across occupational groups, data for 2010 to 2019 showed that women are most represented in administrative roles, averaging 22%, while their participation in operational and factory (4%) and managerial (12%) positions remained low (Vaccaro, 2022). Vaccaro (2022) also estimated that across mining activities, women accounted for around 5%–7% of employment in exploitation activities, and a slightly higher share of 8%–12% in exploration and 5%–12% in closure-related roles.

4.3 Governance

4.3.1 Governance Scorecard

Governance

Indicator	Year	Score
Political stability & violence[B] (0 - 100)	2023	24.117
Rule of law[B] (0 - 100)	2023	30.19
Voice & accountability[B] (0 - 100)	2023	49.51
Control of corruption[B] (0 - 100)	2023	25.47
Regulatory quality[B] (0 - 100)	2023	60.38
INFORM Disaster Risk Reduction Index[A] (0-10)	2026	5.2

Normalized score (0-100) indicated as a country percentile rank among all other countries covered by the aggregate indicator, with 0 corresponding to the lowest rank and 100 the highest.

INFORM Risk Index (0-10) is a composite indicator that identifies countries at risk of humanitarian crisis and disaster that would overwhelm national response capacity. 0 indicates no risk, 10 indicates extremely high risk.

Sources: [A]European Commission Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre, 2026; [B]World Bank Open Data, n.d.

4.3.2 Regulatory Landscape Overview

Overview of Peru's regulatory landscape for the mining sector

Type of legal system	Civil law
Main regulatory authority	Ministry of Energy and Mines
Mining code or primary legislation	Decreto Supremo N° 014-92-EM, Texto Único Ordenado de la Ley General de Minería (Supreme Decree No. 014-920EM, Consolidated Text of the General Mining Law)
Legal provisions for Indigenous or local community rights	Public participation and consultation are regulated by Ley N.29785, Ley del Derecho a la Consulta Previa a los Pueblos Inigenas u Originarios (*Law No. 29785, Law on the Right to Prior Consultation for Indigenous Peoples*) and Decreto Supremo N. ° 001/2012/MC (*Supreme Decree No. 001 2012 MC*). In the mining sector, prior consultation is required before a beneficiation concession, exploration/exploitation authorization, and mining transport concession are granted (as per RM 403-2019-MINEM-DM and RM 254-2021-MINEN-DM). Where Indigenous collective rights may be affected, companies must include this in environmental impact assessment (EIA).
Environmental Management & Impact Assessment Regulations	Decreto Supremo N. ° 018 2018 MINAM, Texto Único de Procedimientos Administrativos (Single Text of Administrative Procedures, Decree 018-2018-MINAM). Regulation on Environmental Protection and Management for Mining Exploitation, Beneficiation, General Operations, Transportation, and Storage, Decree 040-2014-EM, Article 25

Source: Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development, 2026.

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