

Top diamond-producing countries 2015					
Country ranking by volume			Country ranking by value		
Rank	Country	Volume (ct)	Rank	Country	Value (\$)
1	Russia	41.91-million	1	Russia	4.24-billion
2	Botswana	20.78-million	2	Botswana	2.99-billion
3	Democratic Republic of Congo	16.02-million	3	Canada	1.68-billion
4	Australia	13.56-million	4	South Africa	1.39-billion
5	Canada	11.68-million	5	Angola	1.18-billion
6	Angola	9.02-million	6	Australia	308.36-million
7	South Africa	7.22-million	7	Lesotho	283.36-million
8	Zimbabwe	3.49-million	8	Zimbabwe	175.54-million
9	Namibia	2.05-million	9	Sierra Leone	154.25-million
10	Sierra Leone	500 000	10	Democratic Republic of Congo	132.54-million

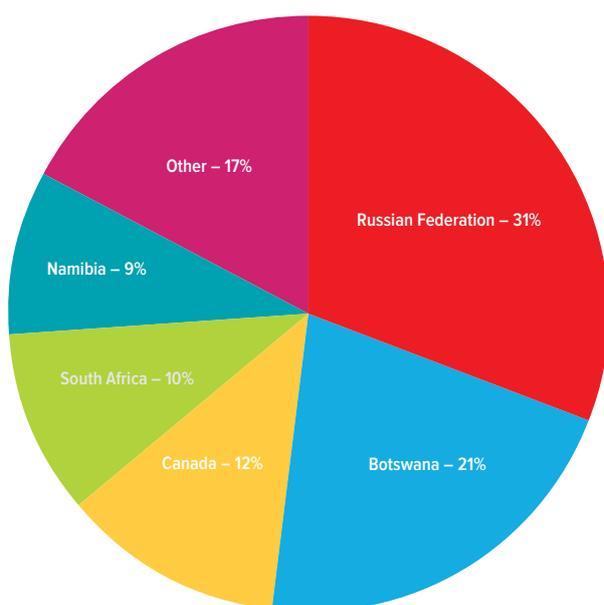
Source: Compiled from Kimberley Process Certification Scheme statistics

De Beers' efforts to lower global supply have been offset by Russian major Alrosa keeping its production stable, and increases from midtier and smaller producers. Diamond analyst Paul Zimnisky forecasts global production to increase from 127-million carats in 2015 to 137-million carats in 2016.

However, the production cuts are more apparent on a value-basis, with Zimnisky forecasting production in value terms to about \$12.60-billion in 2016. The KPCS estimates that production, in terms of value, was \$13.88-billion in 2015.

2015 production by value

Total = \$13.88-billion



Source: Kimberley Process Certification Scheme

The reduced production from De Beers has catapulted Russia to the position of the largest producer by volume and value. For many years, the country was the largest producer only by volume.

Russia produced 41.91-million carats (22% share), valued at \$4.24-billion (31% share) in 2015. Botswana was the second-largest producer in volume and value terms, producing 20.78-million carats (16% share), valued at \$2.99-billion (21% share).

Lesotho's diamonds continue to be the most valuable, having reached \$931/ct in 2015, while diamonds from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are the least valuable, selling at an average of \$8/ct.

The production supply cuts of recent years have supported rough diamond prices. Market commentators say that, without lower production, rough prices could have been substantially lower.

A notable trend in recent years has been significantly lower production from the Marange diamond fields, in Zimbabwe. Production has fallen to between 4.50-million carats and 5-million carats in 2015 from a peak of about 12-million carats in 2012, according to Zimnisky. In February 2016, the Zimbabwe government ordered all diamond mining companies to end operations and vacate their premises to enable the newly created State-owned Zimbabwe Consolidated Diamond Company (ZCDC) to take over the deposits in Marange.

From March 2016 to June 2016, the ZCDC reportedly produced 513 000 ct from two concessions previously owned by firms ejected from Marange.

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