



2016 Minerals Yearbook

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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In 2016, the Central African Republic remained in a state of civil unrest. As such, the production of mineral commodities—notably, diamond and gold—represented a largely unmeasurable part of the economy. The legislative framework for the mineral sector in the Central African Republic is provided by the Mining Code of 2009, law No. 09–005A. Data on mineral production are in table 1. All diamond and gold production was from

artisanal mines located throughout the country. More-extensive coverage of the mineral industry of the Central African Republic can be found in previous editions of the U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook, volume III, Area Reports—International—Africa and the Middle East, which are available at <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/nmic/africa-and-middle-east>.

TABLE 1
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES¹

(Kilograms, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity ²	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
METALS					
Gold, mine production, Au content ^c	55	60	60	60	60
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS					
Diamond, gem and industrial carats	365,917 ³	151,853 ^{3, 4}	31,933 ⁴	NA	10,957

^cEstimated. NA Not available.

¹Table includes data available through November 29, 2017. All data are reported unless otherwise noted. Estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²In addition to the commodities listed, clay, quartz crystals, and sand and gravel may have been produced in the Central African Republic, but available information was inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

³Reported by the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme.

⁴The Central African Republic was under a temporary suspension from the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme and had not traded in rough diamond since 2013. In 2013, 118,946 carats was exported before May 23, when the suspension was put into effect, and during the remainder of the year, 32,906 carats was stored. Production numbers for 2014 through 2016 are only for carats stored, as any illegal trade of diamond was not measured.