

2016 Minerals Yearbook

ETHIOPIA

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF ETHIOPIA

By Thomas R. Yager

In 2016, the production of mineral commodities—notably gold, gemstones, and tantalum—represented only a minor part of the economy of Ethiopia (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, 2017). The legislative framework for the mineral sector in Ethiopia is provided by Mining Income Tax Proclamation No. 53/1993, Mining Income Tax (Amendment) Proclamation No. 23/1996, Transaction of Precious Minerals Proclamation No. 651/2009, Mining Operations Proclamation No. 678/2010, and Mining Operations (Amendment) Proclamation No. 816/2013. The legislative framework for the petroleum sector is provided by Petroleum Operations Income Tax Proclamation No. 296/1986, Petroleum Operations Proclamation No. 295/1996, and Petroleum Operations Income Tax (Amendment)

Proclamation No. 226/2000. Data on mineral production are in table 1. Table 2 is a list of major mineral industry facilities. More-extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Ethiopia can be found in previous editions of the U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook, volume III, Area Reports—International—Africa, which are available at <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/nmic/africa-and-middle-east>.

Reference Cited

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, 2017, Ethiopia, in African statistical yearbook 2017: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, p. 178–182. (Accessed November 7, 2018, at <https://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/PublicationFiles/asyb-2017.pdf>.)

TABLE 1
ETHIOPIA: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES^{1,2}

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity ³		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
METALS						
Gold, mine, Au content	kilograms	12,311	12,581	11,970 ^r	9,040 ^{r,4}	8,577 ⁴
Iron and steel, steel, raw ^c		79,000 ^r	120,000 ^r	280,000 ^r	430,000 ^r	690,000
Niobium and tantalum, mine, columbite-tantalite concentrate:						
Gross weight	kilograms	380,000 ^c	50,000 ^c	141,000	180,000 ^c	191,000 ⁴
Nb content ^c	do.	31,000 ^r	3,900 ^r	12,000 ^r	15,000 ^r	16,000
Ta content ^c	do.	100,000 ^r	11,000 ^r	46,000 ^r	59,000 ^r	63,000
Platinum-group metals, mine, platinum, Pt content	do.	--	--	--	5 ^c	5 ^c
Silver, mine, Ag content	do.	800 ^c	900 ^c	1,020 ^r	1,000	1,000 ^c
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS						
Cement, hydraulic		3,547,880	4,493,245	5,423,745	7,500,000 ^{r,c}	8,300,000 ^c
Clay and shale:						
Brick clay		NA	NA	15,400	16,000 ^c	16,000 ^c
Kaolin		4,200 ^c	4,400 ^c	4,530	4,600 ^c	4,600 ^c
Shale		50,000 ^c	58,000 ^c	66,569	110,000 ^c	110,000 ^c
Other		210,000 ^c	520,000 ^c	883,464	990,000 ^c	1,100,000 ^c
Diatomite ^c		4,500	4,800	5,000	5,000	5,000
Feldspar, mine production		500 ^c	550 ^c	596	600 ^c	600 ^c

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 1—Continued
ETHIOPIA: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES^{1,2}

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity ³	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS—Continued					
Gemstones:					
Aquamarine ^c kilograms	700	1,100	1,600	3,200	420
Citrine ^c do.	3	5	8	16	2
Emerald ^c do.	15	23	35	70	9
Garnet ^c do.	30	45	68	140	19
Morganite ^c do.	1	2	3	6	1
Opal do.	14,000 ^e	21,000 ^e	32,000 ^e	64,000 ^e	8,485 ⁴
Peridot ^c do.	10	15	23	46	6
Quartz ^c do.	1,500	2,300	3,400	6,800	900
Ruby ^c do.	55	85	130	260	34
Sapphire ^c do.	45	70	110	220	29
Tourmaline ^c do.	110	170	250	500	66
Gypsum, including anhydrite, crude	74,000 ^e	150,000 ^e	243,678	290,000 ^e	320,000 ^e
Lime	5,621	6,000 ^e	36,000 ^e	55,000 ^e	75,000 ^e
Pumice and pumicite	380,000 ^e	510,000 ^e	640,895	720,000 ^e	800,000 ^e
Quartz, unspecified	1,300 ^e	2,300 ^e	3,358	3,400 ^e	3,400 ^e
Salt, rock ^c	400,000 ^r	410,000 ^r	420,000 ^r	440,000 ^r	450,000
Sand and gravel, industrial	11,000 ^e	9,800 ^e	16,290	10,443 ^r	10,000 ^e
Soda ash, natural	5,000 ^e	5,000 ^e	3,896	6,878 ^r	8,000 ^e
Stone, sand, and gravel:					
Stone, crushed:					
Basalt	41,000 ^e	130,000 ^e	182,863	148,078 ^r	150,000 ^e
Limestone	2,400,000 ^e	3,000,000 ^e	3,640,000	4,800,000 ^e	4,800,000 ^e
Rhyolite	10,000 ^e	10,000 ^e	92,604	160,000 ^e	160,000 ^e
Sandstone	33,000 ^e	57,000 ^e	73,572	110,000 ^e	110,000 ^e
Stone, dimension:					
Granite ^c	2,200 ^r	1,500 ^r	1,500 ^r	1,600 ^r	1,600
Marble:					
Block	NA	9,746 ^r	9,720 ^r	9,700 ^{r, e}	9,700 ^e
Slab and tiles	16,876	11,807	12,000 ^e	12,000 ^e	12,000 ^e
Other	NA	NA	42,623	43,000 ^e	43,000 ^e
Stone, size and shape unspecified, dolomite	7,000 ^e	11,000 ^e	15,824	16,000 ^e	16,000 ^e
MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS					
Coal, lignite	20,000 ^e	20,000 ^e	27,000 ^{r, e}	34,131 ^r	35,000 ^e

^cEstimated. ^rRevised. do. Ditto. NA Not available. -- Zero.

¹Table includes data available through February 22, 2018. All data are reported unless otherwise noted. Estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²Data are for the Ethiopian fiscal year ending on July 7 of the year indicated.

³In addition to the commodities listed, glass, sulfuric acid, and talc may have been produced in Ethiopia, but available information was inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

⁴Reported exports.

TABLE 2
ETHIOPIA: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2016

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity	Major operating companies and major equity owners		Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Caustic soda	Caustic Soda Share Co.		Plant at Ziway	10,000.
Cement	Derba Midroc Cement plc		Plant at Derba	2,500,000.
Do.	do.		do.	90,000.
Do.	do.		Plant at Dejen	90,000.
Do.	Dangote Cement plc		Plant at Mugher	2,500,000.
Do.	Mugher Cement Enterprise (Government, 100%)		do.	2,276,000.
Do.	Messebo Cement Factory plc (Government, 100%)		Plant at Mekele	2,240,000.
Do.	National Cement Share Co.		Plants at Dire Dawa	1,350,000.
Do.	East Cement Share Co.		Plant at Dukem	750,000.
Do.	Ture Dire Dawa Cement Factory Share Co.		Plant at Dire Dawa	500,000.
Do.	Capital Clinker and Packaging plc		Plant at Addis Ababa	450,000.
Do.	Pioneer Cement Manufacturing plc		Plant at Dire Dawa	450,000.
Do.	Huang Shan Cement plc		Plant near Modijo	435,000.
Do.	Encheni Medrock Cement plc		NA	300,000.
Do.	Jiangsu Zhongshun Import and Export Trade Company Ltd.		Plant at Dukem	250,000.
Do.	Hua Yu Cement		NA	150,000.
Do.	Red Fox International Investment plc		Plant at Adama	100,000.
Do.	Abyssinia Cement plc		Plant at Chanco	90,000.
Do.	Derbasina Business Industries plc		Plant at Holeta	90,000.
Do.	Jema Cement plc		Plant in North Shoa zone	45,000.
Clay and shale:				
Kaolin	Ethiopian Mineral Development Share Co. (Government, 100%)		Mine at Bamba Wuha	7,500.
Other	East Cement Share Co.		Mine in Oromia Regional State	1,800,000. ^c
Do.	National Cement Share Co.		Mine in Amhara Regional State	280,000. ^c
Do.	Pioneer Cement Manufacturing plc		Mine at Dire Dawa	120,000. ^c
Do.	Mugher Cement		Mine near Mugher	67,000. ^c
Shale	Messebo Cement Factory plc		Mine in Tigray Regional State	170,000. ^c
Coal, lignite	Delbi Coal Mining Share Co.		Mine at Delbi	30,000. ^c
Feldspar	Ethiopian Mineral Development Share Co.		Kenticha Mine near Borena	600. ^c
Gemstones, opal	Artisanal miners		Mine at Wegel Tena	NA.
Do.	do.		Mine near Gashena	NA.
Glass	Ethiopia Hansom International Glass plc [CGC Overseas Construction Ltd. (CGCOC) and China-Africa Development Fund]		Plant at Addis Ababa	42,000.
Do.	Addis Ababa Bottle and Glass Share Co.		do.	8,000.
Gold	kilograms	Midroc Gold Mine plc (Midroc Group)	Lega Dembi and Sakaro Mines	3,600. ^c
Do.	do.	Artisanal miners	Mines in Oromia Regional State	3,400. ^c
Do.	do.	do.	Mines in Tigray Regional State	2,200. ^c
Do.	do.	do.	Mines in Gambella Regional State	1,200. ^c
Do.	do.	do.	Mines in Benishangul-Gumuz Regional State	1,100. ^c
Do.	do.	do.	Mines in Southern Nations Nationalities, and Peoples' Regional State	600. ^c
Do.	do.	do.	Mines in Amhara Regional State ¹	300. ^c
Gypsum	Derba Midroc Cement plc		Mine in Oromia Regional State	150,000. ^c
Do.	East Cement Share Co.		do.	140,000. ^c
Do.	Pioneer Cement plc		Mine in Somali Regional State	85,000. ^c
Lime	Derba Lime and Chemicals (DLC) (Midroc Group, 100%)		Plant near Derba	73,000.
Do.	Senkele Lime Factory		Plant at Ambo	6,000. ^c
Do.	Caustic Soda Share Co. (Government, 100%)		Plant at Ziway	NA.
Do.	Wonji Shoa Sugar Factory		Plant near Wonji	NA.

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2—Continued
ETHIOPIA: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2016

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity	Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Niobium (columbium) and tantalum, ore and concentrate	Ethiopian Mineral Development Share Co.	Kenticha Mine near Borena	90 tantalum; 20 niobium.
Do.	Artisanal miners	Mines in Oromia Regional State	25 tantalum; 14 niobium.
Platinum	do.	Mine at Yubdo	10. ^c
Pumice and pozzolanic materials	East Cement Share Co.	Mine in Oromia Regional State	1,100,000. ^c
Do.	Derba Midroc Cement plc	do.	170,000. ^c
Do.	Mugher Cement Enterrpise	Mine near Mugher	120,000. ^c
Do.	Messebo Cement Factory plc	Mine in Tigray Regional State	110,000. ^c
Quartz	Ethiopian Mineral Development Share Co.	Kenticha Mine near Borena	3,400. ^c
Salt	Artisanal miners	Mines at Afdera Lake	1,100,000. ^c
Silica sand	Ethiopian Hansom International Glass PLC	Mine in Oromia Regional State	35,000. ^c
Silver kilograms	Midroc Gold Mine plc (Midroc Group)	Mine at Lega Dembi	1,100. ^c
Soda ash	Abijata-Shalla Soda Ash Share Co. [National Mining Corp. plc (NMIC), 62%, and Government, 38%]	Mine at Lake Abijata	20,000.
Steel, crude	Abyssinia Integrated Steel plc	Plant at Debre Zeit	150,000. ^c
Stone:			
Crushed:			
Basalt	Derba Midroc Cement plc	Mine in Oromia Regional State	290,000. ^c
Do.	Target Industries plc	Mine near Addis Ababa	14,000. ^c
Limestone	Derba Midroc Cement plc	Mine in Oromia Regional State	2,700,000. ^c
Do.	National Cement Share Co.	Mine near Dire Dawa	1,600,000. ^c
Do.	Messebo Cement Factory plc	Mine in Tigray Regional State	1,500,000. ^c
Do.	Pioneer Cement Manufacturing plc	Mine at Dire Dawa	1,100,000. ^c
Do.	East Cement Share Co.	Mine in Oromia Regional State	770,000. ^c
Do.	Mugher Cement Enterrpise	Mine near Mugher	390,000. ^c
Rhyolite	National Cement Share Co.	Mine at Dire Dawa	240,000. ^c
Sandstone	Derba Midroc Cement plc	Mine in Oromia Regional State	70,000. ^c
Do.	Messebo Cement Factory plc	Mine in Tigray Regional State	80,000. ^c
Dimension, marble	A Zeyneba Mining Plc	Mine in Benishangul-Gumuz Regional State	32,000. ^c
Do.	National Mining Corporation Plc	do.	10,000. ^c
Do.	do.	Plant at Awash	20,000. ²
Do.	Saba Dimension Stone Factory plc	Plant at Adwa	14,000. ²
Undefined, dolomite	Ethiopian Mineral Development Share Co.	Kenticha Mine near Borena	16,000. ^c
Sulfuric acid	Melkasa Aluminum Sulfate and Sulfuric Acid Factory	Plant at Melkasa	14,600.

^cEstimated. Do., do. Ditto. NA Not available.

¹Not operating at the end of 2016.

²Also includes granite and limestone.