



2016 Minerals Yearbook

SWAZILAND

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF SWAZILAND¹

By James J. Barry

In 2016, the production of mineral commodities—notably coal, gold, and crushed stone—represented only a minor part of the economy of Swaziland (African Development Bank, 2017, p. 324). The legislative framework for the mineral sector in Swaziland is provided by the Diamond Act No. 3 of 2011, the Explosive Act No. 4 of 1961, the Mines and Minerals Act No. 4 of 2011, and the Mines and Quarries (Safety) Regulations. 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 Swaziland 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>.

Reference Cited

African Development Bank, 2017, African statistical yearbook—2017: Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, African Development Bank, 357 p. (Accessed February 5, 2018, at https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/African_Statistical_Yearbook_2017.pdf.)

TABLE 1
SWAZILAND: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES¹

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity ²		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
METALS						
Gold, mine output, Au content	kilograms	--	--	--	--	30 °
Iron ore, mine production		1,032,230	1,258,560	603,251	-- ^r	--
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS						
Clay and shale, for bricks	cubic meters	36,000 °	36,014	37,417	30,241 ^r	27,000 °
Stone, crushed	do.	308,440	292,703	310,659	396,046 ^r	420,000 °
MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS						
Coal, anthracite		152,284	257,090	177,931	141,733 ^r	158,000 °

°Estimated. ^rRevised. do. Ditto. -- Zero.

¹Table includes data available through December 12, 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, modest quantities of crude construction materials (sand and gravel), kaolin, pyrophyllite (talc), and soapstone are thought to have been produced in Swaziland, but available information was inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

TABLE 2
SWAZILAND: 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
Bricks	Langa Brick (Fortis Enterprises Ltd.)	Mpaka	640,000
Do.	Mangweni Bricks	Kwalini Quarry, Matsapha	NA
Coal, anthracite	Maloma Colliery Ltd. (Chancellor House Holdings, 50%; Tibiyo Taka Ngwane, 25%; Government, 25%)	Maloma Mine at Maloma	480,000
Gold	kilograms Lufafa Mine PTY Ltd. (SDZ Holdings LLC., 50%; Ingwenyama, 25%; Government, 25%)	Lufafa Mine, Hhelehhele, in the Hhohho region	400 °
Stone, crushed	Camdel Construction (Proprietary) Ltd.	Kwalini Quarry, Matsapha	NA
Do.	Mbabane Quarry (Proprietary) Ltd.	Mbabane Quarry, Mahamba	NA

°Estimated. Do. Ditto. NA Not available.

¹In a diplomatic note sent on May 18, 2018, the Swaziland Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation requested that the United States Government change the name of the country from 'Swaziland' to 'Eswatini'. The U.S. Board on Geographic Names approved the change on May 25, 2018.