

# 2017–2018 Minerals Yearbook

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## CAMEROON

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# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF CAMEROON

By Philip A. Szczesniak

In 2017 and 2018, the economy of Cameroon was largely dependent on exports of the country's principal mineral export commodities, notably natural gas, crude petroleum, and refined petroleum (International Monetary Fund, 2019, p. 8–10). The legislative framework for the mineral sector in Cameroon is provided by law No. 2016/017 and law No. 1999-013. 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 Cameroon 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

International Monetary Fund, 2019, Fourth review under the extended credit facility arrangement and requests for waivers of nonobservance of performance criteria and modification of performance criteria—Press release; staff report; and statement by the Executive Director for Cameroon: Washington, DC, International Monetary Fund Country Report no. 19/247, July, 98 p. (Accessed September 24, 2019, at <https://www.imf.org/~media/Files/Publications/CR/2019/1CMREA2019001.ashx>.)

TABLE 1  
CAMEROON: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity <sup>2</sup>	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>METALS</b>					
Aluminum, primary, metal	93,000	65,000 <sup>r, e</sup>	65,000 <sup>r, e</sup>	65,000 <sup>e</sup>	75,000 <sup>e</sup>
Gold, mine, Au content <sup>e</sup> kilograms	1,000 <sup>r</sup>	1,000 <sup>r</sup>	1,000 <sup>r</sup>	1,000	1,000
<b>INDUSTRIAL MINERALS</b>					
Cement, hydraulic	1,300,000	1,600,000	2,600,000 <sup>e</sup>	2,800,000 <sup>e</sup>	2,900,000 <sup>e</sup>
Clay, unspecified	22,024	8,973 <sup>r</sup>	8,500 <sup>r</sup>	8,000 <sup>e</sup>	8,000 <sup>e</sup>
Diamond, gem, unspecified <sup>3</sup> carats	4,000 <sup>r</sup>	2,000 <sup>r</sup>	994	1,757	1,805
Kyanite and related minerals <sup>e</sup> kilograms	220,000	220,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Lime <sup>e</sup>	1,200	1,200	1,000	1,000	1,000
Pumice and related minerals, pozzolan, ash for cement	297,592	304,676 <sup>r</sup>	272,405 <sup>r</sup>	300,000 <sup>e</sup>	300,000 <sup>e</sup>
Sand and gravel, industrial, silica <sup>e</sup>	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Stone, sand, and gravel, construction:					
Sand and gravel, sand:	136,453	142,000 <sup>e</sup>	142,000 <sup>e</sup>	142,000 <sup>e</sup>	142,000 <sup>e</sup>
Stone:					
Crushed:					
Limestone	130,149	117,913 <sup>r</sup>	124,295 <sup>r</sup>	125,000 <sup>e</sup>	125,000 <sup>e</sup>
Quartzite <sup>e</sup>	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
<b>MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS</b>					
Natural gas million cubic meters	306	361	357	393	1,463
Petroleum:					
Crude thousand 42-gallon barrels	27,501	34,974	33,691	27,726	25,133
Refinery do.	11,433	12,144	12,000 <sup>e</sup>	11,000 <sup>e</sup>	10,000 <sup>e</sup>

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>r</sup>Revised. do. Ditto.

<sup>1</sup>Table includes data available through September 4, 2019. All data are reported unless otherwise noted. Estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>2</sup>In addition to the commodities listed, aggregate, gemstones, granite, gypsum, marble, silica sand, and stone may have been produced, but available information was inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

<sup>3</sup>From artisanal mining.

TABLE 2  
CAMEROON: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2018

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity		Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location	Annual capacity
Aluminum		Compagnie Camerounaise de l'Aluminium (Alucam) (Government, 93.4%; Agence Française de Développement (AFD), 5.6%; Alucam staff, 1%)	Smelter at Edea	100
Cement		Cimenteries du Cameroun (CIMENCAM) (LafargeHolcim S.A., 55%; Government, 43%; Cimenteries du Cameroon staff, 2%)	Plant at Bonaberi near Douala	1,600
Do.		do.	Grinding plant at Figuil	100
Do.		Ciments de L'Afrique (CIMAF)	Plant at Bonaberi near Douala	500
Do.		Dangote Group	Grinding plant in Douala	1,500
Do.		Medcem Cameroon (Eron Holdings, 100%)	Plant in Douala	600
Clay		Cimenteries du Cameroun (CIMENCAM) (LafargeHolcim S.A., 55%; Government, 43%; Cimenteries du Cameroon staff, 2%)	Figuil	NA
Diamond	carats	Artisanal	Various locations	12,000 <sup>c</sup>
Gold	kilograms	do.	Various locations	2,000 <sup>c</sup>
Natural gas		Gaz du Cameroun S.A. (Victoria Oil and Gas Plc, 100%)	Logbaba and Matanda gas fields	NA
Do.		Noble Energy, Inc. and Société National Hydrocarbures (SNH)	Yoyo offshore gas field	NA
Do.		Perenco Ltd.	Sanaga offshore gas field	NA
Petroleum:				
Crude	barrels per day	Société National des Hydrocarbures (SNH), and various other companies	Offshore and onshore	100,000
Refined	do.	Société Nationale de Raffinage (SONARA) (Government)	Refinery at Limbe	72,000
Pumice and related minerals, pozzolan, ash		Cimenteries du Cameroun (CIMENCAM) (LafargeHolcim S.A., 55%; Government, 43%; Cimenteries du Cameroon staff, 2%)	Figuil	NA
Sand		do.	do.	NA
Stone, limestone		do.	do.	275

<sup>c</sup>Estimated. Do., do. Ditto. NA Not available.