

2017–2018 Minerals Yearbook

LEBANON

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF LEBANON

By Mowafa Taib

In 2017 and 2018, the economy of Lebanon was based largely on construction, industry, and trade. The mineral industry included production of cement, phosphate-based fertilizer, refined gold, refined lead, and sulfuric acid (Bank Audi sal, 2019, p. 3). The legislative framework for the mineral sector in Lebanon is provided by Quarrying Regulation Decree No. 8803 of October 4, 2002, and the Offshore Petroleum Resources law No. 132 of August 24, 2010. 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 Lebanon

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

Bank Audi sal, 2019, Lebanon facts & figures 2018: Beirut, Lebanon, Bank Audi sal, 13 p. (Accessed October 22, 2020, at <https://pwstg02.blob.core.windows.net/pwfiles/Library/Files/1d6f3845-0383-4599-8644-38c3a9b77ee9.pdf>.)

TABLE 1
LEBANON: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES¹

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity ²		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
METALS						
Gold, refinery, Au content	kilograms	10,300	13,800	9,000	8,600	8,100
Lead, refinery, secondary ^e		10,000	10,600 ^r	11,300	11,900	6,000
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS						
Cement, hydraulic	thousand metric tons	6,000 ^r	5,500 ^r	5,400 ^r	5,500 ^r	5,600
Fertilizers, phosphate fertilizer		210,000 ^r	220,000 ^r	123,000 ^r	187,000 ^r	215,000
Phosphate, compounds, phosphoric acid		120,000	130,000	70,000	80,000	100,000 ^e
Salt		1,000 ^r	1,000 ^r	1,000 ^r	1,000 ^r	1,000
Stone, crushed, limestone, for cement ^e	thousand metric tons	7,500	7,000 ^r	7,000 ^r	7,000	7,000
Sulfur, compounds, sulfuric acid ⁱ						
Gross weight ³		360,000	407,000	196,000 ^r	217,000 ^r	380,000
S content		118,000	133,000	64,000 ^r	71,000 ^r	124,000

^eEstimated. ^rRevised.

¹Table includes data available through July 17, 2019. All data are reported unless otherwise noted. Estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²In addition to the commodities listed, ammonium sulfate, granite, gravel, marble, sand, and other construction materials may have been produced, but available information was inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

³From imported sulfur.

TABLE 2
LEBANON: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2018

(Thousand metric tons)

Commodity	Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Aluminum sulfate	Selaata Chemicals Company S.A.L. (SCC)	Plant at Selaata	30
Cement:			
Portland	Holcim (Liban) S.A.L. (Holcim Ltd., 52.00%; Mershed Baaklini, 14.98%; Seament Holding S.A.L., 7.50%; individual investors, 21.39%)	Plant at Chekka	2,800
Do.	Cimenterie Nationale S.A.L.	do.	2,600
Do.	Ciment de Sibline S.A.L. (Secil-Companhia Geral de Cale e Cimento S.A., 50.5%; Bank Med, 20%; Walid Jumblatt, 20%)	Plant at Sibline	1,300
Do.	Cimenterie du Moyen-Orient S.A.L. (Seament Holding S.A.L.)	Plant at Chekka	500
White	Holcim (Liban) S.A.L. (LafargeHolcim Ltd., 52.00%; Mershed Baaklini, 14.98%; Seament Holding S.A.L., 7.50%; private investors, 21.39%)	do.	100
Copper, secondary	Liban Cables S.A.L. (Nexans Group, 100%)	Plant at Beirut	NA
Gold, refined	Lebanor S.A.L.	Refinery at Burj Hammud	NA
Do.	D12 Gold Refinery	Refinery at Beirut	NA
Gypsum	Societe Des Chaux Et Platres du Liban S.A.L.	Plant at Chekka	50
Iron and steel, steel:			
Rolled	Attar Steel Co.	Plant at Beirut	200
Do.	Société Industrielle Libanaise S.A.L.	Plant at Southern Metn	NA
Pipes	Demco Steel Industries S.A.L.	do.	200
Do.	Tandem Tubes S.A.L. (Tannous Group)	Plant at Hosrayel, Jebeil	NA
Scrap:			
Shredded	Diametal S.A.L.	Plant at Mkalles	100
Heavy melt	do.	do.	200
Wire	Steel Wire Lebanon S.A.L. (Tannous Group)	Plant at Hosrayel, Jebeil	NA
Lead, secondary	National Ammunition Co.	Plant at Daraya, Kesserwan	NA
Do.	Arabay Trading and Industrial S.A.L.	Plant at Tannayel, Bekaa	NA
Phosphate rock:			
Single superphosphate	Selaata Chemicals Company S.A.L.	Plant at Selaata	100
Triple superphosphate	do.	do.	300
Phosphoric acid	do.	do.	165
Salt	Nepton Salt Co. S.A.L.	Brines at Enfeh	10
Do.	Lebanese Salt Palace Co. S.A.R.L	do.	10
Stone, granite and marble	Arabian Mining Habre & Co. S.A.L.	Quarries at Kahaleh, Baabda	NA
Do.	Wadih Tadros & Fils Co.	Quarry at Kafarchima	NA
Do.	Société Nationale de Marbre	Quarries at Mar Elias, Btina	NA
Do.	Marble & Cement Products S.A.L.	Quarry at Bekaa	NA
Do.	Boustany, Mallah & Co. S.A.R.L	Quarry at Kesrouan	NA
Sulfuric acid	Selaata Chemicals Company S.A.L.	Plant at Selaata	600

Do., do. Ditto. NA Not available.