

# 2017–2018 Minerals Yearbook

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## LIBERIA

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# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF LIBERIA

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In 2017 and 2018, the production of mineral commodities—notably cement, diamond, gold, and iron ore—represented only a minor part of the economy of Liberia (Central Bank of Liberia, 2019, p. 15). The legislative framework for the mineral sector in Liberia is provided by the Mining and Minerals Law of 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 Liberia 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

Central Bank of Liberia, 2019, Annual report 2018: Monrovia, Liberia, Central Bank of Liberia, 71 p. (Accessed September 18, 2019, at [http://www.cbl.org.lr/doc/Annual\\_Report\\_2018\\_Feb\\_12\\_2019.pdf](http://www.cbl.org.lr/doc/Annual_Report_2018_Feb_12_2019.pdf).)

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

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>METALS</b>						
Gold, mine, Au content:						
Artisanal	kilograms	620	294 <sup>r</sup>	3,158 <sup>r</sup>	3,702	3,684
Industrial	do.	--	589	1,977	2,369	3,412
Iron ore, mine:						
Gross weight	thousand metric tons	5,744	4,530 <sup>r</sup>	1,405 <sup>r</sup>	1,934	3,934
Fe content	do.	3,590 <sup>r</sup>	2,830 <sup>r</sup>	878 <sup>r</sup>	1,210	2,460
<b>INDUSTRIAL MINERALS</b>						
Barite <sup>2</sup>		48,000 <sup>c</sup>	-- <sup>r</sup>	-- <sup>r</sup>	--	--
Cement, hydraulic		295,353	298,437	240,929	284,668	314,331
Diamond, gem and industrial <sup>3</sup>	carats	65,822	68,575	62,642 <sup>r</sup>	71,152	79,324
Stone, sand, and gravel, construction: <sup>c</sup>						
Sand and gravel, sand		200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Stone, crushed, unspecified <sup>4</sup>		11,800	11,900	9,700	9,700	9,700

<sup>r</sup>Revised. do. Ditto. -- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Table includes data available through September 24, 2019. All data are reported unless otherwise noted. Estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>2</sup>Estimated based on trade data.

<sup>3</sup>Production estimated to be approximately 60% gem quality.

<sup>4</sup>Estimated based on cement production.

TABLE 2  
LIBERIA: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2018

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity		Major operating companies and major equity	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Barite		Steinbock Minerals Liberia Ltd. <sup>1</sup>	Margibi County	NA
Cement		Liberia Cement Corp. Ltd. (HeidelbergCement AG, 81.67%)	Cemenco cement grinding plant, Monrovia	500
Diamond		Artisanal and small-scale mining	Various counties	NA
Gold	kilograms	Bea Mountain Mining Corp. (Avesoro Resources Inc., 90%, and Government, 10%)	New Liberty Mine, 90 kilometers northwest of Monrovia, Grand Cape Mount County	2,000
Do.	do.	Artisanal and small-scale mining	do.	NA
Iron ore		ArcelorMittal (Liberia) Ltd. (ArcelorMittal, 85%)	Mt. Tokadeh and Mt. Gangra deposits, Yekepa, Nimba County	5,000
Do.		China Union Investment (Liberia) Bong Mines Co. (Wuhan Iron and Steel (Group) Corp. (WISCO), 60%)	Bong Mine, Fuamah District, Bong County	1,000

Do., do. Ditto. NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Operations suspended on 2014.