

2017–2018 Minerals Yearbook

NIGER

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF NIGER

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In 2017 and 2018, the production of mineral commodities—notably uranium, but also cement, coal, gold, petroleum (crude and refinery products), salt, and silver—represented only a minor part of the economy of Niger (International Monetary Fund, 2019, p. 45; World Nuclear Association, 2019). The legislative framework for the mineral industry in Niger is provided by law No. 2006–26 of August 9, 2006, for its nonfuel mineral sector and by law No. 2007–01 of January 31, 2007, for its petroleum sector. 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 Niger 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>.

References Cited

International Monetary Fund, 2019, Niger: 2019 Article IV consultation, fourth review under the extended credit facility, and requests for waiver of nonobservance of a performance criterion, modification of performance criteria, and extension and rephasing of the extended credit facility arrangement—Press release, staff report and statement by the executive director for Niger: Washington, DC, International Monetary Fund Country report No. 19/239, July, variously paged. (Accessed November 12, 2019, at <https://www.imf.org/~media/Files/Publications/CR/2019/INEREA2019001.ashx>.)

World Nuclear Association, 2019, Uranium in Niger: London, United Kingdom, World Nuclear Association, October. (Accessed November 12, 2019, at <http://www.world-nuclear.org/information-library/country-profiles/countries-g-n/niger.aspx>.)

TABLE 1
NIGER: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES¹

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
METALS						
Gold, mine, Au content ²	kilograms	732 ³	1,220	999	1,000 ^e	1,000 ^e
Silver, mine, Ag content	do.	67 ^r	119 ^r	120 ^{r,e}	120 ^e	120 ^e
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS						
Cement, hydraulic		21,052	50,531	51,000 ^e	51,000 ^e	52,000 ^e
Salt ^e		30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS						
Coal, bituminous		255,936	221,024	246,631	233,792	221,580
Petroleum:						
Crude	thousand 42-gallon barrels	6,256	5,459	6,014	6,665	6,065
Refinery	do.	5,800 ^e	4,500 ^{r,e}	4,110 ^{r,e}	5,700 ^e	5,990
Uranium, mine, U content		4,057	4,116	3,477	3,485	2,910

^eEstimated. ^rRevised. do. Ditto.

¹Table includes data available through October 10, 2019. All data are reported unless otherwise noted. Estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²Includes artisanal and small-scale production of gold, which was reported to be 64 kilograms in 2014 and 346 kilograms in 2015.

³Reported by Institut National de la Statistique.

TABLE 2
NIGER: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2018

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity		Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Cement		Société Nigérienne de Cimenterie (Dammaz Cement Company Ltd.)	Plant at Malbaza Uzine, southwestern Niger	80,000
Coal		Société Nigérienne de Charbon (SONICHAR)	Mine at Anou Araren, central Agadez region	300,000
Gold	kilograms	Société de Patrimoine des Mines du Niger S.A. (SOPAMIN) (Government, 100%)	Samira Hill Mine, 90 kilometers west of Niamey	3,000
Do.		Artisanal production	Various regions around the country	NA
Petroleum	thousand 42-gallon barrels per year	China National Petroleum Corp., 60%, and Government, 40%	Agadem oilfields	7,300
Petroleum refinery products	do.	do.	Soraz refinery, city of Zinder, 900 kilometers east of Niamey	20,000
Phosphate rock		Toguna Agro-Industries SA	Tilemsi Valley, northeastern Niger	20,000
Salt		Artisanal miners	Bilma salt pans, Tenere Desert, northern Niger	33,000
Silver	kilograms	Société de Patrimoine des Mines du Niger S.A. (SOPAMIN) (Government, 100%)	Samira Hill Mine, 90 kilometers west of Niamey	NA
Do.		Artisanal production	Various regions around the country	NA
Uranium		Compagnie Minière d'Akouta (COMINAK) [Areva Group, 34%; Société de Patrimoine des Mines du Niger S.A. (SOPAMIN), 31%; Overseas Uranium Resources Development Co., 25%; ENUSA Industrias Avanzadas S.A., 10%]	Akouta underground mine, northern Niger	2,000
Do.		Société des Mines de l'Aïr (SOMAIR) [Areva Group, 63.4%, and Société de Patrimoine des Mines du Niger S.A. (SOPAMIN), 36.6%]	Arlit open pit mine, 6 kilometers northwest of Arlit, Agadez region	3,000
Do.		Société des Mines d'Azelik S.A.	Azelik Mine	700 ¹

Do. do. Ditto. NA Not available.

¹On care-and-maintenance status.