



# 2019 Minerals Yearbook

---

**GABON [ADVANCE RELEASE]**

---

# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF GABON

By Alberto Alexander Perez

In 2019, the economy of Gabon was largely dependent on world demand for the country's principal mineral export commodities, notably manganese and petroleum (International Monetary Fund, 2019, p. 6–7). In 2019, the country ranked third among the world's leading producers of manganese (Corathers, 2020). The legislative framework for the mineral sector in Gabon is provided by law No. 17/2014 and law No. 11/2014. 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 Gabon 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

Corathers, L.A., 2020, Manganese: U.S. Geological Survey Mineral Commodity Summaries 2020, p. 104–105.

International Monetary Fund, 2019, Gabon—2019 Article IV consultation, fourth and fifth reviews under the Extended arrangement under the Extended Fund Facility, and request for waiver of nonobservance of performance criteria, and rephasing of the remaining purchases—Press release; staff report; and statement by the Executive Director: International Monetary Fund Country Report no. 19/389, December 29, 123 p. (Accessed July 30, 2020 at <https://www.imf.org/-/media/Files/Publications/CR/2019/1GABEA2019002.ashx>.)

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

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity <sup>2</sup>		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>METALS</b>						
Gold, mine, Au content	kilograms	1,301	1,020 <sup>3</sup>	1,000 <sup>c</sup>	--	100 <sup>c</sup>
Manganese:						
Mine:						
Gross weight	thousand metric tons	4,112	3,379	4,717	5,057	5,600 <sup>c</sup>
Mn content	do.	1,929	1,683	2,193	2,331	2,610 <sup>c</sup>
Metal <sup>c</sup>		2,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Silicomanganese		14,500	14,900	21,300	42,900	48,000 <sup>c</sup>
<b>INDUSTRIAL MINERALS</b>						
Cement and clinker:						
Cement, hydraulic <sup>c</sup>		200,000	350,000	340,000	490,000	490,000
Clinker <sup>c</sup>		160,000	225,000	225,000	225,000	225,000
<b>MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS</b>						
Natural gas	million cubic meters	410 <sup>c</sup>	551	550 <sup>c</sup>	530	550 <sup>c</sup>
Petroleum:						
Crude	thousand 42-gallon barrels	83,184	80,483	76,687	70,810	79,570
Refinery, products	do.	6,020 <sup>c</sup>	6,132	5,840	5,840	5,900 <sup>c</sup>

<sup>c</sup>Estimated. do. Ditto. -- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Table includes data available through August 12, 2020. 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, clay, crushed stone, diamond, gold produced by artisanal miners, and sand may have been produced, but available information was inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

<sup>3</sup>Includes artisanal production.

TABLE 2  
GABON: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2019

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity		Major operating companies and and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Cement		Société des Ciments du Gabon S.A. (Cimgabon) [Ciments de l'Afrique (CIMAF), 75%, and Government 25%]	Cement-grinding plant at Owendo, south of Libreville	250,000.
Do.		do.	Cement-grinding plant at Franceville, southeastern Gabon	150,000.
Gold	kilograms	Ressources Golden Gram Gabon SARL (Managem Group, 75%, and Government, 25%)	Bakoudou Mine, 600 kilometers southeast of Libreville	1,400.
Do.	do.	Artisanal miners	Eteke region	300 to 700.
Manganese		Compagnie Minière de l'Ogooué S.A. (Comilog) (Eramet Group, 63.7%; Société Equatoriale des Mines (SEM), 28.9%; Formang Holding BV, 7%; other, 0.4%)	Open pit mine at Moanda	4,680,000 ore, gross weight.
Do.		do.	Sintering plant	600,000.
Do.		Compagnie Industrielle et Commerciale des Mines de Huazhou (CICMHZ) [Citic Dameng Holdings Ltd. (DAMENG)]	Bembele Mine, town of Ndjole in Moyen-Ogooue Province	500,000 ore, Mn content.
Natural gas	million cubic meters	Perenco Group, 56.25%; Tullow Oil plc, 25%; Oranje-Nassau Energie B.V. 18.75%	Tchatamba Marin oilfield, offshore	NA.
Petroleum:				
Crude		China Petrochemical Corp. (Sinopec)	Remboue oilfield, offshore	NA.
Do.	thousand 42-gallon barrels	China Petrochemical Corp. (Sinopec) (Addax Petroleum Corp., 92.5%); and Tullow Oil plc, 3.75%	Obangue oilfield, onshore	1,800.
Do.	do.	do.	Tsiengui oilfield, onshore	1,800.
Do.	do.	China Petrochemical Corp. (Sinopec) through Addax Petroleum Corp., 31.3%; Vaalco Energy Inc., operator, 31.1%; Sasol Petroleum International (Pty) Ltd., 27.8%; Tullow Oil plc, 7.5%; PetroEnergy Resources Corp., 2.3%	Etame marine block, offshore, including: Avouma oilfield	2,400.
Do.		do.	South Tchibala, offshore	NA.
Do.		do.	Ebouri oilfield, offshore	NA.
Do.	thousand 42-gallon barrels	do.	Etame oilfield, offshore	6,570.
Do.		Perenco Group, 100%	EOV Block, offshore	NA.
Do.		Maurel & Prom S.A., 100%	Banio, onshore	NA.
Do.		Maurel & Prom S.A., 85%; Government, 7.5%; Tullow Oil plc, 7.5%	Onal, onshore	NA.
Do.		do.	Omko, onshore	NA.
Do.		Perenco Group, 56.25%; Tullow Oil plc, 25%; Oranje-Nassau Energie B.V., 18.75%	Tchatamba Marin oilfield, offshore	NA.
Do.		do.	Tchatamba West oilfield, offshore	NA.
Do.		do.	Tchatamba South oilfield, offshore	NA.
Do.		Assala Gabon S.A., 94.3%, and China Petrochemical Corp. (Sinopec), 5.75%	Toucan, onshore	NA.
Do.		Total Gabon S.A., 100%	Anguille, offshore	NA.
Do.		do.	Gonelle, offshore	NA.
Do.		do.	Torpille, offshore	NA.
Do.		Total Gabon S.A., 57.5%, and Assala Gabon S.A., 42.5%	Avocette, onshore	NA.
Do.		Total Gabon S.A., 50%, and Mitsubishi Petroleum Development Company (MPDC), 50%	Baudroie Nord, offshore	NA.
Do.		Total Gabon S.A., 47.5%, and Assala Gabon S.A., 52.5%	Rabi Kounga, onshore	NA.

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2—Continued  
 GABON: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2019

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity		Major operating companies and and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Petroleum:—Continued				
Crude—Continued		Total Gabon S.A., 40%, and Assala Gabon S.A., 60%	Atora, onshore	NA.
Do.		Total Gabon S.A., 50%, and Vaalco Energy Inc., 50%	Mutamba Iroru, onshore	NA.
Do.		Gabon Oil Co., 80%, and Government, 20%	Remboue II, offshore	NA.
Refinery products	thousand 42-gallon barrels	Société Gabonaise de Raffinage S.A. (Total Gabon S.A., 58%; Government, 25%; other, 17%)	Port Gentil	8,800.

Do., do. Ditto. NA Not available.