



# 2019 Minerals Yearbook

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**NORTH MACEDONIA [ADVANCE RELEASE]**

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# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF NORTH MACEDONIA<sup>1</sup>

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In 2019, the production of mineral commodities—notably copper, ferroalloys, lead, lignite, steel, and zinc—represented only a minor part of the economy of North Macedonia (table 1; Republic of North Macedonia State Statistical Office, 2020, p. 45–46). The legislative framework for the mineral sector in North Macedonia is provided by law No. 136/12, Law on Mineral Resources, as amended by law Nos. 25/13, 93/13, 44/14, and 160/14 and law No. 16/11, Energy Law, as amended by law Nos. 136/11, 79/13, 164/13, 41/14, 151/14, and 33/15. 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 North Macedonia can

be found in previous editions of the U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook, volume III, Area Reports—International—Europe and Central Eurasia, which are available at <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/nmic/europe-and-central-eurasia>.

## Reference Cited

Republic of North Macedonia State Statistical Office, 2020, North Macedonia in figures, 2020: Skopje, North Macedonia, Republic of North Macedonia State Statistical Office, June 19, 61 p. (Accessed July 29, 2020, at <http://www.stat.gov.mk/publikacii/2020/Macedonia%20in%20figures-2020-web.pdf>.)

TABLE 1  
NORTH MACEDONIA: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity <sup>2</sup>	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
METALS						
Copper:						
Mine:						
Concentrate, Cu content	8,834	9,032	8,008	6,950 <sup>r</sup>	6,500	
Solvent extraction <sup>3</sup>	2,268	1,396	958	768 <sup>r</sup>	770 <sup>e</sup>	
Refinery, primary, electrowon	2,268	1,396	958	768 <sup>r</sup>	770 <sup>e</sup>	
Ferroalloys:						
Ferronickel:						
Gross weight <sup>e</sup>	80,500	48,200	32,600	45,900	83,000	
Ni content	17,699	10,603	7,175	10,100	15,202	
Ferrosilicon	45,698	24,431	21	--	117	
Iron and steel, raw steel	165,235	239,164	237,949	265,129	239,251	
Lead, mine, concentrate, Pb content	28,698	23,487	24,823	32,140	33,700	
Zinc, mine, concentrate, Zn content <sup>4, e</sup>	29,200 <sup>r</sup>	24,900 <sup>r</sup>	24,200 <sup>r</sup>	30,400 <sup>r</sup>	31,300	
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS						
Cement, hydraulic	thousand metric tons	672	855	901	921	896
Clay, bentonite		9,000 <sup>e</sup>	1,968	912	2,945	--
Feldspar		20,289	19,919	21,237	30,813	29,519
Lime		8,003	8,684	1,399	6,834	6,800 <sup>e</sup>
Pumice and related minerals, volcanic tuff		70,148	76,796	70,305 <sup>r</sup>	96,963 <sup>r</sup>	89,815
Talc		598	715	878	900 <sup>e</sup>	NA
MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS						
Coal, lignite	thousand metric tons	5,928	5,102	5,043	4,940	5,019

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>r</sup>Revised. NA Not available. -- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Table includes data available through July 13, 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, secondary aluminum in small amounts, common clay, diatomite, gold contained in copper concentrate, limestone, marble, and refined petroleum may have been produced, but available information was inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

<sup>3</sup>The copper content of solvent extraction output at the mine level is the same as electrowon refinery output because copper produced in the solvent extraction and electrowinning process is typically reported only at the refinery level.

<sup>4</sup>Data derived from reported production of zinc concentrates.

<sup>1</sup>Formerly “Republic of Macedonia”; the name of the country was changed to the “Republic of North Macedonia” in February 2019.

TABLE 2  
NORTH MACEDONIA: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2019

(Thousand metric tons)

Commodity	Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Aluminum, secondary	J.S.A. Teal Co.	Tetovo City	2
Do.	RZ Insitute (Mines and Ironworks Institute AD)	Skopje	20 °
Cement	Titan Cementarnica USJE AD (Titan Cement Co. S.A., 100%)	Plant at Skopje	910 °
Coal, lignite	AD Elektrani na Makedonija (AD ELEM) (state owned)	Mine at Suvodol	6,500
Do.	do.	Mine at Oslomej	1,200
Do.	do.	Star Rudnik Mine at Oslomej	310 °
Do.	do.	Brod-Gneotino Mine, south of Suvodol, near Brod	2,000
Do.	BRIK Berovo and Drimkol (Concessionaires)	Surface mines near Berovo and Globochica reservoir	140
Copper, gold and silver:			
Mine, concentrates, Cu content	Solway Investment Group Ltd.	Mine and mill at Buchim, west of Radovis	7,000
Refinery, elecrown	do.	Solvent extraction and electrowinning plant at Buchim, west of Radovis	800
Feldspar	AD Nemetali Ograzden	Mine at Strumica	20
Ferroalloys:			
Ferromanganese	do.	do.	66
Ferronickel, Ni content	FENI Industries A.D. <sup>1</sup> (Global Special Opportunities Ltd.)	Plant at Kavadarci	22
Ferrosilicon	Jugohrom Ferroalloys DOO <sup>2</sup> (Camelot Group)	Plant at Jegunovce	66
Silicomanganese	Skopski Leguri DOOEL	Plant at Skopje	56
Iron and steel:			
Raw steel, secondary	Makstil A.D. Skopje (Duferco Skop Investment Ltd., 81.78%, and others, 18.22%)	do.	360
Semimanufactured	do.	do.	750 °
Do.	ArcelorMittal Skopje AD (ArcelorMittal S.A., 100%)	do.	1,000
Lead-zinc:			
Concentrate, Pb and Zn content	Central Asia Metals PLC	Mill at Sasa, north of Makedonska Kamenica town	60 °
Ore, gross weight	do.	Sasa Mine, northern Makedonska Kamenica town	805 °
Do.	Minstroy Holding JSC	Zletovo Mine near Probistip	26
Do.	do.	Toranica Mine near Kriva Palanka	NA
Nickel, ore, Ni content	FENI Industries A.D. <sup>1</sup> (Global Special Opportunities Ltd.)	Open pit mine at Rzanovo, 32 kilometers south of Kavadarci	22
Stone:			
Marble	Fox Marble Holdings plc	Quarry at Prilep	NA
Do.	Mermeren Kombinat AD (Stone Works Holdings, 88.4%)	do.	NA
Limestone	AD Nemetali Ograzden	Strumica	NA
Petroleum, refined	OKTA AD Skopje (EL.P.ET Balkani S.A., 81.51%; Puko Petrol, 10.87%; company employees, 7.62%)	Oil refinery at Skopje	2,500

°Estimated. Do., do. Ditto. NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>FENI Industries A.D. filed for bankruptcy in 2018; as of 2019, the company was in the bankruptcy process.

<sup>2</sup>The plant was closed in 2016 and remained closed through 2019.