



# 2019 Minerals Yearbook

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**TIMOR-LESTE [ADVANCE RELEASE]**

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# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF TIMOR-LESTE

By Jaewon Chung

In 2019, the economy of Timor-Leste was based largely on the production of natural gas and crude petroleum, including condensate (International Monetary Fund, 2019). The legislative framework for the mineral sector in Timor-Leste is provided by Decree-Law No. 32/2016 on offshore petroleum operations, No. 64/2016 on mineral exploration activities, and No. 13/2019 on petroleum activities. 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 Timor-Leste can be found in the previous editions of the U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook, volume III, Area Reports—International—

Asia and the Pacific, which are available at <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/asia-and-pacific>.

## Reference Cited

International Monetary Fund, 2019, IMF executive board concludes 2019 Article IV consultation with the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste: Washington, DC, International Monetary Fund Press Release no. 19/149, May 7. (Accessed September 14, 2020, at <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/05/07/pr19149-democratic-republic-timor-leste-imf-executive-board-concludes-2019-article-iv-consultation>.)

TABLE 1  
TIMOR-LESTE: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES<sup>1</sup>

Commodity <sup>2</sup>		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>INDUSTRIAL MINERALS</b>						
Sand and gravel, construction:						
Gravel	thousand metric tons	89	90	214	370	370 <sup>e</sup>
Sand	do.	33	51	269	478	480 <sup>e</sup>
<b>MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS</b>						
Natural gas:						
Gross volume	million cubic meters	9,900	8,400 <sup>e</sup>	7,700 <sup>e</sup>	7,300 <sup>e</sup>	7,300 <sup>e</sup>
Dry	do.	7,700	6,300	5,800	5,500	5,500 <sup>e</sup>
Petroleum, crude, including condensate	thousand 42-gallon barrels	22,630	17,885	14,600	12,000	10,200

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. do. Ditto.

<sup>1</sup>Table includes data available through June 23, 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, marble may have been produced in Timor-Leste, but available information was inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

TABLE 2  
TIMOR-LESTE: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2019

Commodity		Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity <sup>e</sup>
Natural gas, dry	million cubic meters	ConocoPhillips Australia (ConocoPhillips Co., 56.9%; Santos Ltd., 11.5%; INPEX Corp., 11.4%; Eni S.p.A., 11%; Tokyo Timor Sea Resources Pty Ltd., 9.2%)	Bayu-Undan field, Timor Sea	5,500
Petroleum, crude	thousand 42-gallon barrels	do.	do.	12,000

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. do. Ditto.