



# 2016 Minerals Yearbook

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**LIBERIA [ADVANCE RELEASE]**

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# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF LIBERIA

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In 2016, the production of mineral commodities—notably barite, cement, diamond, gold, iron ore, sand, and crushed stone—represented only a minor part of the economy of Liberia (Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, 2016, p. 19, 22–23). 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

Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, 2016, Annual economic review 2015: Monrovia, Liberia, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, 53 p. (Accessed March 30, 2017, at <https://www.mfdp.gov.lr/index.php/economic-outlook>.)

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

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>METALS</b>					
Barite	16,000 <sup>r</sup>	36,000 <sup>r</sup>	48,000 <sup>r, e</sup>	25,000 <sup>r, e</sup>	25,000 <sup>e</sup>
Gold, mine production, Au content: <sup>2, 3</sup>					
Artisanal kilograms	641	587	620	239 <sup>r</sup>	167
Industrial do.	--	--	--	589 <sup>r</sup>	1,977
Iron ore, mine production: <sup>4</sup>					
Gross weight thousand metric tons	3,300	4,698 <sup>r</sup>	5,744 <sup>r</sup>	5,749 <sup>r</sup>	4,375
Fe content do.	1,980 <sup>e</sup>	2,800 <sup>r, e</sup>	3,418 <sup>r</sup>	2,759 <sup>r</sup>	2,100
<b>INDUSTRIAL MINERALS</b>					
Cement, hydraulic <sup>2</sup>	121,592	193,993	295,353	298,437	240,929
Diamond, gem and industrial <sup>5, 6</sup> carats	41,985	53,699	65,822	68,575 <sup>r</sup>	104,449
Sand and gravel, construction, sand <sup>e</sup>	201,800	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Stone, crushed, unspecified <sup>7</sup>	4,400	7,800	11,800	11,900	9,700

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

<sup>1</sup>Table includes data available through December 7, 2017. All data are reported unless otherwise noted. Estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Reported by the Central Bank of Liberia.

<sup>3</sup>Production of gold in Liberia was by artisanal miners.

<sup>4</sup>Direct-shipping ore.

<sup>5</sup>Production estimated to be approximately 60% gem quality.

<sup>6</sup>Reported by the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme.

<sup>7</sup>Estimated based on cement production.

TABLE 2  
LIBERIA: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2016

(Thousand metric tons)

Commodity		Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Barite		Steinbock Minerals (Liberia) Ltd., 100%	Margibi County	NA
Cement		Liberia Cement Corp. Ltd. (HeidelbergCement AG, 81.76%)	Cemenco cement plant, Monrovia	700
Diamond		Artisanal and small-scale mining	Various counties	NA
Gold	kilograms	Bea Mountain Mining Corp. (Aureus Mining Inc., 100%)	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%)	Western Range project, 300 kilometers northeast of Monrovia	5,000
Do.		China Union Investment (Liberia) Bong Mines Co. [Wuhan Iron and Steel (Group) Corp. (WISCO)]	Bong Mine, Fuamah District, Bong County	1,000

NA Not available. Do., do. Ditto.