



2017–2018 Minerals Yearbook

MALTA [ADVANCE RELEASE]

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF MALTA

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In 2017 and 2018, the production of mineral commodities— notably limestone and salt—represented only a minor part of the economy of Malta (Central Bank of Malta, 2019, p. 50–53). The legislative framework for the mineral sector in Malta is provided by the Malta Resources Act of 2001 and the Regulator for Energy and Water Services Act of 2015. 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 Malta 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

Central Bank of Malta, 2019, Fifty-first annual report and statement of accounts 2018: Valletta, Malta, Central Bank of Malta, March, 118 p. (Accessed July 1, 2019, at <https://www.centralbankmalta.org/site/excel/publications/AR-2018.pdf>.)

TABLE 1
MALTA: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES¹

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity ²	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS					
Salt, solar ^e	1,500	1,600	2,000 ^f	2,020	2,000
Stone, sand, and gravel, construction:					
Stone:					
Crushed:					
Hardstone, coralline limestone	1,259,946	1,473,868	1,512,152	1,390,000 ^e	1,640,000 ^e
Softstone, globigerina limestone	2,941	41,108	39,259	36,100 ^e	42,600 ^e
Dimension:					
Hardstone, coralline limestone	56,578	66,916	55,254	50,800 ^e	59,900 ^e
Softstone, globigerina limestone	100,455	109,162	117,810	108,000 ^e	128,000 ^e

^eEstimated. ^fRevised

¹Table includes data available through July 2, 2019. All data are reported unless otherwise noted. Estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²In addition to the commodities listed, cement, fertilizer, and plaster may have been produced, but available information was inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

TABLE 2
MALTA: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2018

(Metric tons)

Commodity	Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity ^e
Limestone	Various small, locally owned companies	53 quarries located on the islands of Malta and Gozo	1,900,000
Salt	Artisanal miners	40 salt pans located on the islands of Malta and Gozo	4,000

^eEstimated; estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.