THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF

EL SALVADOR

By David B. Doan

The mineral industry of El Salvador was dominated by cement production and metals made from remelted imported materials and some reclaimed domestic feed, such as railroad rails. Production of gold and silver started again in modest amounts after having been dormant for a number of years.

Most of the country's mineral commodity production was for its own consumption.

For more extensive coverage of the mineral industry of El Salvador, see the 1997 Minerals Yearbook, volume III, The Mineral Industries of Latin America and Canada.

 ${\bf TABLE~1} \\ {\bf EL~SALVADOR:~ESTIMATED~PRODUCTION~OF~MINERAL~COMMODITIES~1/2/} \\$

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodities 3/		1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Aluminum, metal including alloys, semimanufactures		2,400	2,500	2,550	2,600	2,650
Cement	thousand tons	850	890 4/	948 4/	1,016 r/ 4/	1,065 4/
Fertilizer materials:						
Phosphatic		12,000	12,500	13,000	13,500	13,500
Other mixed chemical		54,000	55,000	56,000	56,000	56,500
Gold	kilograms				77 4/	90
Gypsum		5,000	5,300	5,400	5,500	5,600
Steel, secondary		24,000 4/	28,000 4/	42,000 4/	45,000 4/	46,000
Limestone	thousand tons	2,600	2,800	3,000	3,000	3,000
Petroleum refinery products	thousand 42-gallon barrels	6,100	6,100	6,200	6,200	6,300
Salt, marine		30,000	30,000	31,000	32,000	32,000
Silver	kilograms				46 4/	54

r/ Revised.

^{1/} Estimated data are rounded to three significant digits.

^{2/} Includes data available through March 1, 1999.

^{3/} In addition to commodities listed, construction materials (clays, gravel, miscellaneous rock, sand, and weathered tuffs) were presumably produced.

Available information is inadequate to make reliable estimates of output levels of these commodities.

^{4/} Reported figure.