### THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF

# LIBERIA

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Mineral production in Liberia consisted mainly of artisanal recovery of diamond and gold. The Government encouraged investment in natural resource development, although formal economic activity has been slow to recover since the end of the civil war in 1997. In 1999, international and local exploration

activity was minimal.

For more extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Liberia, see the 1998 Minerals Yearbook, volume III, Mineral Industries of Africa and the Middle East.

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

#### (Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

	Commodity	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Cement, hydraulic 3/		5,000	15,000	7,000	10,000	15,000
Diamond 4/	carats	150,000	150,000	200,000	300,000	500,000
Gold	kilograms	800	700	500	800	1,000

<sup>1/</sup> Includes data available through October 27, 2000.

<sup>2/</sup> In addition to the commodities listed, a variety of industrial minerals and construction materials (clays, gypsum, sand and gravel, and stone) are produced; but information is inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

<sup>3/</sup> Cement production from the Liberian Cement Corporation had been reported as zero from 1995-1997 because of the civil war. The Scancem AB 1997 annual report indicates the cement plant was open during most of the civil war.

<sup>4/</sup> Includes gemstone and industrial diamond.