

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF

PANAMA

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The mineral industry of Panama largely comprised production of the precious metals gold and silver, as well as construction materials, lime, and salt. Exploration and development continued for precious metals and copper. A large copper resource has been identified that is not yet in production. Petroleum refinery

products were produced from imported feedstock. For more extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Panama, see the 1996 Minerals Yearbook, Volume III, International Review of Latin America and Canada.

TABLE 1
PANAMA: ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES 1/ 2/

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Cement	571,300 3/	615,000 3/	615,000 r/ 3/	647,000 r/ 3/	750,000
Clays:					
For cement	420,000	400,000	300,000 r/	117,616 r/ 3/	40,112 3/
For products	7,290 r/	7,250 r/	7,000 r/	5,170 r/ 3/	7,217 3/
Gold kilograms	255	245	1,100	834 r/ 3/	1,202 3/
Lime	1,500	1,750	2,000	6,767 r/ 3/	3,246 3/
Petroleum refinery products thousand 42-gallon barrels	9,500	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Salt, marine	20,000	20,000 3/	22,000	22,000	22,000
Silver kilograms	165	175	175	1,307 r/ 3/	2,178 3/
Stone, sand and gravel:					
Limestone:					
For cement	670,000	700,000	700,000	550,798 r/ 3/	263,338 3/
For other uses	55,000	57,000	62,000	62,000	62,500
Sand and gravel thousand tons	2,500	2,700	3,000	3,000	3,000
Sand and silica	22,500	22,500	23,000	23,000	--

r/ Revised

1/ Estimated data are rounded to three significant digits or less.

2/ Includes data available through June 1, 1998.

3/ Reported figure.

TABLE 2
PANAMA: STRUCTURE OF THE INDUSTRY IN 1997

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity		Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Cement		Cementos Mexicanos S.A. (self, 95%, employees 5%)	Calzada Larga, Panama Province	300
Do.		Cemento Panama, S.A. (private, 100%)	Quebrancha, Panama Province	310
Gold	kilograms	Minas Santa Rosa, S.A. (Greenstone Resources Ltd. Canada, 100%)	Santa Rosa Mine, Veraguas Province	1,600
Do.	do.	Transworld Exploration, S.A. and Minera Remance (Peru) (100%)	Remance Mine, Veraguas Province	260
Do.	do.	Sociedad de Inversiones IXTAPA, S.A. (private, 100%)	Espirito Santo de Cana Mine, Darien Province	NA
Petroleum products	million 42-gallon barrels	Refineria Panama, S.A. [Texaco Panama Inc. (U.S.), 100%]	Las Minas, Colon Province	14
Silver	kilograms	Transworld Exploration, S.A. and Minera Remance (Peru) (100%)	Remance Mine, Veraguas Province	200

NA Not available