

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF

ISRAEL

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Israel's indigenous minerals industry is based on the extraction of bromine, magnesium, and potassium-bearing evaporites from the Dead Sea; phosphate rock mining; the manufacture of cement and fertilizers; and the production of minor quantities of crude oil and natural gas. A significant mineral-related industry is the cutting of diamonds and the fabrication of jewelry from imported materials.

The value of worked and unworked diamonds imported in 1996, the latest year for which trade data was available, was \$5,078 million. Diamond exports were valued at \$6,210 million. For more extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Israel, see the 1996 Minerals Yearbook, Volume III, International Review of Africa and the Middle East.

TABLE 1
ISRAEL: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES 1/

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity 2/	1993	1994	1995	1996 e/	1997 e/	
METALS						
Iron and steel, steel, crude	120,000	180,000	200,000 e/	203,000 r/	203,000	
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS						
Bromine: e/						
Elemental	130,000 3/	130,000	130,000	160,000 r/	160,000	
Compounds	121,000 3/	121,000	121,000	145,000 r/	150,000	
Caustic soda	29,851	32,765	44,961	45,000	45,000	
Cement, hydraulic	thousand tons	4,536	4,800	6,204 r/	6,700 r/	6,700
Clays: e/						
Flint clays	40,000 3/	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	
Kaolin	40,000 3/	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	
Other	8,500 3/	8,500	8,500	8,500	8,500	
Fertilizers materials, manufactured:						
Nitrogenous, N content of ammonia and urea	38,743	50,000 r/ e/	69,700 r/	64,600 r/	56,600 3/	
Phosphatic, P content e/	30,363 3/	30,300	33,000	33,000	33,000	
Potassic, K content e/	16,007 3/	16,000	17,000	17,000	17,000	
Gypsum e/	48,000	48,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
Lime e/	210,000	210,000	210,000	275,000 r/	275,000	
Magnesia, Mg content e/	42,223 3/	42,200	42,200	42,200	42,200	
Phosphate rock:						
Beneficiated	thousand tons	3,680	3,961	4,063	3,839 r/ 3/	4,047 3/
P ₂ O ₅ content	do.	1,148	1,232	1,264	1,200 r/ 3/	1,250 3/
Potash, K ₂ O equivalent	do.	1,309	1,259	1,325	1,500 r/ 3/	1,488 3/
Salt, marketed (mainly marine) e/	do.	1,123 3/	1,120	900 r/	800 r/	800
Sand:						
Glass sand	82,700	176,300	222,900 r/	225,000 r/	225,000	
Other e/	thousand tons	7,063 3/	7,060	7,060	7,060	
Sodium and potassium compounds, caustic soda	29,851	32,765	32,800 e/	32,800	32,800	
Stone e/						
Crushed	thousand tons	31,515	31,500	31,500	31,500	
Dimension, marble	do.	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	
Sulfur:						
Byproduct from petroleum e/	do.	60	60	60	60	
Sulfuric acid e/	do.	130	130	130	130	
MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS						
Gas, natural: e/						
Gross	thousand cubic meters	19,800	21,300 r/	21,300 r/	20,000 r/	20,000
Dry	do.	19,800	21,300 r/	21,300 r/	20,000 r/	20,000
Petroleum:						
Crude	thousand 42-gallon barrels	56	37	36	36	36
Refinery products:						
Gasoline	do.	18,500	19,800	20,500 r/	20,600 r/	20,800
Kerosene	do.	5,300	5,200	9,400 r/	9,400 r/	9,500
Distillate fuel oil	do.	21,000	20,500	23,400 r/	23,500 r/	23,800
Residual fuel oil	do.	28,500	28,000	24,500 r/	24,500 r/	25,000
Other	do.	13,200	13,000	13,100 r/	13,200 r/	13,300
Total	do.	86,500	86,500	90,900 r/	91,200 r/	92,400

e/ Estimated. r/ Revised.

1/ Table includes data available through May 15, 1998.

2/ In addition to the commodities listed, a variety of other crude construction materials are produced, but available information is inadequate to make reliable estimates of output levels.

3/ Reported figure.