

# 2008 Minerals Yearbook

**GUINEA** 

## THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF GUINEA

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Guinea was among the world's leading producers of bauxite. Other mineral commodities produced in the country included cement, diamond, gold, and salt. Undeveloped mineral resources included graphite, iron ore, limestone, manganese, nickel, and uranium. The Ministère des Mines, de la Géologie et de l'Environnement was the Government agency responsible for the administration of the mining sector.

#### **Production**

In 2008, bauxite production increased by about 7% to 19.8 million metric tons (Mt) from 18.5 Mt in 2007; diamond production increased by 204% to 3.1 million carats from about

1.02 million carats, and gold production increased by 27.6% to 19,945 kilograms (kg) from a revised 15,628 kg. Data on mineral production are in table 1.

#### **Structure of the Mineral Industry**

Table 2 is a list of major mineral industry facilities. More-extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Guinea can be found in the 2006 and 2007 U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook, volume III, Area reports—International—Africa and the Middle East, which is available on the Internet at http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/country.

TABLE 1
GUINEA: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity <sup>2</sup>		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Alumina:						
Production:						
Hydrate		10 e				
Calcined		877 <sup>e</sup>	722	545	542	527
Shipments, calcined		887 <sup>e</sup>	722	529	542	527
Bauxite:						
Mine production:						
Wet basis		17,200	16,817 3,4	18,784 <sup>3, 4</sup>	18,519 <sup>3, 4</sup>	19,780 <sup>3, 4</sup>
Dry basis		15,254 4	14,600 5	16,300 5	16,100 5	17,200 5
Shipments (dry basis), metallurgical		14,100	14,100	NA	NA	13,700
Cement		360	360	360	360	360
Diamond <sup>6, 7</sup>	thousand carats	674	549	474	1,019	3,098
Gold, mine output, Au content	kilograms	11,100 e	25,097	16,922 7	15,628 <sup>r, 7</sup>	19,945 8
Salt		15	15	15	15	15

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup>Estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits. <sup>r</sup>Revised. NA not available. -- Zero.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Table includes data available through October 8, 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>In addition to the commodities listed, Guinea produced modest quantities of crude construction materials (clays, sand and gravel, and stone), but information is inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Metallurgical ore plus calcinable ore estimated to be 13% water.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Reported figure.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Data are for wet-basis ore estimated to be 13% water reduced to dry basis estimated to be 3% water.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Production is approximately 70% to 80% gem quality.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Figures include artisanal production.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Does not include artisanal mining production, which has historically ranged between 1,500 and 5,000 kilograms per year.

## $\label{eq:table 2} \text{GUINEA: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2008}$

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Annual capacity	Location of main facilities	Major operating companies and major equity owners	Commodity	
640,000	Friguia plant, Fria	Alumina Company of Guinea (United Company RUSAL, 100%)	umina	Alumina
14,000,000	Kamsar and Sangaredi	Compagnie des Bauxites de Guinée (CBG)	uxite	Bauxite
		[Government, 49%, and Halco Mining Inc., 51%		
		(Halco Mining was a consortium formed by		
		Alcoa Inc., 45%; Alcan Inc., 45%; and Dadco		
		Group, 10%)]		
3,000,000	Debele Mine, Kindia	Compagnie des Bauxites de Kindia (CBK)	Do.	Do.
		(United Company RUSAL, 100%)		
2,800,000	Friguia Mine, Fria	Alumina Company of Guinea (United Company	Do.	Do.
		RUSAL, 100%)		
360,000	Conakry plant	Ciments de Guinée (Holcim Ltd., 51%, and	ment	Cement
		Government, 44%)		
38,000	Aredor Mine	Aredor-First City Mining Co. (Government,	amond carats	Diamond
		15%, and Azure Resources Corp., 85%)		
NA	Mainly in Banankoro	Artisanal miners	Do. do.	Do.
10,300	Siguiri Mine	Société Ashanti de Guinée (AngloGold Ashanti Ltd.,	old kilograms	Gold
		85%, and Government, 15%)		
3,500	Lero-Karta Mine, 700 kilometers	Société Minière de Dinguiraye (Crew Gold Corp., 85%,	Do. do.	Do.
	northeast of Conakry	and Government, 15%)		
1,700	Kiniero Mine, 650 kilometers	Société d'Exploitation Minière d'Afrique de l'Ouest	Do. do.	Do.
,	east of Conakry	Guinée (Semafo Inc., 85%, and Government, 15%)		

Do., do. Ditto. NA Not available.