



2016 Minerals Yearbook

NEW ZEALAND [ADVANCE RELEASE]

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF NEW ZEALAND

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In 2016, the production of mineral commodities— notably aluminum, crude petroleum, gold, and raw steel— represented only a minor part of the economy of New Zealand (New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals, 2017; Statistics New Zealand, 2017). The legislative framework for the mineral sector in New Zealand is provided by the Crown Minerals Act 1991 as amended by the Crown Minerals Amendment Act 2013. Data on mineral production are in table 1. Table 2 is a list of major mineral industry facilities. More-extensive coverage of the mineral industry of New Zealand can be found in previous editions of the U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook, volume III, Area Reports—International—Asia and the Pacific, which are available at <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/nmic/asia-and-pacific>.

References Cited

- New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals, 2017, 2016 mining production statistics: Wellington, New Zealand, New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals, October 2. (Accessed March 27, 2018, at <https://www.nzpam.govt.nz/our-industry/nz-minerals/minerals-data/industry-statistics/>.)
- Statistics New Zealand, 2017, Gross domestic product—December 2016 quarter - tables: Wellington, New Zealand, Statistics New Zealand, March 17. (Accessed March 27, 2018 at http://archive.stats.govt.nz/browse_for_stats/economic_indicators/GDP/GrossDomesticProduct_HOTPDec16qtr.aspx.)

TABLE 1
NEW ZEALAND: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES^{1,2}

(Metric tons, gross weight, unless otherwise specified)

Commodity	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
METALS					
Aluminum metal, primary	326,963	324,835	328,269	335,292 ^r	338,556
Gold, mine production, Au content kilograms	10,021 ^r	12,468	11,989	12,687	9,866
Iron and steel:					
Pig iron thousand metric tons	670	682	680	678	670
Raw steel do.	912	900	859	793	577
Iron ore, mine production, iron sand, titaniferous magnetite:					
Gross weight do.	2,395	3,157	3,245	3,194	3,496
Fe content do.	1,360	1,800	1,850	1,820	1,993
Lead, refinery production, secondary	3,000	--	--	--	--
Silver, mine production, Ag content kilograms	5,630	11,223	15,811	12,498	7,960
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS					
Cement, hydraulic thousand metric tons	1,140 ^r	1,200 ^e	1,100 ^{r,e}	1,200 ^e	360 ^e
Clay and shale:					
Bentonite	2,263	762	--	--	--
Common clay, for brick and tile manufacture	71,487	62,288	125,508	6,513	--
Kaolin, pottery	11,578	13,066	61,382	13,659	61,650
Diatomite, diatomaceous earth	--	4	43,624	40,000 ^{r,e}	40,000 ^e
Lime ^e	175,000	175,000	180,000	180,000	170,000
Perlite	3,598	NA ^r	22,000 ^r	25,000 ^r	25,000
Pumice and related materials	72,414	93,865	68,835	42,037	17,653
Salt ^e	95,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Stone, sand, and gravel:					
Sand and gravel, construction, unspecified:					
For roads and ballast thousand metric tons	15,439	19,947	21,497	18,237	16,843
For building aggregate do.	6,561	8,044	11,654	9,976	7,144
Sand and gravel, industrial, sand, other do.	1,517	1,283	1,412	1,457	1,355
Silica, mine production, unspecified	73,064	101,702	113,602	43,135	25,125
Stone, crushed:					
Dolomite:					
For agriculture	33,999	99,068	--	173,819	--
For other industrial uses	86,040	5,542	22,925	27,092	--
Limestone, including marl:					
For agriculture thousand metric tons	1,020	1,419	2,219	976	675
For cement do.	1,797	1,884	1,949	1,995	602
For industrial use do.	364	388	466	867	995
Serpentine	36,731	52,353	--	--	--
Stone, dimension, unspecified	8,614	17,769	13,061	13,516	12,729
Zeolites	--	155	50,000 ^r	65,000 ^r	80,000
MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS					
Coal:					
Bituminous thousand metric tons	182	183	180	66	59
Lignite do.	326	290	318	324	285
Metallurgical do.	2,094	2,096	1,768	1,334	1,169
Subbituminous do.	2,324	2,056	1,728	1,666	1,454
Total do.	4,926	4,625	3,994 ^r	3,390	2,967
Coke, metallurgical do.	536	541	554	556	550 ^e
Natural gas:					
Gross million cubic meters	5,188	5,583	6,253	5,391	5,558
Marketable do.	4,277	4,526	5,015	4,596	4,843
Petroleum:					
Crude thousand 42-gallon barrels	14,149	12,325	13,804	15,074	12,701
Refinery production do.	40,137 ^r	38,201 ^r	37,443 ^r	40,342 ^r	40,314

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 1
NEW ZEALAND: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES^{1,2}

^cEstimated. ¹Revised. do. Ditto. NA Not available. -- Zero.

¹Table includes data available through March 14, 2018. All data are reported unless otherwise noted. Estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²In addition to the commodities listed, New Zealand produced ammonia, but available information was inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

TABLE 2
NEW ZEALAND: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2016

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity	Facilities, major operating companies, and major equity owners		Location of main facilities	Annual capacity ^c
Aluminum	New Zealand Aluminium Smelters Ltd. (NZAS) (Pacific Aluminium, 79.36%, and Sumitomo Chemical Co., 20.64%)		Tiwai Point smelter, Southland, Invercargill	350
Cement	Golden Bay Cement (Fletcher Building Ltd.)		Whangarai plant	900
Do.	Holcim New Zealand Ltd. (LafargeHolcim Ltd.)		Cape Foulwind, Westport	500
Clay, kaolin	Imerys Tableware New Zealand Ltd.		80 kilometers northwest of Whangarei	25
Coal	Phoenix Coal Ltd (Bathurst Resources Ltd., 65%, and Talleys Energy Ltd., 35%)		Stockton Mine, Buller, Westport	2,500
Do.	do.		Rotowaro Mine, Huntly	1,500
Do.	do.		Maramarua Mine, Huntly	500
Do.	Birchfield Coalmines Ltd.		Strongman Mine, Greymouth	200
Do.	Greenbriar Ltd. (Palmer MH Group)		New Vale Mine, Invercargill	300
Do.	do.		Ohai Mine, Ohai	200
Do.	Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd. (Government, 100%)		Spring Creek Mine, Greymouth	1,000 ¹
Do.	do.		Reddalle Valley Mine, Reefton	45 ¹
Gold, mine output, Au content	kilograms	OceanaGold Corp.	Waihi operation (Martha Mine, Favona Mine, and Trio Mine), Waikato	4,800
Do.	do.	do.	Macraes operation (Macraes Mine and Frasers Mine), Otago	5,400
Do.	do.	do.	Reefton Mine, West Coast	2,200 ²
Iron and steel:				
Iron ore	New Zealand Steel Ltd. (BlueScope Steel Ltd.)		Taharoa, 150 kilometers south of Auckland	1,400
Do.	do.		Waikato North Head, 30 kilometers south of Auckland	1,400
Steel	do.		Glenbrook	650
Do.	Pacific Steel Group (Fletcher Building Ltd.)		Otahuhu Mill, Auckland	300
Petroleum, refinery	thousand 42-gallon barrels	New Zealand Refining Co. Ltd.	Marsden Point oil refinery, Marsden Point	35,000
Salt	Dominion Salt Ltd.		South of Blenheim	70
Silver	metric tons	OceanaGold Corp.	Waihi operation (Martha Mine, Favona Mine, and Trio Mine), Waikato	30
Do.	do.	do.	Macraes operation (Macraes Mine and Frasers Mine), Otago	1

^cEstimated. Do., do. Ditto.

¹Closed in 2015 and remained closed through 2016.

²Closure announced in December 2016.