



2014 Minerals Yearbook

MAURITIUS

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF MAURITIUS

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Mineral production in Mauritius was an insignificant part of the country's economy in 2014. Locally produced minerals included aggregate and crushed stone, fertilizer, lime, salt, and sand; steel rebar was also produced. The country had no coal, natural gas, or petroleum reserves; most of its energy requirements were met by imported petroleum products, which constituted an estimated 19% of the country's imports in 2014. Renewable energy resources used for electric power generation included biomass, hydropower, solar, and wind. The biomass was mainly bagasse, which is a byproduct of the sugar industry used in cogeneration plants during crop season; it was supplanted by imported coal during the off-season (Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities, [undated]; Statistics Mauritius, 2015, p. 22, 124, 135).

The gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 5.5% to \$12.59 billion compared with \$11.93 billion in 2013. GDP growth increased slightly to 3.6% in 2014, compared with a growth rate of 3.2% in 2013. The mining and quarrying sector accounted for 0.3% of the GDP in 2014 (International Monetary Fund, 2015; Statistics Mauritius, 2015, p. 51).

In 2014, salt production decreased by an estimated 8% to 3,500 metric tons (t) from 3,800 t in 2013; according to

provisional figures provided by the Government, production of steel rebar decreased by 7% to 24,855 t in 2014 from a revised figure of 26,700 t in 2013; and production of sand increased by more than 130% to 53,000 t from 23,000 t in 2013. Data on mineral production are in table 1. A listing of the major companies that produce mineral commodities in Mauritius is in table 2.

References Cited

- International Monetary Fund, 2015, World economic outlook database, October 2015: Washington, DC, International Monetary Fund. (Accessed November 13, 2015, at [https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2015/02/weodata/weorept.aspx?sy=2013&ey=2020&scsm=1&ssd=1&sort=country&ds=.&br=1&pr1.x=43&pr1.y=9&c=684&s=NGDP_R%2CNGDP_RPCH%2CNGDPD&grp=0&a=.](https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2015/02/weodata/weorept.aspx?sy=2013&ey=2020&scsm=1&ssd=1&sort=country&ds=.&br=1&pr1.x=43&pr1.y=9&c=684&s=NGDP_R%2CNGDP_RPCH%2CNGDPD&grp=0&a=;))
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- Statistics Mauritius, 2015, National accounts of Mauritius—2014: Statistics Mauritius, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, v. 32, June, 144 p. (Accessed November 5, 2015, at [http://statsmauritius.govmu.org/English/StatsbySubj/Documents/Digest/National%20Accounts%202014.pdf.](http://statsmauritius.govmu.org/English/StatsbySubj/Documents/Digest/National%20Accounts%202014.pdf))

TABLE 1
MAURITIUS: ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

| Commodity ³ | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Aggregates, includes crushed basalt | 500,000 | 500,000 | 550,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 |
| Fertilizers | 24,326 | 27,000 | 27,000 | 28,000 ^r | 28,000 |
| Salt, marine | 1,349 | 3,500 | 3,800 | 3,800 | 3,500 |
| Sand | 68,708 | 44,035 ⁴ | 40,000 | 23,000 ^r | 53,000 ⁴ |
| Steel, rebar | 32,000 ⁴ | 34,000 | 32,200 ^r | 26,700 ^r | 24,855 |

^rRevised.

¹Estimated; estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²Table includes data available through November 6, 2015.

³In addition to the commodities listed, lime also was produced in Mauritius, but information is inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

⁴Reported figure.

TABLE 2
MAURITIUS: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2014

(Metric tons)

| Commodity | Major operating companies | Location of main facilities | Annual capacity ^e |
|--------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Aggregates | Betonix Ltd. (Bhunjun Group) | Nouvelle France and Tour Koenig | NA |
| Do. | Gamma Civic Ltd. | Solitude | NA |
| Do. | United Basalt Products Ltd. | Near Ausailles | 660,000 |
| Fertilizers | Mauritius Chemical and Fertilizer Industry Ltd. (Harel Mallac Group, 70.41%) | Port Louis | 100,000 |
| Salt | Mont Calme Ltd. | Evaporation ponds at Tamarin | NA |
| Steel, rebar | Samlo Koyenco Steel Company Ltd. | Near Midlands | 12,000 |

^eEstimated. Do. Ditto. NA Not available.