



2009 Minerals Yearbook

SLOVENIA [ADVANCE RELEASE]

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF SLOVENIA

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Slovenia remained a modest producer of mineral commodities in 2009 and its output was not significant on either a world or regional scale. Slovenia's gross domestic product (GDP) decreased by 7.8% in real terms in 2009 compared with that of 2008. This was Slovenia's first annual decrease in the GDP since 1992. Mining and quarrying made up about 0.4% of the GDP and manufacturing made up about 18%. Data on the amount of mineral processing included in the category "manufacturing" were not available (Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia, 2010a-c).

The world financial crisis reduced demand for Slovenia's main mineral exports in 2009, and exports of mineral commodities were not significant in terms of Slovenia's total exports. Compared with that of 2008, exports of iron and steel in 2009 decreased by 36% by volume to 415,372 metric tons (t), and by 54% by value to \$610 million; exports of nonferrous metals decreased by 18% by volume to 197,880 t, and by 31% by value to \$550 million; and exports of nonmetallic mineral manufactures (not including energy fuels) decreased by 29% by volume to 662,603 t, and by 25% by value to \$397 million. Exports of petroleum, petroleum products, and related materials increased by 12% by volume to 481,467 t, but decreased by 27% by value to \$325 million. Petroleum, petroleum products, and related materials was the only significant mineral commodity import classification in terms of value; it was valued at \$325 million and accounted for 8% of the total value of all imports (Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia, 2010a).

Production

In 2009, production decreased significantly compared with that of 2008 for all metals. Primary aluminum production decreased by 58%; secondary aluminum, by an estimated 50%; crude steel and semimanufactures, by 32% and 33%,

respectively; and refined lead by 7%. Cement production decreased by an estimated 23% and production of crude oil and refinery products increased by 15% each. Reduced foreign demand for minerals and mineral products as a result of the world economic crisis was the main reason for the reduced production of metals (table 1).

Structure of the Mineral Industry

Table 2 is a list of major mineral industry facilities.

Outlook

Production of minerals and mineral products will likely continue to be modest. As a result, Slovenia is expected to remain dependent on mineral imports, notably mineral fuels. Production of most commodities, including aluminum and crude steel, will most likely increase as the European and world economies recover and demand increases for mineral commodities.

References Cited

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TABLE 1
SLOVENIA: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES¹

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity ²	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	
METALS						
Aluminum:						
Primary	138,500	118,100	111,016	83,328	35,148	
Secondary ^c	--	20,000	20,000	20,000	10,000	
Iron and steel, metal:						
Ferroalloys, ferrosilicon ^c	15,529 ³	12,550 ³	6,000	--	--	
Crude steel from electric furnaces	583,000	627,000	638,000	642,000 ^r	436,000	
Semimanufactures	638,939	678,869	715,539	692,320	462,700	
Lead, refined, secondary ^c	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	14,000	
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS						
Cement	thousand metric tons	1,114	1,269	1,300 ^{r,e}	1,300 ^{r,e}	1,000 ^e
Clays: ^e						
Bentonite		140	130	130	130	130
Ceramic clay, crude		1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
Pumice and related materials, volcanic tuff ^c		40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Silica sands (glass sand, industrial sand) ^{c,4}		350,000 ^r	350,000 ^r	350,000 ^r	353,983 ^{r,3}	326,636 ³
Salt, all sources ^c		803 ³	1,624 ³	2,000	2,000	2,000
Sand and gravel, excluding glass sand	thousand metric tons	12,432	17,873	21,548	19,171 ^r	19,000 ^e
Stone, excluding quartz and quartzite, crude:						
Dimension ^c		15,262	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Crushed stone	thousand metric tons	12,176	7,547	9,374	9,765	10,144
MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS						
Coal:						
Brown coal	thousand metric tons	594	588 ^r	483	489	511
Lignite	do.	3,945	3,934	4,079	4,032 ^r	3,918
Total	do.	4,539	4,522 ^r	4,562	4,521	4,429
Natural gas	thousand cubic meters	4,335	4,163	3,418	2,610	2,575
Petroleum: ^{c,5}						
Crude	42-gallon barrels	2,210 ^r	2,110 ^r	2,060 ^r	1,170 ^r	994
Refinery products	do.	78,100	67,000	77,100	83,800	96,300

^cEstimated; estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. ^rRevised. do. Ditto. -- Zero.

¹Table includes data available through July 23, 2010.

²In addition to commodities listed, common clay and lime also were produced, but available information is inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

³Reported figure.

⁴In previous years, this commodity category was listed as "Quartz, quartzite, glass sand."

⁵Figures were converted to barrels from production in metric tons, which was reported as the following: Crude production: 2005—298; 2006—284; 2007—278; 2008—158; 2009—134. Petroleum products: 2005—9,767; 2006—8,379; 2007—9,632; 2008—10,478; 2009—12,042.

TABLE 2
SLOVENIA: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2009

(Thousand metric tons)

Commodity	Major operating companies	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Aluminum, primary and secondary	Talum d.d. Kidričevo (Elektro Slovenija d.o.o., 80%)	Smelter at Kidricevo	120 ^e
Cement	Salonit Anhovo	Plant at Anhovo	1,100 ^e
Do.	Lafarge Cement d.d. (Lafarge S.A., 56% and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, 44%)	Plant at Trbovlje	600
Coal:			
Brown	Rudnik Trbovlje-Hrastnik d.o.o. (RTH)	Mine Rudnik Trbovlje Hrastnik near Trbovlje	NA
Lignite	Premogovnik Velenje, d.d.	Mine at Velenje	NA
Ferroalloys, ferrosilicon	TDR-Metalurgija d.d. (TDR)	Plant at Ruse	27
Lead, metal, secondary	MPI - Reciklaža Metalurgija, plastika in inženiring d.o.o.	Smelter and refinery at Zerjav	35
Petroleum, refined	Nafta Lendava	Refinery at Lendava	14
Salt	SOLINE Pridelava soli d.o.o.	Salt pans at Sečovelje and Strunjan	2
Steel, crude	Acroni, d.o.o. [Slovenska Industrija Jekla d.d. (SIJ), 100%]	Plant at Jesenica	400
Do.	Metal Ravne d.o.o. [Slovenska Industrija Jekla d.d. (SIJ), 100%]	Plant at Ravne	130 ^e
Do.	Štore Steel d.o.o. (Unior d.d. 54%)	Plant at Štore	185 ^e