

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF SWITZERLAND

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The country was an important producer of aluminum. Other mineral production was limited to commodities required for construction, including cement, clays, gravel, gypsum, lime, and sand. (*See table 1.*) The mineral industry was largely controlled by the Government and was owned either privately or by regional cantons. (*See table 2.*) Switzerland relied on imports for many

mineral commodities, owing to self-imposed environmental restrictions and lack of natural resources. The country was a large diamond center with a turnover of more than \$1 billion. For more extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Switzerland, see the 1996 Minerals Yearbook, Volume III, International Review of Europe and Central Eurasia.

TABLE 1
SWITZERLAND: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES 1/

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity 2/	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997 e/
METALS					
Aluminum:					
Primary metric tons	36,439	24,172	20,726 r/	26,592 r/	27,000
Secondary do.	4,200	6,200 r/	10,700 r/	6,000 r/ e/	6,000
Iron and steel:					
Pig iron	110	110	100 e/	100 e/	100
Electric-furnace ferroalloys e/	5	-- r/	-- r/	-- r/	--
Steel, crude	1,260	800	1,000	1,000	1,000
Semimanufactures, rolled products e/	1,000	700	700	700	700
Lead, refined, secondary metric tons	6,000	6,350	6,400 e/	6,200 e/	6,000
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS					
Cement, hydraulic e/	4,000	4,000	4,000	3,800	3,800
Gypsum	299	298	300 e/	300 e/	300
Lime e/	40	40	35 r/	35	35
Nitrogen, N content of ammonia e/	28 3/	30	30	30	30
Salt e/	221	259	300	300	300
Sulfur, from petroleum refining e/ metric tons	3,000	3,000	3,000	4,000	5,000
MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS					
Petroleum refinery products: e/					
Liquefied petroleum gas thousand 42-gallon barrels	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Gasoline do.	8,500	8,500	9,000	9,000	9,000
Jet fuel do.	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Distillate fuel oil do.	9,500	9,500	10,000	9,500	9,500
Residual fuel oil do.	5,500	5,500	6,000	5,500	5,500
Bitumen do.	800	800	800	800	800
Refinery fuel and losses do.	2,200	2,200	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total 4/ do.	30,500	30,500	31,800	30,800	30,800

e/ Estimated. r/ Revised.

1/ Table includes data available through March 1998.

2/ In addition to the commodities listed, a variety of crude construction materials (common clay, sand and gravel, and stone) were produced, but output was not reported, and available general information was inadequate to make reliable estimates of output levels.

3/ Reported figure.

4/ Total of listed products only.

TABLE 2
 SWITZERLAND: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 1997

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity	Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Aluminum	Alusuisse-Lonza Holding AG	Smelter at Stag	48
Cement	Bundr Cementwerke AG (Holderbank Management and Consulting Ltd. 100%)	Plant at Untervaz	700
Do.	Cementfabrik Holderbank AG	Plant at Rekingen	700
Lead, secondary	Metallum AG	Smelter at Pratteln	13
Refinery, petroleum billion barrels per day	Reffinerie du Sud-Ouest SA (Compagnie Francaise des Petroles 49%, and British Petroleum 49% are major share holders.)	Refinery at Collombey	40,000
Do .	Reffinerie de Cressier SA (Kninklijke Nederlandsche Petroleum Maatschappij NV 100%)	Refinery at Cressier	36,000
Salt	Zentralbureau des Vereins der Schweizerischen Rheinsalinen (Government 100%)	Saline at Schweizerhalle	350
Do .	La Societe des Mines (Canton of Vaud 100%)	Saline at Bex	50
Steel	Monteforno Acciaierie e Laminatoi SA (Von Roll Group 93.6%)	Plant at Bodio	380
Do .	Von Roll Group	Plant at Gerlafingen	370
Do .	Von Moss Sthal AG	Plant at Emmenbrucke	300