

## THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF

# BELIZE

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The mineral industry of Belize comprised various types of natural construction materials for various domestic uses. A small quantity of alluvial gold was recovered by individual entrepreneurs. Several petroleum wildcat wells in the past several years have yielded information, but no commercial quantities of oil or gas. No mineral commodities are known to

have been exported, and the country was dependent on imports for its mineral requirements.

For more extensive coverage of the mineral industry of Belize, see the 1997 Minerals Yearbook, volume III, The Mineral Industries of Latin America and Canada.

TABLE 1  
 BELIZE: ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES 1/ 2/

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Clays	2,100	2,200	2,250	2,600	2,600
Dolomite	30	29	29	30	30
Gold	kilograms 5	5	5	5	6
Lime	metric tons 1,000	1,100	1,200	1,200	1,250
Limestone	300	310	310	310	315
Marl	1,050	1,200	1,100	1,300	1,300
Sand and gravel	300	320	320	350	360

1/ Estimated data are rounded to three significant digits.

2/ Includes data available through March 1, 1999.