



2010 Minerals Yearbook

MACEDONIA

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF MACEDONIA

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Macedonia produced a number of metals, as well as industrial minerals and lignite. Petroleum was imported and processed at the country's sole domestic refinery. Production of mineral products was not significant on either a world or regional scale, but exports of metal commodities were a relatively important source of trade revenue for Macedonia (table 1).

Minerals in the National Economy

Macedonia's real gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 1.8% compared with the GDP in 2009. In 2009 (the latest year for which data were available), manufacturing made up 14.12% of the GDP and mining and quarrying made up only 1.0%. In 2010, mineral fuels, lubricants, and related materials made up 17.7% of the value of Macedonian imports and 7.8% of the value of exports. Macedonia's State Statistical Office listed ferronickel, flat-rolled steel products, and petroleum products as three of the country's four most significant export items, although data concerning the value of the trade of these goods in 2010 were not available (Republic of Macedonia State Statistical Office, 2011a, p. 35; 2011b, p. 17; 2011c, p. 1–2).

Production

Estimated production of ferrosilicon increased by 422%; gypsum, by 68%; dolomite, by 46%; limestone flux, by 21%; nickel content of ferronickel, by 17%; and dimension stone, by 14%. The large estimated increase in ferrosilicon production was owing to the restarting of the ferroalloys plant at Jegunovce in May (production was halted in November 2009) after the plant was purchased by Metal Invest EFT DOOEL in February. Production of ferromanganese and silicomanganese were also likely restarted in 2010. In previous years, Macedonia's State Statistical Office reported production volumes for the majority

of the mineral commodities produced in Macedonia, but in 2010, production volumes for most mineral commodities were not reported. Consequently, the majority of production figures for 2010 are estimated in table 1 (SeeNews, 2010a, b).

Structure of the Mineral Industry

Table 2 is a list of major mineral industry facilities.

Outlook

Macedonia's mineral commodity production will most likely remain modest. World economic conditions could have a significant effect on Macedonia's mineral industry owing to foreign demand for metals and petroleum products. The level of lignite production will most likely remain relatively constant to maintain electricity production.

References Cited

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- Republic of Macedonia State Statistical Office, 2011b, Gross domestic product, first quarter of 2011: Republic of Macedonia State Statistical Office, June 24, 23 p.
- Republic of Macedonia State Statistical Office, 2011c, The international trade volume of the Republic of Macedonia, January-December 2010: Republic of Macedonia State Statistical Office, February 4, 5 p.
- SeeNews, 2010a, EFT's Macedonian ferroalloys plant Silmak to restart production in May—Media: SeeNews, April 21. (Accessed August 9, 2010, at <http://www.seenews.com/news/latestnews/macedonianferroalloysplantsilmakrestartproductioninmay-media-133616/>.)
- SeeNews, 2010b, EFT's Macedonian unit acquires local ferroalloys plant Silmak for 5.6 mln euro—Media: SeeNews, February 17. (Accessed April 2, 2010, at http://www.seenews.com/news/latestnews/macedonia_smetalinvestacquiresferroalloysplantsilmakfor5_6mlneuro--162748/.)

TABLE 1
MACEDONIA: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES¹

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity ²	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 ^e	
METALS						
Copper, mine and concentrator output:						
Ore, gross weight	thousand metric tons	4,132	4,109	4,240	3,767	3,800
Concentrate:						
Gross weight		33,591	33,467	38,337	35,430	36,600
Cu content ^e		7,000	7,400	8,400	7,600	7,900
Iron and steel:						
Ferroalloys:						
Ferromanganese		--	--	12,623	--	10,000
Ferronickel (23% Ni), gross weight ^e		47,600 ^r	66,600 ^r	65,300 ^r	52,200 ^r	60,900
Ferrosilicon		59,023	34,215	42,674 ^r	7,657	40,000
Silicomanganese		--	70,472	54,931	--	15,000
Total		107,000 ^r	171,000 ^r	176,000 ^r	59,900	126,000
Steel:						
Crude, secondary		360,304	371,930	252,461	276,215	292,126 ³
Semimanufactures		353,964	366,076	252,946	270,397	275,196 ³
Lead, mine output, concentrate, Pb content		9,000 ^r	29,000 ^r	34,000	51,000 ^r	46,000 ³
Nickel, Ni content of FeNi		10,942	15,321	15,026	12,000	14,000
Zinc, mine output, concentrate, Zn content		11,000	24,000 ^r	29,000 ^r	35,000 ^r	35,000 ³
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS						
Cement	thousand metric tons	924	945	916	909	900
Clays, bentonite		32,507	35,234	22,890	15,350	15,400
Dolomite:						
Not frayed, not calcined		119,109	96,723	75,855	78,523	115,000
Sintered		20,054	19,351	23,933	21,607	22,000
Agglomerated		--	3,337	4,179	3,814	4,000
Feldspar, crude		32,824	32,814	28,920	19,377	19,000
Gypsum, crude		267,760	255,500	242,400	154,550	260,000
Lime		12,704	7,517	--	2,713	2,700
Limestone flux		622,829	848,498	827,100	694,968	840,000
Marl		1,059,872	1,112,870	1,083,830	560,170	600,000
Pumice and related materials, volcanic tuff		66,987	80,910	103,476	113,064	113,000
Sand and gravel, excluding glass sand	cubic meters	42,696	30,020	39,559	30,631	30,600
Silica sands (quartz sands or industrial sands)	do.	113,240	97,432	84,969	72,313	72,300
Stone, excluding quartz and quartzite:						
Dimension, crude		65,569	60,271	71,819	69,082	78,603 ³
Crushed and broken	cubic meters	111,829	58,369	33,023	34,436	34,400
Talc, crude		1,025	1,775	977	--	--
MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS						
Lignite	thousand metric tons	6,722	6,569	7,746	7,454	7,450
Petroleum, refinery products ^{e,4}	thousand 42-gallon barrels	8,200	8,300	8,300	7,700	7,700

^eEstimated, 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 August 16, 2011.

²In addition to commodities listed, secondary aluminum in small amounts, common clay, diatomite, and gold contained in copper concentrate also are thought to have been produced, but available information is inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

³Reported figure.

⁴Figures were converted to barrels from production in thousand metric tons, which was reported as the following: 2006—1,022; 2007—1,042; 2008—1,036; 2009—963; 2010—Not reported.

TABLE 2
MACEDONIA: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2010

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity	Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Cement	Usje Cementarnica AD (Titan S.A., 95%)	Plant at Skopje	1,000 ^c
Copper ore	Bucim Mine (Solway Investment Group Ltd.)	Mine and mill at Bucim, west of Radovis	4,000
Ferroalloys:			
Ferrosilicon	Metal Invest EFT DOOEL	Plant at Jegunovce	80
Silicomanganese	Skopski Leguri DOOEL	Plant at Skopje	56
Ferromanganese	do.	do.	66
Ferronickel, Ni content of ferronickel	Feni Industries (Cunico Resources)	Ferronickel plant at Kavadarci	16 ^c
Gold, mine output	Bucim Mine (Solway Investment Group Ltd.)	Mine and mill at Bucim, west of Radovis	NA
Lead, metal	MHK d.o.o. Zletovo	Imperial smelter at Titov Veles	NA
Do.	do.	Refinery at Titov Veles	NA
Lead-zinc, concentrate	Sasa Mine (Solway Investment Group Ltd.)	Mill at Sasa, north of Makedonska Kamenica	NA
Lead-zinc ore	do.	Mine at Sasa, north of Makedonska Kamenica	1,000 ^c
Do.	Zletovo Mine (Indo Minerals and Metals DOOEL)	Mine and mill near Probistip	NA
Do.	Toranica Mine (Indo Minerals and Metals DOOEL)	Mine near Dolga Livada	NA
Lignite	AD ELEM (State owned)	Mine at Suvodol	6,500
Do.	do.	Mine at Oslomej	1,000
Do.	do.	Star Rudnik Mine at Oslomej	310 ^c
Do.	do.	Brod-Gneotino Mine, south of Suvodol near Brod	NA ¹
Nickel, ore	Feni Industries (Cunico Resources)	Opencast mine at Rzanovo, 20 miles south of Kavadarci	NA
Petroleum, refined	42-gallon barrels OKTA A.D. Skopje (EL.P.ET Balkanike, 81.51%)	Oil refinery at Skopje	20,000 ^c
Steel, crude, secondary	Makstil A.D. Skopje (Duferco Group, 62%)	Plant at Skopje	360
Zinc, metal	MHK Zletovo	Imperial smelter plant and refinery at Titov Veles	NA

^cEstimated. Do., do. Ditto. NA Not available.

¹In 2009 (the latest year for which data were available), the Brod-Gneotino Mine remained under development and did not produce any coal. AD ELEM expected the mine to have a production capacity of 2,000,000 metric tons per year when development is complete.