



2012 Minerals Yearbook

LITHUANIA

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF LITHUANIA

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In 2012, Lithuania's real gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 3.6% compared with that of 2011. Lithuania's GDP composition by sector was as follows: services, 68.4%; industry, 28.4%; and agriculture, 3.2%. Lithuania was not a significant world producer of any mineral commodities, but crude petroleum and petroleum products made up a significant portion of the country's foreign trade value. In 2012, the majority of Lithuania's exports, in terms of value, went to European countries; exports to Russia accounted for 18.9% of Lithuania's total exports, which made Russia the principal trade partner of Lithuania. In 2011 (the latest year for which data were available), petroleum and petroleum products accounted for 26% of the total value of Lithuania's imports and 24% of the total value of the country's exports (Statistics Lithuania, 2012, p. 288–289, 376–384; U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, 2013).

Production

AB Orlen Lietuva, which was located near Mazaikiai about 90 km west of the petroleum terminals in Butinge, Klaipeda, and Ventspils, was the only petroleum refinery operating in the Baltic States; the refinery exported most of its production. AB Akmenes Cementas, which was located in Naujoji Akmene, was the only cement producer in Lithuania. Data on mineral production are in table 1.

Commodity Review

Industrial Minerals

Cement.—In August, Akmenes Cementas, which was partly owned by CEMEX S.A.B. de C.V. of Mexico, posted an increase in revenue of 22% compared with revenue in the same month in 2011. Cement output was reported to have increased by 7.7% as of mid-year. Akmenes Cementas indicated that the company's level of exports was similar to that of 2011; however, its exports to Belarus seem to have increased somewhat. The company was operating at nearly full capacity and sought to follow its previous strategy of exporting as much of its output as possible. The company stated that Lithuania's cement consumption was likely to decrease by 5%; however, because of the expected increase in exports, the company was projecting that its annual sales would increase by at least 10%, and its revenues, by 15%. The company stated that the upgrade project at the main installation in Naujoji Akmene was 60% complete

and that the project was expected to be completed by the middle of 2013 (Global Cement, 2012a, b).

Mineral Fuels

Petroleum.—In November, AB Orlen Lietuva (a subsidiary of the Orlen Group) began a new stage in the implementation of a system of automated processes that the company had begun in 2006. In this newest stage, the company was to implement an automatic furnace ignition system. (The previous stage saw the implementation of a wireless automated control system that was less expensive to operate than the previous cable system.) The company stated that its goal in automating its processes was to implement an advanced process control system that would enable the sending of tasks automatically to the whole chain of operations based on the required amount of product to be produced (AB Orlen Lietuva, 2012).

Outlook

Exports, including exports of mineral commodities, are expected to play an increasingly significant role in the economy of Lithuania, especially because domestic demand is expected to remain weak for at least the near future. The Government's plans to invest further in infrastructure and the industrial base are likely to support this move towards a more export-oriented economy.

References Cited

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TABLE 1
LITHUANIA: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES¹

(Metric tons)

Commodity	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Ammonia, nitrogen content	759,000	472,400	434,100	869,500	918,400
Cement	1,075,581	583,100	834,000 ^r	996,300	1,015,000
Common clays and shales for construction use	624,470	246,398	250,000	282,400	300,100
Crushed granite	810,000	327,000 ^r	307,000	374,000	374,000 ^e
Crushed stone used for concrete aggregates, for roadstone, and for other construction use	6,896,987	2,426,773	2,500,000 ^e	2,500,000	2,500,000 ^e
Dolomite, crude (excluding calcined, crushed dolomite aggregate)	4,752	2,000 ^{r,e}	2,000 ^e	2,000	2,000 ^e
Limestone	1,625,089	911,900 ^r	928,000	1,179,000	1,354,000
Peat:					
Horticultural use	521,000	542,500	326,800	384,700	386,200
Fuel use ^e	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Petroleum:					
Crude	127,658	115,000	114,500	113,900	112,000 ^e
Refinery products	8,814,800	8,012,300	8,579,400	8,796,900	8,458,600
Sand and gravel:					
Construction sand	5,055,172	3,100,000	3,104,000	5,776,800	5,081,200
Gravel, pebbles, shingle and flint	4,414,239	1,930,000	2,551,000	2,372,000	2,370,000 ^e
Silica sand, industrial	38,300	41,200	67,300 ^r	53,400	53,900
Stones, granules, chippings, and powder of, excluding marble	15,538	6,222	6,200 ^e	6,200	6,200 ^e
Sulfur	73,870	69,722	73,500	76,700	73,000
Sulfuric acid	1,051,400 ^r	1,155,849	1,150,000 ^e	1,150,000	1,150,000 ^e

^eEstimated; estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits. ^rRevised.

¹Table includes data available through July 18, 2013.

TABLE 2
LITHUANIA: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2012

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity	Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facility	Annual capacity
Cement	AB Akmenes Cementas (CEMEX S.A.B. de C.V., 33.95%)	Plant in Naujoji Akmenė	1,500
Petroleum, refined	AB Orlen Lietuva (Orlen Group)	Plant in Mazaikiai	15,000