



2014 Minerals Yearbook

MAURITIUS [ADVANCE RELEASE]

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF MAURITIUS

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Mineral production in Mauritius was an insignificant part of the country's economy in 2014. Locally produced minerals included aggregate and crushed stone, fertilizer, lime, salt, and sand; steel rebar was also produced. The country had no coal, natural gas, or petroleum reserves; most of its energy requirements were met by imported petroleum products, which constituted an estimated 19% of the country's imports in 2014. Renewable energy resources used for electric power generation included biomass, hydropower, solar, and wind. The biomass was mainly bagasse, which is a byproduct of the sugar industry used in cogeneration plants during crop season; it was supplanted by imported coal during the off-season (Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities, [undated]; Statistics Mauritius, 2015, p. 22, 124, 135).

The gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 5.5% to \$12.59 billion compared with \$11.93 billion in 2013. GDP growth increased slightly to 3.6% in 2014, compared with a growth rate of 3.2% in 2013. The mining and quarrying sector accounted for 0.3% of the GDP in 2014 (International Monetary Fund, 2015; Statistics Mauritius, 2015, p. 51).

In 2014, salt production decreased by an estimated 8% to 3,500 metric tons (t) from 3,800 t in 2013; according to

provisional figures provided by the Government, production of steel rebar decreased by 7% to 24,855 t in 2014 from a revised figure of 26,700 t in 2013; and production of sand increased by more than 130% to 53,000 t from 23,000 t in 2013. Data on mineral production are in table 1. A listing of the major companies that produce mineral commodities in Mauritius is in table 2.

References Cited

- International Monetary Fund, 2015, World economic outlook database, October 2015: Washington, DC, International Monetary Fund. (Accessed November 13, 2015, at [https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2015/02/weodata/weorept.aspx?sy=2013&ey=2020&scsm=1&ssd=1&sort=country&ds=.&br=1&pr1.x=43&pr1.y=9&c=684&s=NGDP_R%2CNGDP_RPCH%2CNGDPD&grp=0&a=.](https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2015/02/weodata/weorept.aspx?sy=2013&ey=2020&scsm=1&ssd=1&sort=country&ds=.&br=1&pr1.x=43&pr1.y=9&c=684&s=NGDP_R%2CNGDP_RPCH%2CNGDPD&grp=0&a=;))
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- Statistics Mauritius, 2015, National accounts of Mauritius—2014: Statistics Mauritius, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, v. 32, June, 144 p. (Accessed November 5, 2015, at [http://statsmauritius.govmu.org/English/StatsbySubj/Documents/Digest/National%20Accounts%202014.pdf.](http://statsmauritius.govmu.org/English/StatsbySubj/Documents/Digest/National%20Accounts%202014.pdf))

TABLE 1
MAURITIUS: ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES¹

(Metric tons)

Commodity ²	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Aggregates, includes crushed basalt	500,000	500,000	550,000	500,000	500,000
Fertilizers	24,326	27,000	27,000	28,000 ^r	28,000
Salt, marine	1,349	3,500	3,800	3,800	3,500
Sand	68,708	44,035 ³	40,000	23,000 ^r	53,000 ³
Steel, rebar	32,000 ³	34,000	32,200 ^r	26,700 ^r	24,855

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

¹Table includes data available through November 6, 2015.

²In addition to the commodities listed, lime also was produced in Mauritius, but information is inadequate to make reliable estimates of output.

³Reported figure.

TABLE 2
MAURITIUS: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2014

(Metric tons)

Commodity	Major operating companies	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity ^c
Aggregates	Betonix Ltd. (Bhunjun Group)	Nouvelle France and Tour Koenig	NA
Do.	Gamma Civic Ltd.	Solitude	NA
Do.	United Basalt Products Ltd.	Near Ausailles	660,000
Fertilizers	Mauritius Chemical and Fertilizer Industry Ltd. (Harel Mallac Group, 70.41%)	Port Louis	100,000
Salt	Mont Calme Ltd.	Evaporation ponds at Tamarin	NA
Steel, rebar	Samlo Koyenco Steel Company Ltd.	Near Midlands	12,000

^cEstimated. Do. Ditto. NA Not available.