

DENMARK

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Mineral production in Denmark includes the extraction of sand, gravel, stone, clay, chalk, limestone, peat and salt plus, from the seabed, oil and gas. Some of the recovered sand, gravel and stone are also won from the seabed by dredging.

The total production of raw materials excluding oil, gas and salt was 35.2 million m³ in 2003 or 6.5 m³ per inhabitant. In 2003 the production of oil was 21.3 billion m³. The corresponding figure for output of gas in 2003 was 6.90 billion Nm³ – this figure is total production minus fuel, burn-off and injection.

In 2001, the production of land-based minerals was 32.9 million m³, declining to 31.2 million m³ in 2002. This decline has continued with only 28.9 million m³ being reported in 2003. The sea-based production of raw materials fell to 5.4 million m³ in 2001, increasing to 5.8 million m³ in 2002, and reaching 6.2 million m³ in 2003. Most of the total land and seabed output of raw materials (some 80%) consists of sand, gravel and stone. Chalk and limestone represent the second biggest group with about 10% of total production of raw materials. Most of the sand, gravel and stone is used for roads and construction, accounting for around 65% with a further 30% for concrete and mortar.

In 2001 output of chalk and limestone rose to 3.5 million m³, decreasing in 2002 to 3.2 million m³ and falling to 3.0 million m³ in 2003. Clay production used for bricks and cement declined to 720,000 m³ in 2001. In 2002 the decline led to production of 663,000 m³ and in 2003 fell further to 632,000 m³. Production from 1990 to 2000 ranged from 462,000–788,000 m³.

Production of moler (a diatomaceous deposit used for insulating purposes and granulates) in 2001 rose to 231,000 m³, increasing in 2002 to 254,000 m³, and further to 265,000 m³ in 2003. Production of quartz sands increased to 488,000 m³ in 2001, 464,000 m³ in 2002 and rising to 484,000 m³ in 2003.

Expanded clay for insulating materials and light expanded aggregates decreased to 234,000 m³ in 2001, decreasing further to 221,000 m³ in 2002 and 225,000 m³ in 2003. Production of peat rose in 2001 to a total of 287,000 m³, increasing in 2002 to 336,000 m³ and 314,000 m³ in 2003.

On behalf of the Dansk Undergrunds Consortium (DUC), Maersk Olie and Gas A/S produced oil and gas from offshore fields in the North Sea. In 1989 production was from just five fields, gradually extending to a total of 20 offshore fields operating in 2003.

In 2001, the production of oil slightly decreased to 20.2 million m³, rising to 21.5 million m³ in 2002 and 21.3 million m³ in 2003. In 2001 output of gas

Mining Annual Review 2004

(total output minus fuel, burn-off and injection) rose to 7.33 billion (milliard) Nm³. In 2002 the production was 7.30 billion Nm³ and 6.90 billion Nm³ in 2003.

The tax rate applicable to non-energy raw materials is currently DK5/m³ resulting in a sum on mineral rights from land-based minerals of DK164 million in 2001, DK156 million in 2002 and DK145 million in 2003. The corresponding sum for sea-based output was DK27.0 million in 2001, DK29.0 million in 2002 and DK31.0 million in 2003.

The value of Danish oil and gas production is linked to the changes in the international fixed price of raw oil and through this to the fluctuations in the exchange rate of the dollar. Tax and royalties resulting from oil and gas rights amounted to DK9.63 billion (milliard) in 2001 and DK10.137 billion in 2002 whilst for 2003 it is estimated at DK9.33 billion.