

CHAPTER 1: Industry Structure

Major Mineral Products

The Philippines is blessed with abundant mineral resources. Among metallic minerals, the country has important reserves of gold, copper, nickel, cobalt and chromite. Among non-metallic minerals, sand and gravel, salt and silica sand comes to mind. Other mineral deposits abound, albeit at a lesser degree.

Among these minerals, though, the Philippines is better known for metallic minerals such as gold, copper, nickel and chromite. In fact, the country has consistently made it among the list of the top ten country producers of gold, copper and chromite [1].

Table 1.1: Share Philippine Mine Production to World Mine Production, 1986

Metal	Unit	Philippines Production	World Production	Rank	% of World Production
Gold	000 oz.	1,139	49,722	8	2.3%
Copper	000 Mt.	217	8,459	10	2.6%
Chromite	000 Mt.	183	10,533	9	1.7%

Source: Bureau of Mines and Geosciences; World Bureau of Metal Statistics, 1987