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2007 Minerals Yearbook

LOUISIANA [ADVANCE RELEASE]

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U.S. Geological Survey

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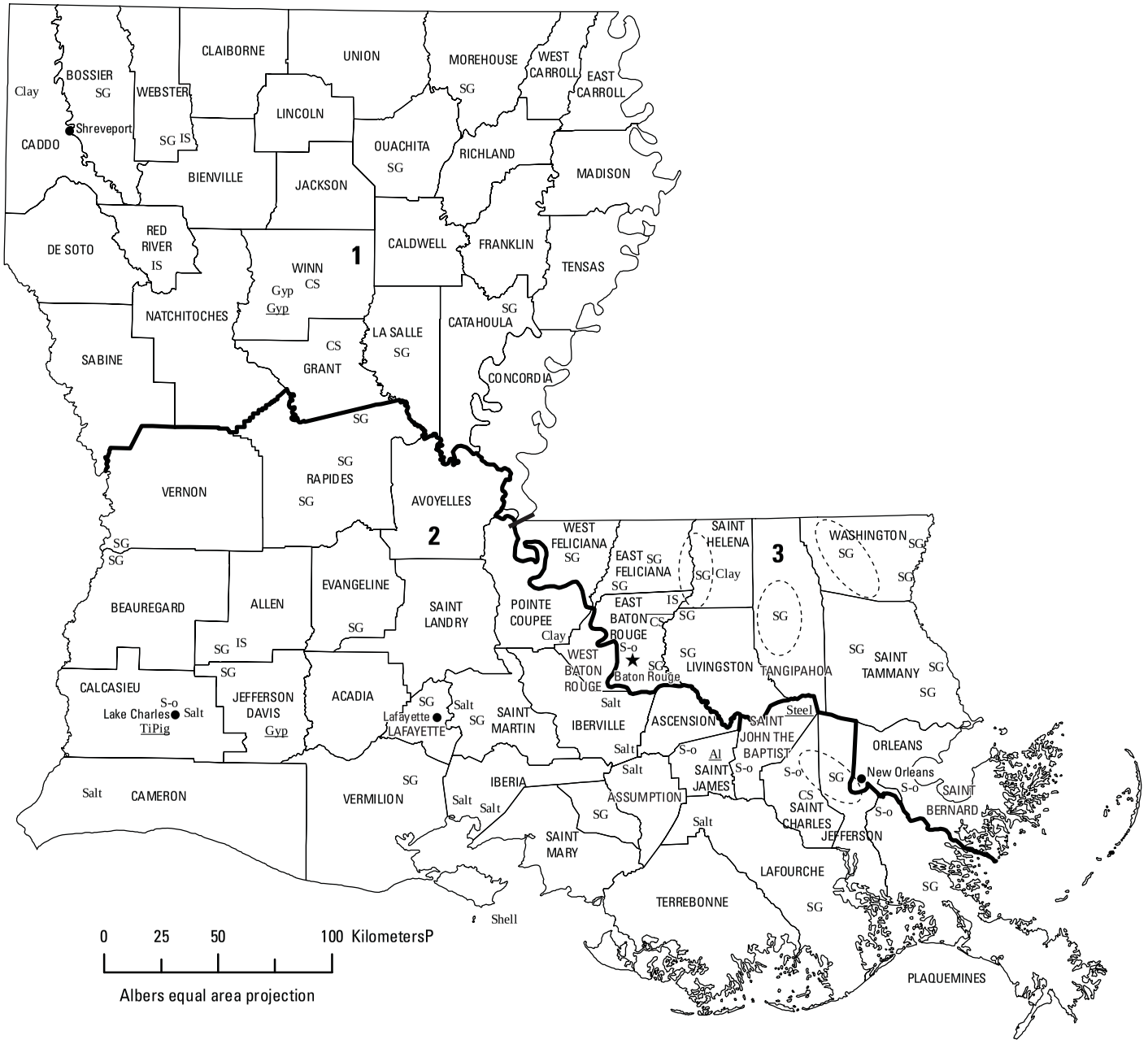
LOUISIANA



LEGEND

- Parish boundary
- ★ Capital
- ● City
- 1 —— Crushed stone/sand and gravel district boundary

MINERAL SYMBOLS
(Major producing areas)

Al	Aluminum plant
Clay	Common clay
CS	Crushed stone
Gyp	Gypsum
Gyp	Gypsum plant
IS	Industrial sand
Lime	Lime plant
S-o	Sulfur (oil)
Salt	Salt
SG	Construction sand and gravel
Shell	Shell
Steel	Steel plant
TiPig	Titanium pigment plant
⬭	Concentration of mineral operations

Source: Louisiana Geological Survey/U.S. Geological Survey (2007).

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF LOUISIANA

In 2007, Louisiana's nonfuel raw mineral production[1] was valued at $567 million, based upon annual U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) data. This was a $102 million, or 21.9%, increase from the State's total nonfuel mineral value for 2006, which was up $67.6 million, or 17%, from that of 2005. Louisiana ranked 34th among the 50 States in total nonfuel mineral production value (up from 37th in 2006), and accounted for slightly less than 1% of the U.S. total.

For the second consecutive year, construction sand and gravel remained the leading nonfuel mineral commodity, accounting for more than 42% of the State's total mineral value (up from 39% in 2006). Salt was the second leading mineral commodity, accounting for nearly 32% of the State's total mineral value, which was followed by crushed stone[2] (data withheld—company proprietary data). Louisiana was also a significant producer of industrial sand and gravel, common clay, and crude gypsum, listed in descending order of value (table 1). Raw steel was also produced in the State, however, from materials obtained from other domestic and foreign sources.

[1]The terms "nonfuel mineral production" and related "values" encompass variations in meaning, depending upon the mineral products. Production may be measured by mine shipments, mineral commodity sales, or marketable production (including consumption by producers) as is applicable to the individual mineral commodity.

All 2007 USGS mineral production data published in this chapter are those available as of June 2009. All USGS Mineral Industry Surveys and USGS Minerals Yearbook chapters—mineral commodity, State, and country—can be retrieved over the Internet at URL http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals.

[2]Crushed stone quantity and value data were mostly from that of imported materials sold through sales yards, not from materials mined within the State (except for a relatively small portion of crushed shell mined instate). District tables for crushed stone were discontinued in 2005 in order to not disclose company proprietary data.

In 2007, nearly all mineral commodities produced in Louisiana increased in value. The largest increase took place in construction sand and gravel, increasing by $55 million, or 29.3%, with a significant rise in production. Though Nation-wide the total value of construction sand and gravel decreased, the unit value of the mineral commodity increased by 13.3%. In addition to construction sand and gravel, the increase in Louisiana's total nonfuel mineral production value was also led by rises in the value of salt and crushed stone. Salt increased by $37.2 million, or 26%, and crushed stone increased significantly as well (data withheld—company proprietary data). Salt production rose by 12.7%, or 1.6 million metric tons. A smaller, yet significant, increase also took place in the value of industrial sand and gravel, amounting to $5.08 million, whereas the production of the mineral commodity decreased. The unit value of industrial sand and gravel increased dramatically, up more than 37%, and was perhaps owing to an increased in domestic demand for uses in ceramics, chemicals, container, fillers (ground and whole grain), filtration, flat and specialty glass, hydraulic fracturing, and recreational uses in 2007. The only mineral commodity produced in Louisiana to decline in value was common clay, decreasing by $9.81 million, or 41.5%. This was because of the dramatic drop in unit value of 40% as common clay usage decreased with the slowed U.S. economy and housing decline of 2007.

Louisiana continued to be the leading salt-producing State, accounting for 30.6% of the national total. The State ranked 15th out of 41 States in the production of common clay and 16th out of 50 in the production of construction sand and gravel. Louisiana also produced significant amounts of industrial sand and gravel and crude gypsum.

TABLE 1
NONFUEL RAW MINERAL PRODUCTION IN LOUISIANA[1, 2]

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	2005		2006		2007	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Clays, common	416	13,100	563	23,700	552	13,800
Gemstones, natural	NA	6	NA	7	NA	7
Salt	13,800	182,000	12,300 r	143,000 r	13,900	180,000
Sand and gravel:						
Construction	18,600	113,000	23,300	188,000	26,600	243,000
Industrial	509	11,600	663	16,100	635	21,200
Combined values of gypsum (crude), lime, stone (crushed limestone and sandstone)	XX	77,900 r	XX	94,500 r	XX	109,000
Total	XX	397,000 r	XX	465,000 r	XX	567,000

rRevised. NA Not available. XX Not applicable.

[1]Production as measured by mine shipments, sales, or marketable production (including consumption by producers).

[2]Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 2
LOUISIANA: CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED IN 2007,
BY MAJOR USE CATEGORY[1]

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Use	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value
Concrete aggregate and concrete products[2]	9,640	$82,100	$8.52
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and road base materials	1,050	22,900	21.91
Fill	371	1,710	4.62
Other miscellaneous uses[3]	157	2,890	18.40
Unspecified:[4]			
Reported	2,300	17,600	7.67
Estimated	13,100	116,000	8.86
Total or average	26,600	243,000	9.14

[1]Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except unit value; may not add to totals shown.

[2]Includes plaster and gunite sands.

[3]Includes railroad ballast.

[4]Reported and estimated production without a breakdown by end use.

TABLE 3
LOUISIANA: CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED IN 2007, BY USE AND DISTRICT[1]

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

	District 1		District 2		District 3	
Use	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Concrete aggregate and concrete products[2]	W	W	W	W	7,910	63,500
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and road base materials	--	--	W	W	W	W
Fill	50	187	181	1,110	140	420
Other miscellaneous uses[3]	797	8,720	1,680	26,700	452	8,990
Unspecified:[4]						
Reported	--	--	1,250	8,870	525	4,230
Estimated	444	3,280	6,700	57,400	5,920	55,000
Total	1,290	12,200	9,810	94,100	14,900	132,000

	Unspecified districts	
Use	Quantity	Value
Concrete aggregate and concrete products[2]	--	--
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and road base materials	--	--
Fill	--	--
Other miscellaneous uses[3]	--	--
Unspecified:[4]		
Reported	527	4,530
Estimated	--	--
Total	527	4,530

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Other miscellaneous uses." -- Zero.

[1]Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

[2]Includes plaster and gunite sands.

[3]Includes railroad ballast.

[4]Reported and estimated production without a breakdown by end use.