

# LOUISIANA

## LEGEND

— Parish boundary

★ Capital

• City

1 — Crushed stone/sand and gravel districts

## MINERAL SYMBOLS (Major producing areas)

Al Aluminum plant

Clay Common clay

CS Crushed stone

Gem Gemstones

Gyp Gypsum

Gyp Gypsum plant

IS Industrial sand

Lime Lime plant

S-o Sulfur (oil)

Salt Salt

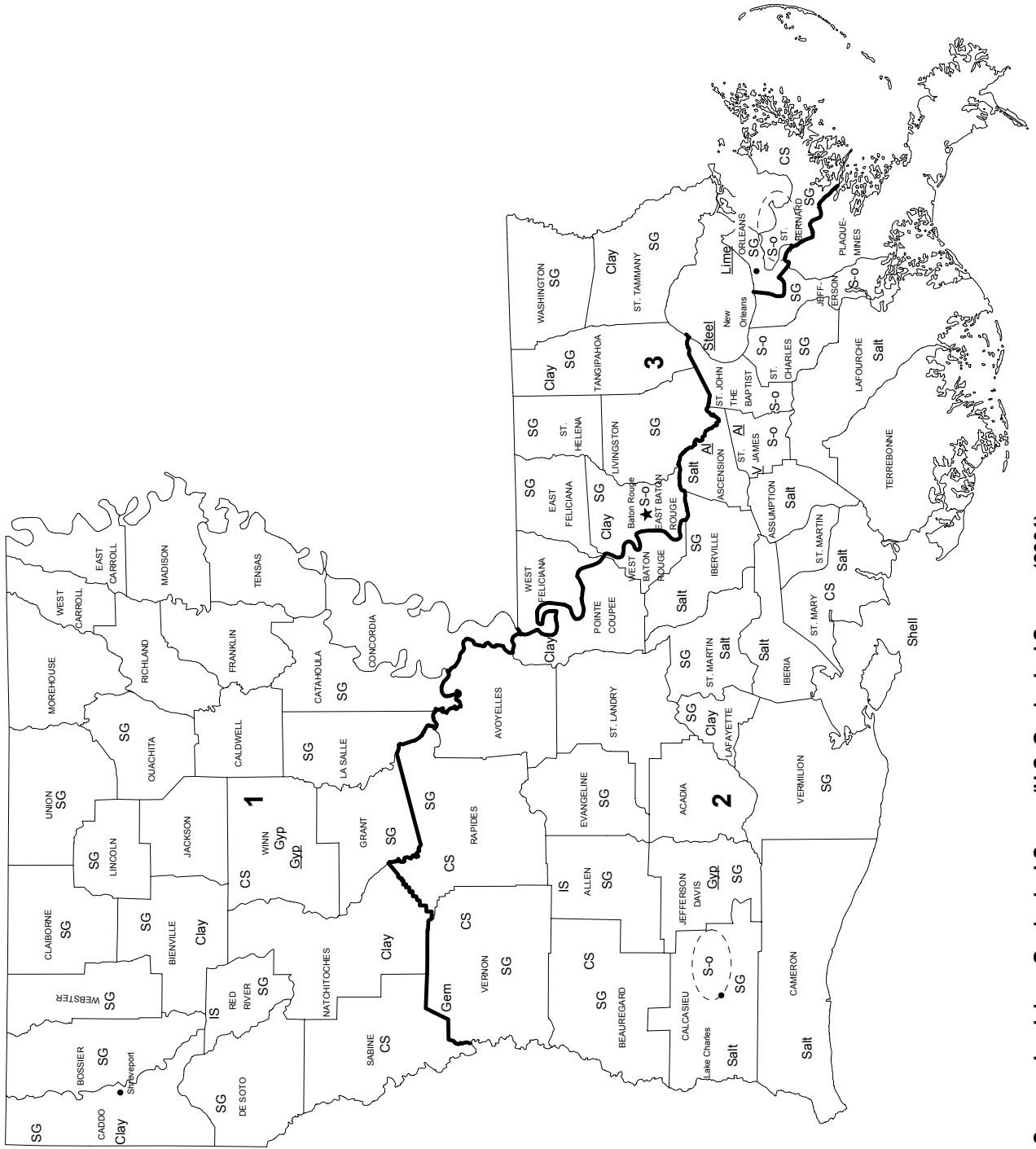
SG Construction sand and gravel

Shell Shell

Steel Steel plant

V Vanadium plant

○ Concentration of mineral operations



Source: Louisiana Geological Survey/U.S. Geological Survey (2001)

# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF LOUISIANA

**This chapter has been prepared under a Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Geological Survey and the Louisiana Geological Survey for collecting information on all nonfuel minerals.**

In 2001, the estimated value<sup>1</sup> of nonfuel mineral production for Louisiana was \$274 million, based upon preliminary U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) data. This was a 16% decrease from that of 2000<sup>2</sup> and followed a 19% decrease from 1999 to 2000. The State ranked 37th (35th in 2000) among the 50 States in total nonfuel mineral production value, of which Louisiana accounted for about 1% of the U.S. total.

Louisiana's leading nonfuel mineral is salt, accounting for about half of the State's nonfuel mineral value in 2001. In 2001, substantial drops in the production and value of sulfur and, to a lesser and yet significant extent, lime (down about \$4 million) were greater than the increases that occurred in salt (up about \$18 million), crushed stone, and construction sand

<sup>1</sup>The terms "nonfuel mineral production" and related "values" encompass variations in meaning, depending upon the minerals or 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 2001 USGS mineral production data published in this chapter are preliminary estimates as of August 2002 and are expected to change. For some mineral commodities, such as construction sand and gravel, crushed stone, and portland cement, estimates are updated periodically. To obtain the most current information, please contact the appropriate USGS mineral commodity specialist. Specialist contact information may be retrieved over the Internet at URL <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/contacts/comdir.html>; alternatively, specialists' names and telephone numbers may be obtained by calling USGS information at (703) 648-4000 or by calling the USGS Earth Science Information Center at 1-888-ASK-USGS (275-8747). All Mineral Industry Surveys—mineral commodity, State, and country—also may be retrieved over the Internet at URL <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>.

<sup>2</sup>Values, percentage calculations, and rankings for 2000 may differ from the Minerals Yearbook, Area Reports: Domestic 2000, Volume II, owing to the revision of preliminary 2000 to final 2000 data. Data for 2001 are preliminary and are expected to change; related rankings may also change.

and gravel, resulting in the State's overall decrease in nonfuel mineral value for the year. Prior to 2001, sulfur production was included as part of Louisiana's mineral production and was for many years the State's second leading nonfuel mineral commodity. All recent sulfur production came from a mine that was 28 kilometers offshore, owned and operated by Freeport-McMoRan Sulphur Inc., based in New Orleans. Owing to the mine's location, the State of Louisiana received no severance tax income or mineral production royalties; these were collected by the Federal Government. Consequently, since 1991, the State and the Louisiana Geological Survey have not considered the sulfur production as cited in table 1 under "Combined values" as being part of Louisiana's nonfuel mineral production. The USGS attributed this offshore sulfur production to Louisiana because it was the State nearest to the sulfur mine. This mine closed in August 2000 and hence accounted for a significant portion of the State's drop in nonfuel mineral value in 2000 and 2001.

In 2000, a \$69 million drop in the value of salt plus significant decreases in sulfur and construction sand and gravel accounted for nearly all of the State's decrease for the year. Increases occurred in crushed stone (limestone and sandstone), industrial sand and gravel, lime, and gypsum (descending order of change) (table 1).

Based upon USGS estimates of the quantities produced in the 50 States during 2001, Louisiana remained the leading State in the Nation in the production of salt. Additionally, the State was a significant producer of common clays, construction sand and gravel, and industrial sand and gravel.

TABLE 1  
NONFUEL RAW MINERAL PRODUCTION IN LOUISIANA 1/ 2/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	1999		2000		2001 p/	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Clays, common	626	1,540	636	1,530	636	1,540
Gemstones	NA	7	NA	6	NA	6
Salt	16,500	193,000	13,400	124,000	14,500	142,000
Sand and gravel:						
Construction	16,500	81,700	14,900	76,900	17,400	91,300
Industrial	636	10,400	648	12,300	648	12,300
Combined values of gypsum (crude), lime, stone (crushed limestone and sandstone), sulfur [Frasch (1999-2000)]	XX	116,000 r/	XX	110,000	XX	27,400
Total	XX	402,000 r/	XX	325,000	XX	274,000

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised. 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 no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 2  
LOUISIANA: CRUSHED STONE SOLD OR USED, BY KIND

Kind	1999				2000			
	Number of quarries	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value	Number of quarries	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value
Limestone	(1/) r/	W	W	W	(1/)	W	W	W
Sandstone	2 r/	W	W	W	1	W	W	W
Total or average	XX	W	W	W	XX	W	W	W

r/ Revised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

1/ Sales/distribution yards.

TABLE 3  
LOUISIANA: CRUSHED STONE SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS  
IN 2000, BY USE

Use	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value
Construction:			
Coarse aggregate, graded, bituminous aggregate, coarse	W	W	W
Fine aggregate (-3/8 inch), stone sand, concrete	W	W	W
Total or average	W	W	W

W Withheld from total to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

TABLE 4  
LOUISIANA: CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED IN 2000,  
BY MAJOR USE CATEGORY 1/

Use	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value
Concrete aggregate and concrete products	5,060	\$25,000	\$4.95
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and other bituminous mixtures	394	1,090	2.77
Road base and coverings	831	8,440	10.15
Fill	370	1,250	3.38
Other miscellaneous uses 2/	181	2,860	15.81
Unspecified: 3/			
Reported	3,840	17,500	4.57
Estimated	4,200	21,000	4.91
Total or average	14,900	76,900	5.17

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

2/ Includes railroad ballast.

3/ Reported and estimated production without a breakdown by end use.

TABLE 5  
LOUISIANA: CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED IN 2000,  
BY USE AND DISTRICT 1/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Use	District 1		District 2		District 3	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Concrete aggregate and concrete products	W	W	W	W	4,470	21,900
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and road base materials	--	--	904	7,060	320	2,470
Fill	9	28	303	1,090	58	130
Other miscellaneous uses 2/	583	3,320	1,380	7,800	166	2,640
Unspecified: 3/						
Reported	W	W	W	W	2,480	9,790
Estimated	420	2,900	760	1,100	3,000	15,000
Total	1,010	6,290	3,350	19,000	10,500	51,600

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

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

2/ Includes railroad ballast.

3/ Reported and estimated production without a breakdown by end use.