

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF DELAWARE

This chapter has been prepared under a Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior, and the Delaware Geological Survey for collecting information on all nonfuel minerals.

Delaware remained 50th in the Nation in total nonfuel mineral production value¹ in 1996, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Only construction sand and gravel and gemstones were mined in the State, as reported to the USGS. Delaware ranked fifth of the six States that produce magnesium compounds in the United States. Magnesium compounds were extracted from seawater close to the mouth of the Delaware Bay, near Lewes, Sussex County, for use in the manufacture of chemical and pharmaceutical products. Additionally, raw steel was produced in the State but was processed from materials acquired from other domestic and foreign sources.

¹The terms "nonfuel mineral production" and related "values" encompass variations in meaning, depending on 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 1996 USGS mineral production data published in this chapter are estimates as of February 1997. Construction sand and gravel estimates are updated periodically. To obtain the most current information, please contact the appropriate USGS mineral commodity specialist. Call MINES FaxBack at (703) 648-4999 from a fax machine with a touch-tone handset and request Document # 1000 for a telephone listing of all mineral commodity specialists, or call USGS information at (703) 648-4000 for the specialist's name and number. This telephone listing may also be retrieved over the Internet at: <http://minerals.er.usgs.gov/minerals/contacts/comdir.html>.

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

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars unless otherwise specified)

Mineral	1994		1995		1996 p/	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Gemstones	NA	\$1	NA	\$1	NA	\$1
Sand and gravel (construction)	2,580	8,680	2,680	8,740	3,100	10,700
Total 3/	XX	8,680	XX	8,750	XX	10,700

p/ Preliminary. 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.

3/ Partial total, excludes values which must be concealed to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

TABLE 2
DELAWARE: CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED
IN 1995, BY MAJOR USE CATEGORY 1/

Use	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Value per ton
Fill	W	W	\$2.85
Unspecified: 2/			
Actual	W	W	2.49
Estimated	1,580	\$5,630	3.57
Total or average	2,680	8,740	3.26

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total."

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits.

2/ Includes production reported without a breakdown by end use and estimates for nonrespondents.