



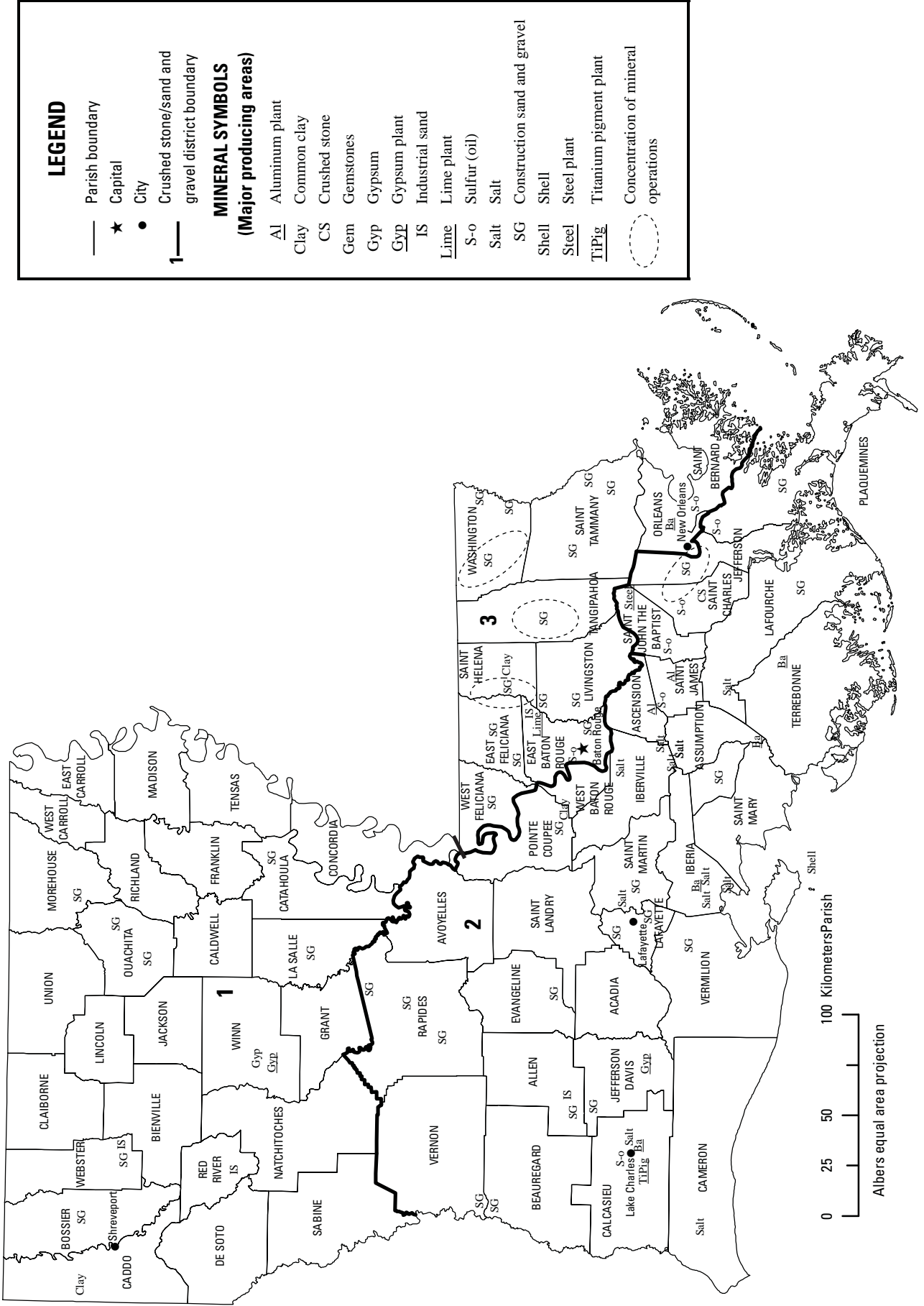
# 2006 Minerals Yearbook

---

## LOUISIANA

---

# LOUISIANA



Source: Louisiana Geological Survey/U.S. Geological Survey (2006).

# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF LOUISIANA

In 2006, Louisiana's nonfuel raw mineral production<sup>1</sup> was valued at \$481 million, based upon annual U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) data. This was an \$83 million, or nearly 21%, increase from the State's total nonfuel mineral value for 2005, which was up \$32 million, or 8.7%, from that of 2004. Louisiana ranked 37th among the 50 States in total nonfuel mineral production value, and the State accounted for slightly less than 1% of the U.S. total.

In 2006, construction sand and gravel, accounting for about 39% of the State's total nonfuel mineral value, was Louisiana's leading nonfuel raw mineral, surpassing salt, which had led the State since it overtook sulfur in 1991. This was followed (descending order of value) by salt, making up about 33% of the State's value, and crushed stone<sup>2</sup> (all data withheld—company proprietary data). Common clays and industrial sand and gravel were next, accounting for about 5% and more than 3%,

<sup>1</sup>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 2006 USGS mineral production data published in this chapter are those available as of March 2008. 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>.

<sup>2</sup>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 in state). District tables for crushed stone were discontinued in 2005 in order to not disclose company proprietary data.

respectively, of the State's nonfuel mineral value, followed by gypsum, lime, and gemstones (table 1). Aluminum and raw steel were also produced, but these were produced from materials obtained from other domestic and foreign sources. Sulfur was produced as a byproduct of oil and gas production.

In 2005, increases mostly in the values of construction sand and gravel, crushed stone, and common clays led the State's increase in nonfuel mineral value for the year. A 25% increase in the production of construction sand and gravel resulted in a \$75 million, or 66%, increase in the commodity's value. Common clays production rose by 35% with a more than \$10.5 million, or more than 80%, increase in its value, and the production and value of industrial sand and gravel also increased, the value of which rose by about \$4.5 million. A smaller yet significant increase also took place in the production and the value of lime (table 1).

Significant increases took place in crushed stone production and value in 2005 and in the mineral commodity's value in 2006 (same quantity produced), the majority of which for each year was sold or used but not mined in Louisiana, mostly shipped in from Mexico and Kentucky and other States. Additionally, an undetermined portion of crude gypsum was imported from neighboring States.

Louisiana continued to lead the Nation in the quantity of salt produced, being first out of 15 producing States. Additionally, the State was a significant producer of construction sand and gravel, common clays, industrial sand and gravel, and gypsum (listed in descending order of value).

TABLE 1  
NONFUEL RAW MINERAL PRODUCTION IN LOUISIANA<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	2004		2005		2006	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Clays, common <sup>3</sup>	399	11,000	416	13,100	563	23,700
Gemstones, natural	NA	6	NA	6	NA	7
Salt	14,300	186,000	13,800	182,000	13,300	158,000
Sand and gravel:						
Construction	19,400	103,000	18,600	113,000	23,300	188,000
Industrial	476	14,800	509	11,600	663	16,100
Combined values of gypsum (crude), lime, stone (crushed limestone and sandstone, limestone, sandstone)	XX	51,300	XX	78,500 <sup>†</sup>	XX	95,400
Total	XX	366,000	XX	398,000 <sup>†</sup>	XX	481,000

<sup>†</sup>Revised. NA Not available. XX Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Production as measured by mine shipments, sales, or marketable production (including consumption by producers) and imports of stone mainly from Kentucky and Mexico.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Sold or used.

TABLE 2  
LOUISIANA: CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED IN 2006,  
BY MAJOR USE CATEGORY<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Use	Quantity	Value	Unit
	(thousand metric tons)	(thousands)	value
Concrete aggregate (including concrete sand)	7,040	\$55,500	\$7.87
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and other bituminous mixtures	234	2,010	8.57
Road base and coverings <sup>2</sup>	1,420	21,800	15.35
Fill	752	2,620	3.48
Other miscellaneous uses <sup>3</sup>	154	2,400	15.60
Unspecified: <sup>4</sup>			
Reported	5,800	42,900	7.40
Estimated	7,880	60,800	7.72
Total or average	23,300	188,000	8.07

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes road and other stabilization (cement).

<sup>3</sup>Includes railroad ballast.

<sup>4</sup>Reported and estimated production without a breakdown by end use.

TABLE 3  
LOUISIANA: CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED IN 2006, BY USE AND DISTRICT<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Use	Districts 1 and 2		Districts 3		Unspecified districts	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Concrete aggregate (including concrete sand)	1,640	15,500	5,410	40,000	--	--
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and road base materials	1,060	18,500	598	5,310	--	--
Fill	557	2,100	195	522	--	--
Other miscellaneous uses <sup>3</sup>	104	1,400	49	996	--	--
Unspecified: <sup>4</sup>						
Reported	4,040	30,000	995	7,200	768	5,720
Estimated	3,280	25,300	4,600	35,500	--	--
Total	10,700	92,800	11,800	89,500	768	5,720

-- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Districts 1 and 2 are combined to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

<sup>3</sup>Includes railroad ballast.

<sup>4</sup>Reported and estimated production without a breakdown by end use.