



# 2009 Minerals Yearbook

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## LOUISIANA

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# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF LOUISIANA

In 2009, Louisiana's nonfuel raw mineral production<sup>1</sup> was valued at \$568 million, based upon annual U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) data. This was a \$53 million, or 8.5%, decrease from the State's total nonfuel mineral value of \$620 million in 2008, which had increased by \$59 million, or 11%, from a total of \$561 million in 2007. Louisiana rose from 34th to 32d in rank among the 50 States in total nonfuel mineral production value and accounted for slightly less than 1% of the U.S. total.

Salt, with a production value of \$229 million, remained the State's leading mineral commodity for the second consecutive year, accounting for 40% of the State's total nonfuel mineral value in 2009. Construction sand and gravel was the second leading mineral commodity in the State; with a production value of \$205 million, it accounted for 36% of the State's total nonfuel mineral production value. In 2009, industrial sand and gravel was the only mineral commodity to increase in production value, up by \$2.8 million, or 12%. The production value of

gemstones remained the same from 2008 to 2009. All other nonfuel mineral commodities produced in the State declined in production value, including decreases in construction sand and gravel, down by \$26 million, common clay, down by \$3.8 million, and salt, down by \$2.1 million. Crushed stone<sup>2</sup> decreased by 19% in production value (actual data withheld—company proprietary data).

All nonfuel mineral commodities produced in the State decreased in production quantity in 2009. Both construction sand and gravel and salt decreased by about 10%. Significant decreases in production quantity also took place in common clay, down by 156,000 metric tons (t), or almost 31%, and industrial sand and gravel, down by 66,000 t, or 12%.

The State continued to lead the Nation in the production of salt among 16 producing States, accounting for 31% of the Nation's total of 43 million metric tons. The State remained 14th in the production of industrial sand and gravel among 34 producing States. Louisiana rose in rank to 14th from 16th in the production of construction sand and gravel. The State decreased in rank to 14th from 13th in the production of common clay and to 15th from 11th in the production of crude gypsum.

<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 2009 USGS mineral production data published in this chapter are those available as of September 2011. All USGS Mineral Industry Surveys and USGS Minerals Yearbook chapters—mineral commodity, State, and country—can be retrieved over the Internet at <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>.

<sup>2</sup>In 2009, 92% of the crushed stone sold or used in the State was imported from foreign and domestic sources. State and district tables were discontinued in 2005 in order not to disclose company proprietary data.

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

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	2007		2008		2009	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Clays, common	552	13,800	509	12,900	353	9,120
Gemstones, natural	NA	7	NA	7	NA	7
Salt	13,900	180,000	14,600	231,000	13,200	229,000
Sand and gravel:						
Construction	26,200 <sup>r</sup>	240,000 <sup>r</sup>	22,900 <sup>r</sup>	231,000 <sup>r</sup>	20,600	205,000
Industrial	635	21,200	748	23,100	682	25,900
Combined values of gypsum (crude), lime, stone (crushed limestone and sandstone)	XX	106,000 <sup>r</sup>	XX	123,000 <sup>r</sup>	XX	99,500
Total	XX	561,000 <sup>r</sup>	XX	620,000 <sup>r</sup>	XX	568,000

<sup>r</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).

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

TABLE 2  
LOUISIANA: CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED IN 2009,  
BY USE AND DISTRICT<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Use	Quantity	Value	Unit
	(thousand metric tons)	(thousands)	value
Concrete aggregate (including concrete sand) <sup>2</sup>	3,470	\$32,100	\$9.26
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and road base and coverings <sup>3</sup>	1,050	22,700	21.62
Fill	1,410	4,050	2.88
Other miscellaneous uses <sup>4</sup>	59	646	10.95
Unspecified: <sup>5</sup>			
Reported	2,550	21,900	8.61
Estimated	12,100	123,000	10.18
Total or average	20,600	205,000	9.92

<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 plaster and gunite sands.

<sup>3</sup>Includes road and other stabilization (cement).

<sup>4</sup>Includes railroad ballast.

<sup>5</sup>Reported and estimated production without a breakdown by end use.

TABLE 3  
LOUISIANA: CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED IN 2009, BY USE AND DISTRICT<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Use	District 1		District 2		District 3	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Concrete aggregate (including concrete sand) <sup>2</sup>	W	W	W	W	2,080	17,000
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and and road base materials <sup>3</sup>	--	--	W	W	W	W
Fill	W	W	W	W	157	488
Other miscellaneous uses <sup>4</sup>	--	--	W	W	W	W
Unspecified: <sup>5</sup>						
Reported	W	W	214	1,600	W	W
Estimated	253	2,510	3,900	39,900	7,950	81,800
Total	904	9,970	7,030	70,300	12,200	120,000
	Unspecified districts					
	Quantity	Value				
Concrete aggregate (including concrete sand) <sup>2</sup>	--	--				
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and and road base materials <sup>3</sup>	--	--				
Fill	--	--				
Other miscellaneous uses <sup>4</sup>	--	--				
Unspecified: <sup>5</sup>						
Reported	539	4,760				
Estimated	--	--				
Total	539	4,760				

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

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes plaster and gunite sands.

<sup>3</sup>Includes road and other stabilization (cement).

<sup>4</sup>Includes railroad ballast.

<sup>5</sup>Reported and estimated production without a breakdown by end use.