

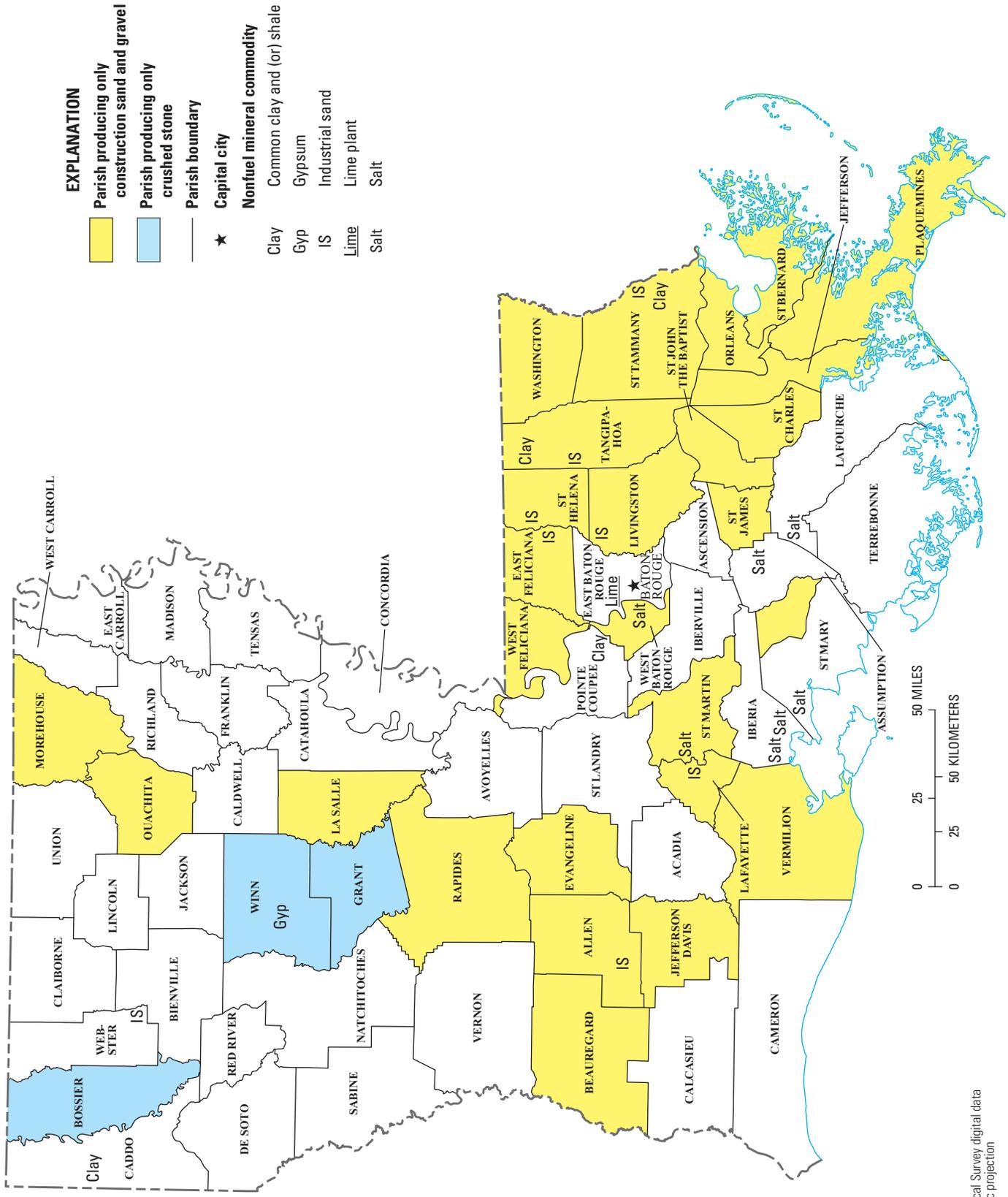


# 2014 Minerals Yearbook

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**LOUISIANA [ADVANCE RELEASE]**

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Base from U.S. Geological Survey digital data  
 Albers Equal-Area Conic projection

**Figure 1.** Map showing major nonfuel-mineral-producing areas in Louisiana in 2014. Sources: Louisiana Geological Survey and U.S. Geological Survey.

# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF LOUISIANA

By Madan M. Singh

In 2014, the value of nonfuel mineral production<sup>1</sup> in the State of Louisiana was \$706 million.<sup>2</sup> This was a 29.9% increase from the State's revised nonfuel mineral production value of \$544 million<sup>2</sup> in 2013 (table 1). This was the first time that nonfuel mineral production in the State has surpassed \$700 million (fig. 1). Louisiana accounted for approximately 0.9% of the total U.S. nonfuel mineral production value in 2014 which ranked it 31st among the 50 States, based on total value. On a per capita basis, Louisiana had a nonfuel mineral production value of \$152 in 2014 compared with the national average of \$252. In 2014, the number of nonfuel mineral mines decreased slightly but the mine employment increased (table 2).

In 2014, the leading five minerals in the State, in descending order of published production value, were salt, construction sand and gravel, industrial sand and gravel, crushed stone, and lime. Salt was mined in southern Louisiana at some of the numerous salt domes formed by salt stocks ascending into the shallow subsurface from depth. Northern Louisiana has extensive exposures of clay in the Claiborne Group, but production also came from older and younger strata. In southern Louisiana, clay was mined from Pliocene strata in the Florida parishes. Anhydrite (calcium sulfate) and gypsum (hydrated calcium sulfate) were produced from a single quarry in a salt-dome caprock exposure in Winn Parish. Construction sand and gravel was mined from the Pliocene and Pleistocene river sediments and coast-parallel terrace deposits. Crushed stone production primarily consisted of hard sandstone mined from the Catahoula Formation and the Fleming Group in scattered locations. High calcium hydrated lime is produced in East Baton Rouge Parish (U.S. Geological Survey, 2016, p. 20.1).

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<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 USGS mineral production data published in this chapter are those available as of June 2017. 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>Partial total; excludes values that must be withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

## Events, Trends, and Issues

In 2014, the gross domestic product (GDP) of Louisiana for all industries, in current dollars, was \$244 billion, of which the oil and gas industry contributed \$12.2 billion, nearly equal to the contribution of the construction industry. The GDP for all industries increased by 3.9% from 2013 (Bureau of Economic Analysis, undated).

In 2014, the production quantity of construction sand and gravel in Louisiana decreased by 7.8% from the previous year (table 1). The quantity of crushed stone produced was withheld.

## Aggregates by State and End Use

A companion dataset, "Aggregates by State and End Use," replaces the discrete aggregate tables that were included in the individual State chapters prior to 2014 and is available on the State Minerals Statistics and Information web page at <https://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/state/>. This dataset is updated annually.

## References Cited

- Bureau of Economic Analysis, [undated], Regional data—GDP & personal income—Annual gross domestic product (GDP) by State: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. (Accessed May 18, 2018, at [https://www.bea.gov/iTable/index\\_nipa.cfm](https://www.bea.gov/iTable/index_nipa.cfm).)
- U.S. Geological Survey, 2016, The mineral industry of Louisiana, *in* Area reports—Domestic: U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook 2012–2013, v. II, p. 20.1–20.4. (Accessed May 21, 2018, at [https://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/state/2012\\_13/myb2-2012\\_13-la.pdf](https://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/state/2012_13/myb2-2012_13-la.pdf).)

TABLE 1  
NONFUEL MINERAL PRODUCTION IN LOUISIANA<sup>1,2,3</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	2012		2013		2014	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Clays, common clay	145	1,330	W	W	W	W
Gemstones, natural <sup>c</sup>	NA	7	NA	7	NA	7
Salt	11,600	172,000	14,300	318,000	14,800	344,000
Sand and gravel:						
Construction	18,800	208,000	18,600 <sup>r</sup>	190,000 <sup>r</sup>	17,100	215,000
Industrial	512	21,800	709	36,200	2,140	147,000
Combined values of gypsum (crude), lime, stone (crushed), and values indicated by symbol W	XX	W	XX	W	XX	W
Total	XX	403,000	XX	544,000 <sup>r</sup>	XX	706,000

<sup>c</sup>Estimated. <sup>r</sup>Revised. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; excluded from "Total." XX Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data available through June 2017.

<sup>2</sup>Production as measured by mine shipments, sales, or marketable production (including consumption by producers).

<sup>3</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 2  
MINING ACTIVITY IN LOUISIANA

Mining activity	2012	2013	2014
State rank <sup>1</sup>	35	33	31
Employment, number: <sup>2</sup>			
Nonfuel mineral mines	956	946	970
Mills and plants	828	832	814
Number of nonfuel mineral mines <sup>2</sup>	135	130	128
Number of mills and plants <sup>2</sup>	12	12	12
Average annual wage, all mining <sup>3</sup>	dollars per year	69,119	68,960
Average annual wage, all industries <sup>3</sup>	do.	43,497	44,332
Per capita value <sup>4</sup>	dollars per person	88	117
National per capita value <sup>1</sup>	do.	241	236

do. Ditto.

<sup>1</sup>Based on unadjusted State total value.

<sup>2</sup>Source: U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration.

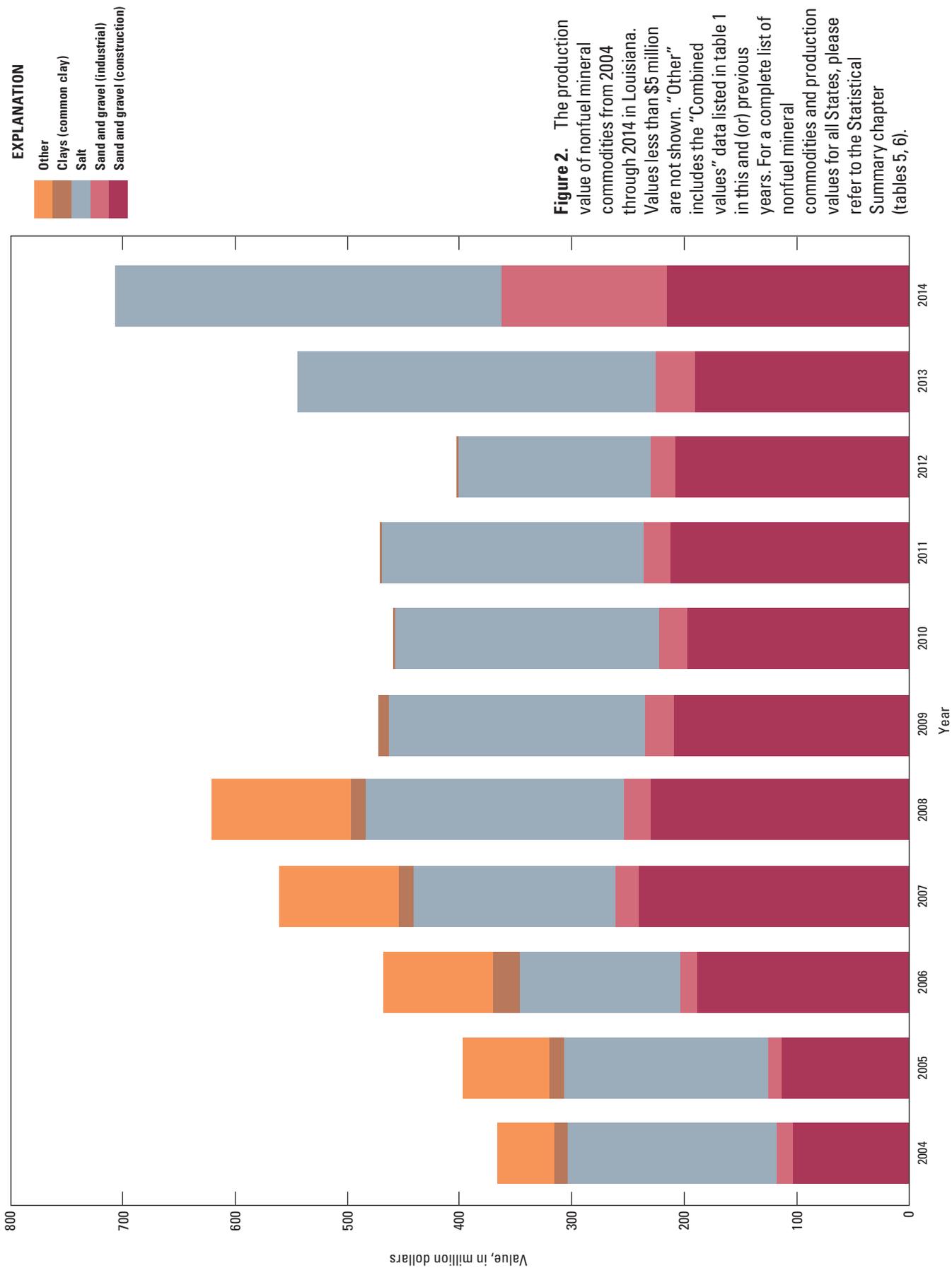
<sup>3</sup>Source: National Mining Association.

<sup>4</sup>Based on partial State total value to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

TABLE 3  
STRUCTURE OF THE NONFUEL MINERAL INDUSTRY IN LOUISIANA

(Nonfuel-mineral-producing companies, not including aggregate producers)

Commodity	Company	Parish
Clays, common clay	Big River Industries Inc.	Pointe Coupee
Do.	Heidelberg Cement (Hanson Brick Co.)	Caddo
Do.	Kentwood Brick & Tile Manufacturing Co.	Tangipahoa
Do.	St. Joe Brick Works Inc.	St. Tammany
Gypsum	Winn Rock Inc.	Winn
Lime	Carmeuse Lime and Stone Inc.	East Baton Rouge
Salt	Boardwalk Louisiana Midstream LLC	West Baton Rouge
Do.	Cargill Inc.	Iberia and St. Martin
Do.	Compass Minerals International Louisiana Inc.	St. Mary
Do.	Morton International Inc.	Iberia
Do.	Texas Brine Co. LLC	Assumption and Lafourche
Sand and gravel, industrial	Kinder Sand Co. Inc.	Allen
Do.	Lewis Energy Group LP	St. Helena
Do.	Patriot Construction LLC	Lafayette
Do.	Pearl Aggregate Materials LLC	St. Tammany
Do.	Red Hawk Matrials LLC (Carencro pit)	Lafayette
Do.	Southern Aggregates LLC	Livingston and Tangipahoa
Do.	Tri-State Resources, LLC	East Feliciana
Do.	US Silica Holdings, Inc.	Webster
Do. Ditto.		



**Figure 2.** The production value of nonfuel mineral commodities from 2004 through 2014 in Louisiana. Values less than \$5 million are not shown. "Other" includes the "Combined values" data listed in table 1 in this and (or) previous years. For a complete list of nonfuel mineral commodities and production values for all States, please refer to the Statistical Summary chapter (tables 5, 6).