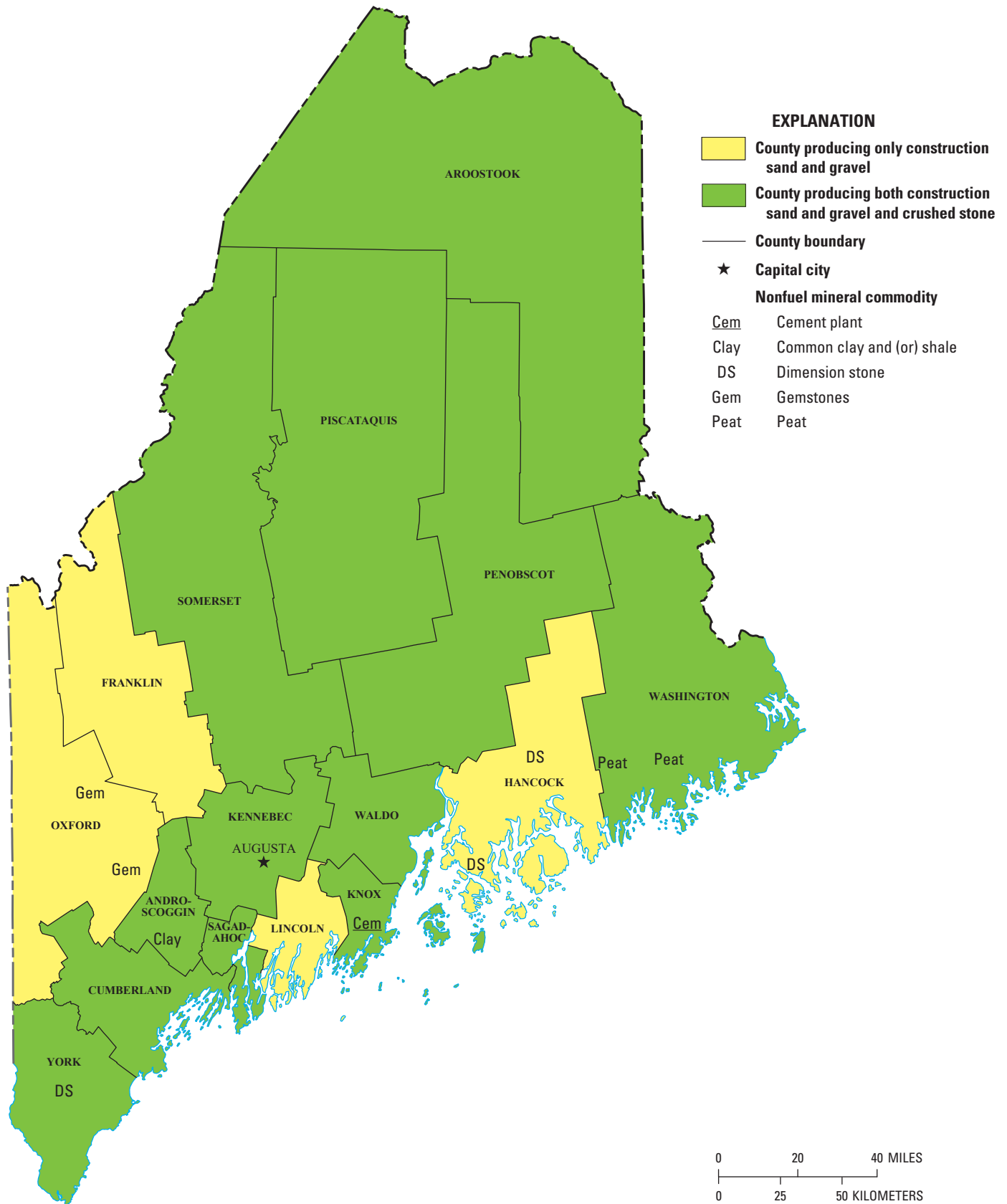




2014 Minerals Yearbook

MAINE [ADVANCE RELEASE]



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

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

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF MAINE

By Madan M. Singh

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

In 2014, the value of nonfuel mineral production¹ in the State of Maine was \$87.2 million.² This was a 1.5% increase from the State's revised nonfuel mineral production value of \$86.0 million² in 2013 (table 1). Nonfuel mineral production in the State reached \$179 million in value in 2007 but it has been below that figure since then (fig. 1). Maine accounted for approximately 0.11% of the total U.S. nonfuel mineral production value in 2014, which ranked it 45th among the 50 States, based on total value. On a per capita basis, the value of nonfuel mineral production was \$66 in 2014 compared with the national average of \$252. In 2014, the number of nonfuel mineral mines and mine employment increased compared with the prior year (table 2).

In 2014 the leading three minerals in the State, in alphabetical order, were cement, construction sand and gravel, and crushed stone. The cement data are withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. Peat was also a principal commodity produced. Considerable study has been devoted to peat in Maine. Peat is commonly used as a plant-growth medium in a range of agricultural and horticultural applications. Its fibrous structure and porosity facilitate optimum water-retention and drainage attributes. Peat has been used for heat generation, although this is inefficient compared to other energy fuels (McDonald, 2005).

¹The 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>.

²Partial total; excludes values that must be withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

Events, Trends, and Issues

In 2014, the gross domestic product (GDP) for Maine in current dollars for all industries was \$55.5 billion, which was 4.0% higher than in 2013. The contribution to the GDP of nonfuel mineral production was \$87.2 million in 2014. The contribution of construction was \$2.13 billion, an increase of 6.2% over a year earlier (Bureau of Economic Analysis, undated). Maine has an aging population; the State has the oldest population in the country. The State is transitioning away from manufacturing towards service activities; there is a growth in low-wage service sector jobs. The unemployment rate fell, but still the underemployment rate was high (Breece, 2016, p. 7–9).

In 2014, the production quantity of construction sand and gravel in Maine decreased by 5.9% and crushed stone increased by 3.9% from the previous year (table 1).

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

- Breece, James, 2016, An overview of the Maine economy: Orono, ME, The University of Maine, February, 24 p. (Accessed on November 27, 2017, at <https://umaine.edu/soe/wp-content/uploads/sites/199/2016/02/OverviewMEEcon2016.pdf>.)
- 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.)
- McDonald, James, 2005, Fuel—Heat values: Chicago, IL, Charter Substitute Teacher Network, February, 1 p. (Accessed May 29, 2018, at <http://www.veoliawatertech.com/crownsolutions/ressources/documents/2/21900,Water-pp146.pdf>.)

TABLE 1
NONFUEL MINERAL PRODUCTION IN MAINE^{1,2,3}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	2012		2013		2014	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Gemstones, natural ^c	NA	358	NA	364	NA	370
Sand and gravel, construction	8,500	62,700	7,490 ^r	52,000 ^r	7,050	52,600
Stone:						
Crushed	3,840	31,500	3,690	30,800 ^r	3,830	31,500
Dimension	7	4,150	5	2,770	5	2,820
Combined values of cement, clays [common clay (2012)], peat	XX	W	XX	W	XX	W
Total	XX	98,600	XX	86,000 ^r	XX	87,200

^cEstimated. ^rRevised. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; excluded from "Total." XX Not applicable.

¹Includes data available through June 2017.

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

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

TABLE 2
MINING ACTIVITY IN MAINE

Mining activity	2012	2013	2014
State rank ¹	46	46	45
Employment, number: ²			
Nonfuel mineral mines	608	588	626
Mills and plants	78	77	78
Number of nonfuel mineral mines ²	205	215	221
Number of mills and plants ²	2	3	2
Average annual wage, all mining ³	dollars per year	NA	NA
Average annual wage, all industries ³	do.	NA	NA
Per capita value ⁴	dollars per person	74	65
National per capita value ¹	do.	241	236

NA Not available. do. Ditto.

¹Based on unadjusted State total value.

²Source: U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration.

³Source: National Mining Association.

⁴Based on partial State total value to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

TABLE 3
STRUCTURE OF THE NONFUEL MINERAL INDUSTRY IN MAINE

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

Commodity	Company	County
Cement	Giant Holdings, Inc. (Dragon Plant)	Knox
Clays, common clay	Morin Brick Co.	Androscoggin
Gemstones: ¹		
Aquamarine	Various	Various
Tourmaline and schrol	do.	Oxford and others
Peat	Eric W. Kelley Peat Moss Co. Inc.	Washington
Do.	Worcester Peat Co. Inc.	Do.
Stone, dimension	Georgia Stone Industries, Inc. (2 facilities)	Hancock
Do.	Millennium Granite And Stoneworks	York

Do., do. Ditto.

¹Most natural gemstone producers in the United States are small businesses that are widely dispersed and operate independently.

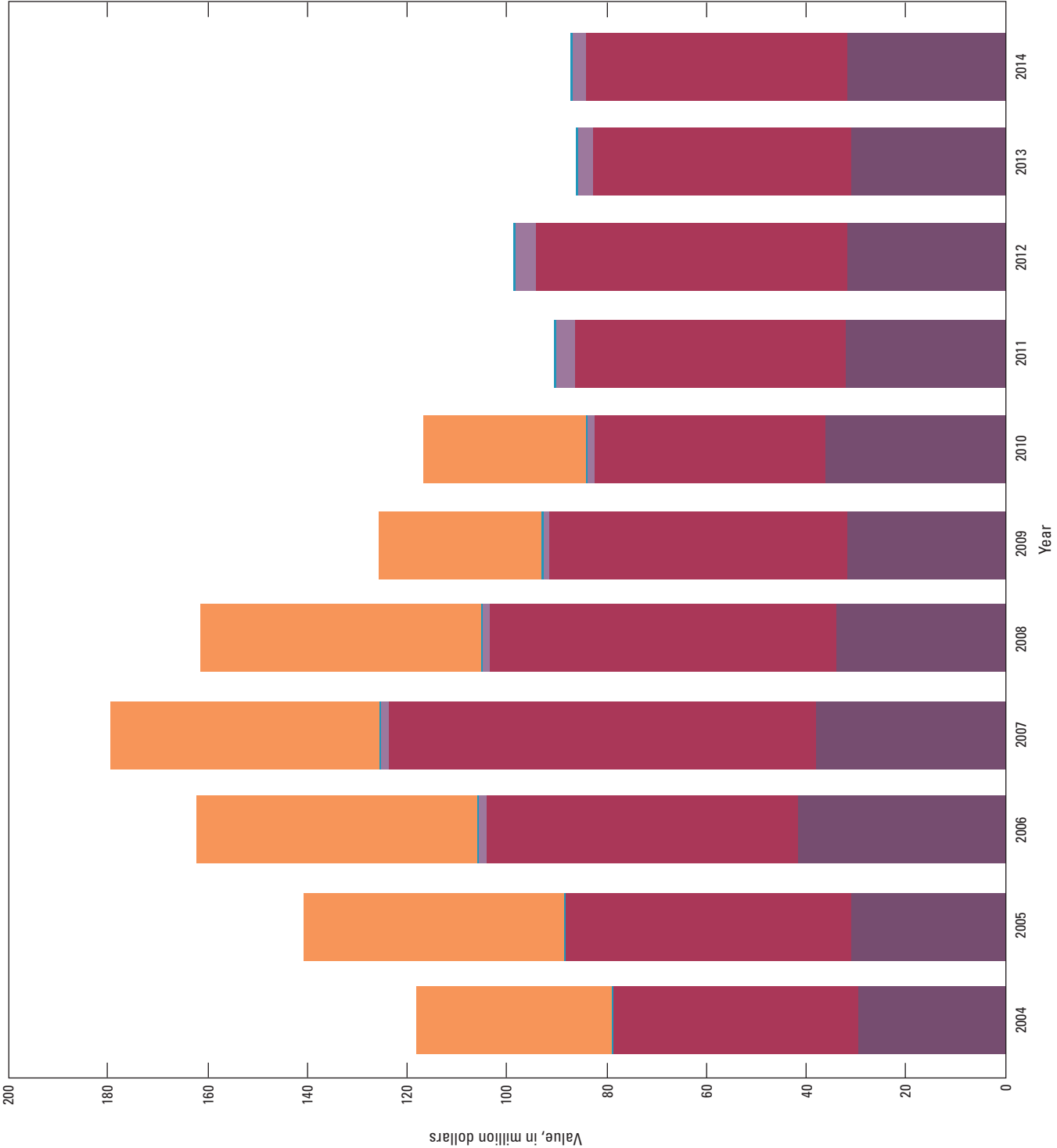
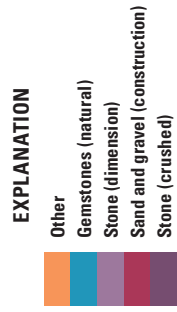


Figure 2. The production value of nonfuel mineral commodities from 2004 through 2014 in Maine. "Other" includes the "Combined values" data listed in table 1 in this and (or) previous years. For a complete list of nonfuel mineral commodities and production values for all States, please refer to the Statistical Summary chapter (tables 5, 6).