

# MINING IN ARKANSAS

Arkansas's mining industry is vital to the state's economy. It ranks twenty-ninth nationally in total nonfuel mineral production value and twenty-fifth in the production of coal. The value of nonfuel minerals in 1999 was \$497 million. The State produced 22,000 short tons of coal in 1999. The industry employs 3,200 workers, with an average annual income of \$34,877. Arkansas's combined direct and indirect economic gain from the mining industry is \$3,933,170,000 (1998 data).

America's mining industry directly employed 535,352 employees in 1999, who labored to produce minerals with a total value of over \$61 billion. Ninety percent of the total impact of mining on the economy of the United States was in the form of indirect personal, business and government income. More than half of the mining industry's direct contributions to the national economy went to other businesses to pay for the products and services used in the search for and production of minerals.

## FACTS ABOUT ARKANSAS' MINING INDUSTRY

Arkansas accounts for more than 1% of the total U.S. nonfuel mineral production value. Arkansas is the leading bromine-producing state in the Nation. The State ranks first in production of silica stone, third in the production of tripoli, fourth in kaolin and eighth in clay. Arkansas ranks as one of the Nation's leading gemstone producers (based on monetary value). The State is also the top producer of novaculite (used commonly for whetstones and high silica products).<sup>^</sup>

<b>Employment <sup>1/</sup></b>		<b>Annual Production Value</b>	
Total State Industry	3,200	Coal	\$400,000,000
<b>Number of Mines</b>		Clays:	
Coal	3	Common	1,510,000
Nonfuel Minerals	179	Kaolin	W
<b>Total</b>	<b>182</b>	Gemstones	731,000
<b>Annual Wages</b>		Sand and Gravel:	
Mining Industry Average <sup>2/</sup>	\$34,877	Construction	53,200,000
Total State Average		Industrial	W
(Private Sector)	\$25,057	Silica Stone	W
<b>Coal Consumption (short tons)</b>		Stone:	
Electric Utilities	14,974,000	Crushed	145,000,000
Industrial	325,000	Dimension	W
Residential/Commercial	W	Others*	296,559,000
<b>Value of Nonfuel Mineral Production Per Capita</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$897,000,000</b>
Per capita nonfuel mineral value reflects the amount of nonfuel minerals produced per person in the state. The value is calculated by dividing the total value of nonfuel mineral production by the total state population (1999 U.S. Census Bureau data).	\$195	<b>Mining's Impact on Arkansas' Economy <sup>3/</sup> (millions)</b>	
		Direct Economic Gain	\$458.7
		Direct Personal Income Gain	156.4
		Direct Business Income Gain	
		In-state	177.5
		Direct Business Income Gain from Other States	82.4
		State and Local Government Revenue Gain	42.4
		Direct Contribution to Federal Government Revenue	38.3
		<b>Total Combined Direct and Indirect Gain</b>	<b>\$3,933.2</b>

**Note:** Data may not add to totals because of independent rounding.

1/ Includes employees of all mining sectors, oil and gas extraction (where applicable), contractors and office workers.

2/ Includes coal, oil and gas extraction.

3/ Data provided by the Western Economic Analysis Center's study, *Mining and the American Economy, 1999* (1998 data).

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

\* Combined value of bromine, cement, gypsum (crude), lime, stone (dimension limestone, marble and sandstone), tripoli, and values indicated by symbol W.

<sup>^</sup> Data provided by the Arkansas Geological Survey.

**Sources:** U.S. Geological Survey, Mineral Industry Surveys, 1999; DOE/EIA Coal Industry Annual 1999; Bureau of Labor Statistics, Average Annual Pay Report 1999; U.S. Department of Labor, MSHA, Mine Injuries and Worktime Quarterly 1999; and National Mining Association, State Mining Annual 2001.