



# **STATE OF OKLAHOMA**

**HONORABLE J. KEVIN STITT  
GOVERNOR**

**OKLAHOMA MINING COMMISSION  
DEPARTMENT OF MINES  
104th Annual Report  
Calendar Year 2020**

**Mary Ann Pritchard  
Director**

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2020

As authorized by Mary Ann Pritchard, Director

In compliance with Title 45, Section 31,  
Oklahoma Statutes

You can review this report on our website at

[www.ok.gov/mines](http://www.ok.gov/mines)

or

Copies of this report may be obtained from

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## **MINING IN OKLAHOMA – OVERVIEW**

The Oklahoma mining industry has been very important to Oklahoma since before statehood. Currently, mining provides the basic raw materials for all of the products that we require so that: “If it is not grown, it must be mined”.

The Oklahoma Department of Mines regulates the production of solid minerals in the state, including coal and non-fuel minerals (crushed stone/limestone, granite, sand/gravel, clay/shale, dimensional stone, gypsum, salt, tripoli, asphalt, bentonite, copper, iron ore, volcanic ash, lead/zinc, and chat). The Oklahoma Corporation Commission regulates the production of the liquid and gaseous minerals in the state including iodine and helium, which are non-fuel minerals whose values are included below in the national statistics for non-fuel minerals used in this report. The Oklahoma Corporation Commission also regulates the production of the fuel minerals, oil and natural gas, which are reported as a separate Oil/Gas category for state and national statistics and are not included in the non-fuel mineral production report totals.

In 2019, Oklahoma ranked 29th in the U.S. for non-fuel mineral production with a value of \$1,070 million or 1.24 % of the U.S. total, according to the National Mining Association. Oklahoma coal production significantly decreased to 11,660 tons in 2020 from 294,334 tons in 2019.

Mining production in Oklahoma is expected to grow due to increased need for major repairs and expansion of Oklahoma’s highway and bridge infrastructure.

The Oklahoma mining industry has an excellent record of safety and environmental responsibility. Nationally, mining safety has been greatly improved from its past history. According to Mine Safety & Health Administration (MSHA), there were no reported fatalities in Oklahoma in 2020. While the potential hazards at mines still exist, the continuing diligent efforts of all the mining companies and their employees are proving of great value for achieving productive, safe, and environmentally responsible mining.



**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR - STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
DEPARTMENT OF MINES - KEY PERSONNEL**

Director .....	Mary Ann Pritchard
Minerals Program Administrator .....	Richard Shore
Coal Program Director .....	Rhonda Dossett
General Counsel .....	Jonathan Allen
Chief Financial Officer .....	Suzen Rodesney

**OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF MINES**

The Office of the Chief Mine Inspector was created before statehood for the safe operation of mines and the protection of the health of those employed in the mines. The territorial years were well noted for the many mining disasters, and officials were busied with the necessary investigations and recommendations following each serious or fatal accident. Over the years, major revisions in mining health and safety laws and the increase in surface mining versus underground mining helped to decrease mining fatalities in Oklahoma.

The extraction or mining of minerals from the earth occurs in every county of the state. Minerals mined in Oklahoma include coal, limestone, sand and gravel, gypsum, clay and shale, granite, volcanic ash, tripoli, salt, bentonite, iron ore, asphalt, copper and chat.

Before commencement of mining operations, a permit must be obtained from the Department. A permit is issued when the mine operator submits an acceptable application and posts adequate bond to cover reclamation costs should it be necessary for a third party to complete the reclamation process. The mining operator's permit application must include the requirements for legal and financial compliance, the safeguard of environmental resources, and an operations and reclamation plan. Before opening the site, the employees of the mining operation must be trained and certified in accordance with state and federal safety regulations. Mining practices, reclamation, and health and safety procedures are monitored on a regular basis by Department inspectors.

The general provisions of Title 45 O.S. address health and safety on the mine site and reclamation of mined land. In 1967, the Oklahoma Legislature passed the state's first reclamation law which became effective January 1, 1968. That law was replaced in July 1971 with the Mining Lands Reclamation Act, which requires better reclamation in general and includes all mining. Until the passage of such legislation, however, 17,000 acres had been mined with little or no reclamation. This Act is still in effect for non-coal lands.

The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 was created by Congress with the passage of Public Law 95-87. Subsequently, the State of Oklahoma enacted further legislation to equal the enforcement ability of the federal government. The Coal Reclamation Act of 1978 enabled Oklahoma to operate the interim program law and regulations (Section 715, CFR 30) under P. L. 95-87. It was followed by permanent standards adopted in 1979.

**OFFICE OF CHIEF MINE INSPECTOR ABOLISHED**

In 1986, State Question 594 was passed by the Oklahoma voters. This amended sections of the Oklahoma Constitution by removing all mention of the Chief Mine Inspector. The Department of Mines is now administered by a Director chosen by the Mining Commission. The Director must be knowledgeable of the Oklahoma mining industry and have the ability to administer the functions of the Department.

**DIRECTORS, DEPARTMENT OF MINES**

Gayle Townley .....	1986 -- 1987
Bennie Cox .....	1987 -- 1993
James Hamm .....	1993 -- 1998
Mary Ann Pritchard .....	1998 -- Present

**CHIEF MINE INSPECTORS**

Pete Hanraty .....	1907 -- 1910
R. W. Church .....	1910 -- 1911
Ed Boyle .....	1911 -- 1927
Miller D. Hay .....	1927 -- 1931
Robert Brown .....	1931 -- 1947
John M. Malloy.....	1947 -- 1963
Ward Padgett .....	1963 -- 1980
Otis English .....	1980 -- 1980

**DEPUTY CHIEF MINE INSPECTORS**

Blaney Qualls .....	1980 -- 1984
Gayle Townley.....	1984 -- 1986

**TERRITORIAL DIRECTORS**

Luke W. Bryan .....	1894 -- 1901
William Cameron .....	1901 -- 1907

## **STATE MINING BOARD**

The State Mining Board was established at statehood with the express purpose of testing and certifying persons who would hold the important positions of mine superintendent, foreman, hoisting engineer, and fire boss. The Board was later given additional responsibilities: to promulgate and enforce rules and regulations with regard to the health and safety of persons employed in the mines, to issue or revoke certificates of competency for surface and underground mine positions, to require the submission and review of plans and specifications for underground mine ventilation and safety and to recommend approval or denial of such plans to the Chief Mine Inspector. In addition, the Board acted as mediator between miners and operators on matters of health and safety; the decision of the Board was binding unless overturned by an opinion of the Attorney General or by a court of law.

As revised by the 1982 Legislature, the Mining Board was composed of ten members. Four of the members were strip miners, of which at least two represented the industry mining non-coal minerals. Two members were practical miners, who held either underground mine superintendent, mine foreman, or fire boss certification. Two members were owners or superintendents of coal mines. One member was a non-supervisory miner who was actively employed in an underground coal mine for at least five years and held a minimum of a fire boss certificate. The last member was the Chief Mine Inspector, who was the executive officer of the Board.

## **THE OKLAHOMA MINING COMMISSION**

In 1985, the State Legislature abolished the State Mining Board and replaced it with the Oklahoma Mining Commission. This nine member board, which held its first meeting in January, 1986, is the policy-determining body of the Department of Mines and determines the broad plans and programs for the Department.

The membership of the Commission consists of one person with a background in engineering or geology; one person with a background in labor or worker's safety; one person with a background in agriculture or soil conservation; one person with a background in transportation; one person with a background in economic development or banking; one person with a background in public utilities; one person with a background in natural resources; and two persons selected at large.



**OKLAHOMA MINING COMMISSION - 2020**

**George Matthews** ..... Ada, OK  
Position #1; Engineering/Geology

**Kurt Klutts, Chairman** ..... Poteau, OK  
Position #2; Labor/Worker's Safety

**Joshua R. Haven** ..... Cheyenne, OK  
Position #3; Agriculture/Conservation

**B. Dave Donoley** ..... Wilburton, OK  
Position #4; Transportation

**Jed W. Winters, Secretary** ..... Mangum, OK  
Position #5; Banking/Economic Development

**Tommy R. Caldwell** ..... Shady Point, OK  
Position #6, Public Utilities

**John R. Curtis** ..... Broken Arrow, OK  
Position #7; Natural Resources

**Matthew N. Mercer** ..... Oklahoma City, OK  
Position #8; At-Large

**Mark A. Helm** ..... Sulphur, OK  
Position #9; At-Large

## OKLAHOMA MINER TRAINING INSTITUTE

The Oklahoma Miner Training Institute (OMTI) is operated under the direction of the Oklahoma Mining Commission. The Institute, located at Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton, OK provides training in all aspects of mine safety and health. Regularly scheduled classes are provided at the school, or at the mine sites throughout the state to minimize the inconvenience to both miners and operators.

### Courses Offered by OMTI

Annual Refresher Training (Surface) Annual Refresher (Underground) Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) (CPR) Refresher Electrical Retraining Fire Prevention and Control First Aid (Initial) First Aid (Refresher) Instructor Training	New Miner Training #1 (Surface) New Miner Training #2 (Surface) Blasting New Miner Training (Underground) State and Federal Regulations State Surface Certification State Surface Certification Refresher Surface Blasters Refresher Surface Blasters Initial
--	--

### OMTI Personnel

Michael Reed, Executive Director  
 Chassey Kirk, Administrative Assistant  
 Karen Clark, Part Time Administrative Assistant  
 Roy Collins, Instructor  
 Holly Coffey, Instructor

OKLAHOMA MINER TRAINING INSTITUTE				
2020 ANNUAL REPORT				
Year	# Miners Trained		Total # Of Classes	Total # Classroom Hours
	Coal	Metal/Non-Metal		
2020	24	3183	184	1656



## OKLAHOMA MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY CONFERENCE

The State of Oklahoma is one of a very few states that has its own Mine Health and Safety Conference. For the past several years, the Oklahoma Miner Training Institute and the Oklahoma Department of Mines have joined with the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) to co-host this conference. The purpose of the conference is to combat health and safety issues that plague the mining industry. This conference is usually held in the fall of the year at a designated site in Oklahoma. As many as twelve other mining states come to Oklahoma to attend beneficial workshops and receive recognition awards for their safety efforts.

### ODM INSPECTOR'S SAFETY AWARDS

In 2006, the Oklahoma Department of Mines created the Inspector's Safety Award. Since its inception, 287 awards have been earned by mine operators across Oklahoma. Recipients are chosen on an established set of criteria to reward operators for safe mining practices. These criteria include number of violations, reduction in violations from the previous year, and warnings. The awards are presented each year at the Oklahoma Mine Health & Safety Conference. ODM decided to make the awards more visible by using 30" by 36" road signs produced by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's Sign Shop. These awards are much coveted, and ODM is proud to recognize these operators who make safety a priority.

### 2020 INSPECTOR'S SAFETY AWARDS

<b>Small Mines</b>	<b>Large Mines</b>
Da-Flame, Inc. L.E.-2153-B	Holliday Sand & Gravel Company, LLC L.E.-2486 (Binney Sandbar Mine)
Richard Drake Construction L.E.1891	RBQ, LP L.E.-2568
River Valley Materials, LLC L.E. 2618 (Arkoma)	APAC-Central, Inc. L.E.1988-A (Spiro Quarry)
Witty Materials, Inc. L.E.-2510 (#1)	Kemp Stone Company, Inc. L.E.1620-F (Mile or More Quarry)
North Texas Natural Select Materials, LLC L.E.-2582-A (NTNSM, LLC – Tish)	Quapaw Company L.E.-1636-K (Badger Pit)
Vickers Sand & Gravel, Inc. L.E.-2544	Meridian Aggregates Company, a Limited Partnership L.E.-1605-C (Mill Creek Quarry)
Chris Watson dba Bedrock Stone L.E.-2205-E (Watson #3)	Harrison Gypsum, LLC L.E-2087-G (Harrison Gypsum #5)
Kline Materials L.E.-1357-B	Coyle Stone, LLC (Ben Bond) L.E.-2513-D
	J & R Sand Co. L.E.-1623-B

## **SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Oklahoma Mining Commission established a Safety Committee in March 2000. This committee creates and produces monthly “Safety-Grams” for distribution to all mining permittees and operators in Oklahoma. Safety-Grams have been published since 2000. The Safety-Grams cover basic first-aid, safe operation of mining equipment, and compliance with Oklahoma mining rules and regulations. Safety-Grams are distributed on mine sites, so all mine employees have access to the information. Each Safety Gram is also posted on our website at [www.ok.gov/mines](http://www.ok.gov/mines) under publications.

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

In April 2000, The Oklahoma Department of Mines presented its first Student Outreach Program. The program is designed to provide Oklahoma students and teachers with a better understanding of the mining process in Oklahoma. The Department conducted the following public/student outreach presentations during 2020:

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### **Water Appreciation Day March 12, 2020 Oklahoma State Capitol**

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Oklahoma Water Appreciation Day was held at the Oklahoma State Capitol on March 12, 2020. Hydrologist Sharma Acharya and Records Management Specialist Ginna Harmon represented the Oklahoma Department of Mines for this event.

Participants included state, local and federal government agencies, academic groups, and environmental groups. All groups attending either study or regulate water quality or quantity, or advocate for water issues. Each entity showcased its involvement in managing, studying and improving Oklahoma’s water resources.

Government officials, teachers, lobbyists, the press, students, and the general public were in attendance. Notables included Ken Wagner, Oklahoma’s Secretary of Energy & Environment.

A PowerPoint presentation highlighting ODM's water management and reclamation efforts was presented via a laptop computer. Some individuals took ODM brochures detailing our mission statement, coal and non-coal permitting and bond release process, blasting permit process, and the OMTI training program.





## GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES OF OKLAHOMA

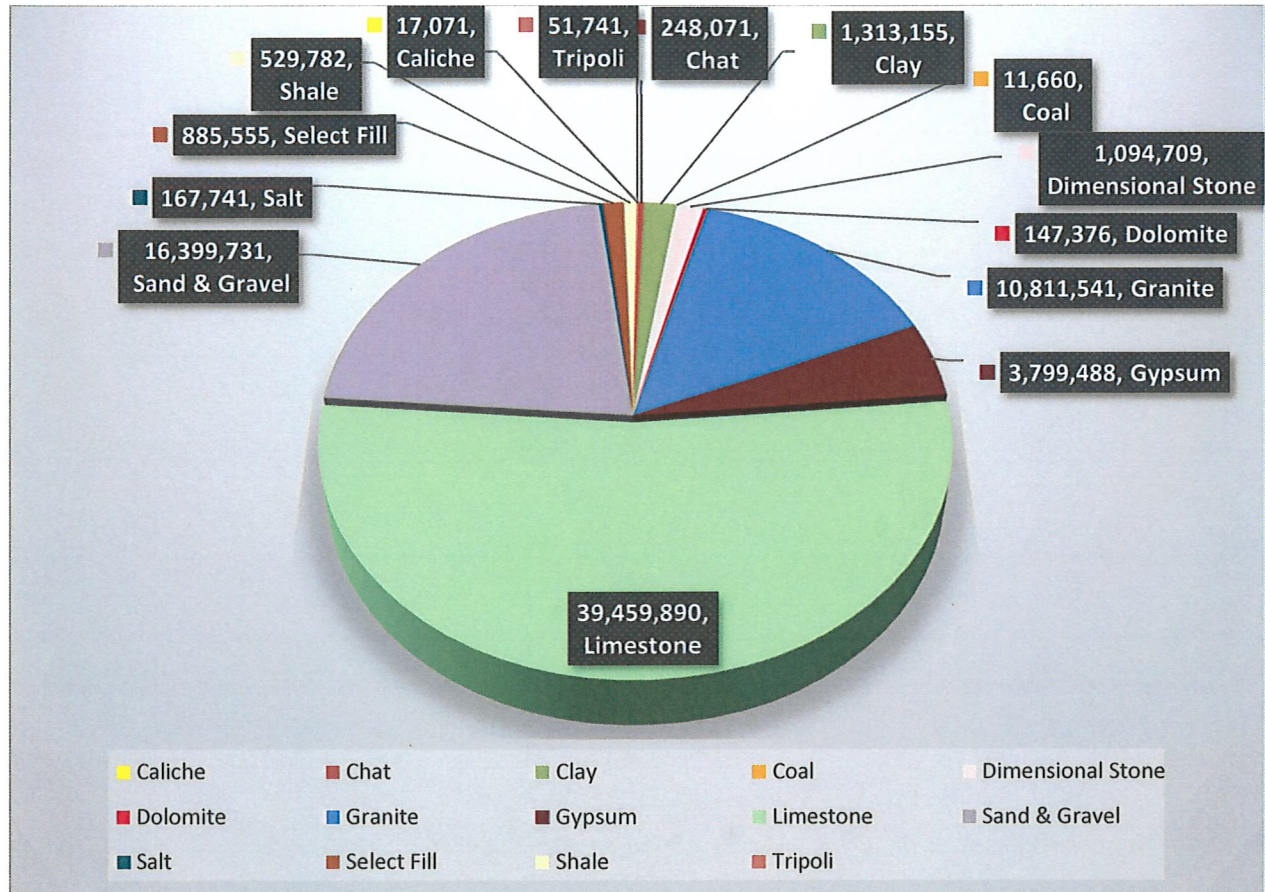
### **Geology**

Oklahoma is a region of complex geology where several major sedimentary basins are set among mountain ranges and uplifts. The state contains many classic areas where fundamental concepts of geology, petroleum exploration, and mineral production have been formulated through the years. Because of its geologic history, Oklahoma has abundant mineral resources that include petroleum (crude oil and natural gas), coal, non-fuel minerals (lead, zinc, gypsum, limestone, salt, sand and gravel), and water.

Geologic forces deep within the earth's crust hundreds of millions of years ago caused portions of Oklahoma to subside as major sedimentary basins, while adjacent areas were folding and thrust upward as major mountain uplifts. Most of the outcropping rocks in Oklahoma are of sandstone, limestone, and gypsum. These sedimentary rocks typically are 2,000-10,000 feet thick in the northern shelf areas, and they increase sharply to 30,000-40,000 feet thick in the deep basins of the south. These sedimentary rocks contain most of the state's mineral resources, including petroleum, coal, water, and most of the non-fuel minerals. Sedimentary rocks rest upon a "basement" of igneous and metamorphic rocks that underlie all parts of the state.

Exposed in the southern Oklahoma mountain belts are a great variety of sedimentary and igneous rock units seen at few other places in the entire mid-continent region. Steeply dipping strata, such as those exposed along Interstate 35 through the Arbuckle Mountains, attest to the strong geologic forces that folded and raised the mountain blocks. Outcropping rocks outside the mountain regions are essentially horizontal, with dips of less than one degree being most common. These strata typically form gently rolling hills and plains: thick shale units form broad, flat plains and valleys, where resistant layers of sandstone and limestone cap mesas, cuestas, and hills 100-500 feet high. Rocks and soils of western Oklahoma typically are red in color, due to oxides present in the bedrock, whereas rocks and soils elsewhere are shades of brown, gray, and black.

# Oklahoma Minerals Production – Tons 2020





**STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
PRODUCTION 2020**

<b>Product Mined</b>	<b>2020 Production</b>
Caliche	17,071
Chat	248,071
Clay	1,313,155
Coal	11,660
Dimensional Stone	1,094,709
Dolomite	147,376
Granite	10,811,541
Gypsum	3,799,488
Limestone	39,459,890
Sand & Gravel	16,399,731
Salt	167,741
Select Fill	885,555
Shale	529,782
Tripoli	51,741
<b>Total Production</b>	<b>74,937,511</b>

## OKLAHOMA COAL RESOURCES

### COAL

Oklahoma fuel resources include coal, oil, and natural gas. Coal mining is regulated by the Oklahoma Department of Mines and is discussed below. Oil and natural gas production are regulated by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission and are not discussed in this report.

Identified coal resources are present in an area of approximately 8,000 square miles in 20 counties in eastern Oklahoma. The area is within the southern part of the Western Region of the Interior Coal Province of the United States. The coal beds are of Middle and Late Pennsylvanian age, 0.8-10 ft thick, 0.4-6.5% in sulfur content, coking or non-coking, contain 11,400-15,000 Btu/lb, and are low (2-7%) in inherent moisture. Oklahoma contains the most significant deposits of bituminous coal between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains. Although the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System is available for barging coal to international ports, most coal production is shipped by truck or rail. As of January 1, 2007, 8.1 billion short tons of remaining coal resources have been identified; 76% are in the Arkoma basin and 24% are in the northeast Oklahoma shelf area. About 41% of the state's coal resources are low- and medium-volatile bituminous in rank and are present in the Arkoma basin. Four mining companies produced 294,334 tons of coal at four mine sites in four counties in 2019.

The bituminous coals of the state are low volatile in northern LeFlore County; medium volatile in northern LeFlore, Sequoyah, and most of Haskell Counties; high volatile A and B in Craig and Nowata Counties, parts of Haskell County, and in most of the remaining coal-bearing counties; and high volatile C in Coal and Pittsburg Counties.

The commercial coalbeds in the Northeast Oklahoma Shelf area are 0.8-5.0 feet thick, average 2.0 feet thick, dip westward from ½ degree to 2 degrees, and contain more than 3 percent sulfur by weight with the exception of the low-sulfur Croweburg and Secor coals. The coalbeds in the Arkoma Basin area are 1-10 feet thick and occur in eroded anticlines and synclines that trend northeastward. The coals crop out mostly along the sides of these folded and faulted structures, and their dip ranges from 3 degrees to nearly vertical.

The face cleat trend is northwestward in the coal beds of the Shelf and the Basin. In the Arkoma Basin, coals that exhibit steep dips (18 degrees to 65 degrees) commonly were mined before 1960. From 1960 to 1974, no mines were developed in steeply dipping coalbeds because of cost. The Arab oil embargo of 1973 resulted in increases in demand and prices for coal. Thus from 1974 to 1984, seven surface mines were developed in steeply dipping coalbeds in the Arkoma Basin, and they produced coking and metallurgical coal in which the sulfur content was only 1%. Coal from steeply dipping beds has not been mined since 1984 because of the high cost. Of the remaining coal resources in the state, 76% are in the Arkoma Basin and 24% are in the Shelf area. The weighted average sulfur content of the total remaining coal resources is 2.3%.

**Remaining Identified (Bituminous) Coal Resources in  
Oklahoma - January 1, 2007**

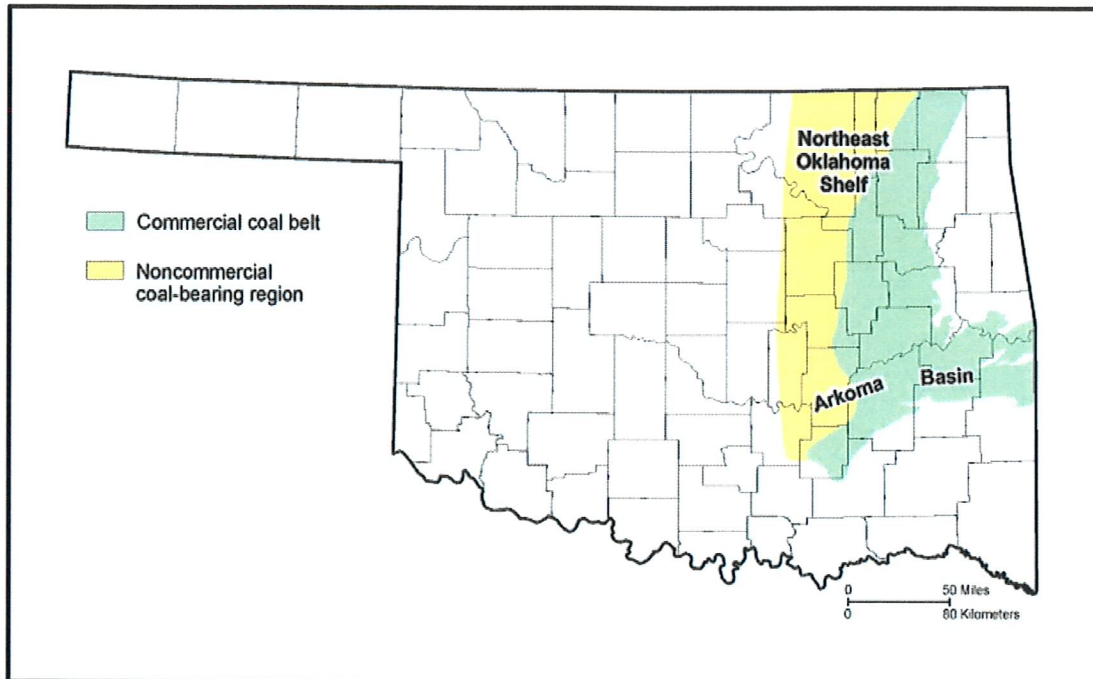
County	Short Tons(thousands)
Atoka	29,619
Coal	292,875
Craig	638,560
Creek	15,573
Haskell	1,509,081
Latimer	840,492
LeFlore	1,962,725
Mayes	31,094
McIntosh	36,319
Muskogee	95,531
Nowata	27,829
Okfuskee	155,964
Okmulgee	339,909
Pittsburg	1,383,833
Rogers	360,183
Sequoyah	27,146
Tulsa	169,974
Wagoner	128,945
Washington	23,450
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,069,102</b>

Approximately 680 million tons of Oklahoma's remaining coal resources were estimated (Friedman, 1974) as strippable from beneath 100 feet or less of overburden, in beds 12 inches or more in thickness. Strippable coal resources were reported in Atoka, Coal, Craig, Creek, Haskell, Latimer, LeFlore, Mayes, McIntosh, Muskogee, Nowata, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Pittsburg, Rogers, Sequoyah, Tulsa, Wagoner, and Washington Counties in 25 different coalbeds. The Demonstrated Reserve Base (DRB) shows 342 million tons as strippable (U.S. Department of Energy, 1996).

In 1986, the major use of Oklahoma coal was by out-of-state electric power generating plants, and the major use of Oklahoma coal in Oklahoma was in cement and lime kilns, at a paper plant, and for process heat at an auto assembly plant. In 1987, however, state law required blending 10% of the BTU value of total non-Oklahoma (Wyoming) coal consumed at Oklahoma power plants with Oklahoma coal. Consequently, a significant change took place in the distribution of Oklahoma coals by the end use. By 1991, more than 50% of Oklahoma coal production was shipped to Oklahoma electric power plants. Although the 1987 "10%" law was declared unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in January 1992, the 1991 Oklahoma coal production increased 16% from 1990.



This is explained by a shift in shipments of Oklahoma coal in 1991 to the AES Shady Point fluidized-bed combustion power plant in LeFlore County. Nevertheless, about 18 million tons of low-sulfur (0.4%) subbituminous Wyoming coal was shipped to Oklahoma public utilities in 1997. Oklahoma power plants rank fourth among the states consuming coal imported from Wyoming. Cumulative coal production in Oklahoma (1873-2019) is 302.3 million tons.



## COALBEDS

A total of 25 named bituminous coal beds are present and have been mined in eastern Oklahoma. Most past production has been from the Hartshorne, Lower Hartshorne, McAlester, and Crowburg Coals, which were mined by underground methods. Coal rank, generalized for all coals at or near the surface, ranges from high-volatile bituminous in the northeast Oklahoma shelf and western Arkoma Basin to medium-volatile bituminous and low-volatile bituminous in the eastern Arkoma Basin in Oklahoma. Rank increases from west to east and with depth in the Arkoma Basin, attaining semianthracite in Arkansas.

## HARTSHORNE COAL

At the southern edge of the coal region in Oklahoma, the Hartshorne Coal commonly is split into two beds by shale and sandstone that are 1 to 100 feet thick. The two beds are called the Upper and Lower Hartshorne Coals, and they have been extensively mined. North of the position of the long axis of the Arkoma Basin, the Hartshorne Coal is not split but is a single bed 1 to 7 feet thick containing, in most places, a persistent black shale or mudstone parting about 1

to 5 inches thick. Core drilling and successful efforts at underground mine development since 1969 have demonstrated significant underground coal resources in the Hartshorne Coal in areas in Haskell and LeFlore Counties, where it is 3 to 7 feet thick, of low or medium-volatile bituminous rank, and an excellent coking coal. In 2020, one mining company produced 10,865 tons of Hartshorne coal at one mine site.

### **LOWER HARTSHORNE COAL**

Mined in the Arkoma Basin mostly for metallurgical coke manufacture for 115 years, the Lower Hartshorne Coal has been shipped to electric power plants since 1985. Hundreds of underground mines, many of them referred to as no more than “dog holes”, have been developed along the 120 miles of outcrop of the Lower Hartshorne Coal since 1872, at which time a railroad first connected McAlester, Pittsburg County, with Arkansas, and thus with the other states. The Lower Hartshorne Coal is 0.8 to 7.0 feet thick, averaging 4 feet in underground mines. The railroads used this premium-grade coal for steam, but historically the coal was shipped to blast furnaces in Colorado, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Japan. The Lower Hartshorne Coalbed contains at least 1,541,000 tons of remaining coal resources (Friedman, 1974), and it also contains coalbed methane resources.

### **UPPER HARTSHORNE COAL**

The Upper Hartshorne Coal was once extensively mined at outcrops on the flanks of anticlines in LeFlore, Haskell, Latimer and Pittsburg Counties. It is 2 to 4 feet thick and is low- or medium-volatile bituminous in rank in the east end of the Arkoma Basin and high-volatile in the west end. The Upper Hartshorne Coalbed contains 663 million tons of remaining coal resources (Friedman, 1974), and it also contains coalbed methane resources.

### **McALESTER COAL**

The McAlester Coalbed has been extensively mined by underground methods at McAlester in central Pittsburg County and in southeastern Coal County. Throughout the Arkoma Basin, the McAlester Coalbed is 1.5 to 5.0 feet thick and mostly high-volatile bituminous in rank. The coal is thickest in Coal and Pittsburg Counties. It is suitable for use in electric power generation, for blending with higher rank coal for coke manufacture, in cement and lime manufacture, and it is suitable for gasification and liquefaction conversion processes. The McAlester Coal contains 1,012,000 tons of remaining resources (Friedman, 1974), and it contains significant coalbed methane resources in places where it is 3 to 5 feet thick.

### **STIGLER COAL**

Correlated with the McAlester Coal (Friedman, 1978), the Stigler Coal has been mined historically to depths of 30 to 45 feet by surface methods in Haskell, LeFlore, Muskogee and Sequoyah Counties. The Stigler Coal was mined to 100 feet in Sequoyah County and to 140 feet in Haskell County. Mostly of low- and medium-volatile bituminous rank, the low-sulfur (0.5 to 1.0%) Stigler Coal has been used in coke manufacture in U.S. and overseas markets. In 1978-1979, 11 companies operated surface mines in this high BTU (13,000 - 14,500) coal, where it is 1.0 to 2.7 feet thick. This premium grade coal is overlain by 15 to 110 feet of medium- and dark-



gray mudstone, the Stigler Rider Coal (correlated with the Upper McAlester Coal of Latimer, Pittsburg and Coal Counties), one sandstone bed, and in places, Quaternary silt and sand. The Stigler Coalbed contains 533 million tons of remaining resources (Friedman, 1974).

### **CAVANAL COAL**

The Cavanal Coal, moderate in ash and high in sulfur content, is of medium-volatile bituminous rank and crops out on the synclinal flanks of Cavanal Mountain in LeFlore County (Knechtel, 1949). Of high-volatile bituminous rank, it was mapped in Pittsburg County (Hendricks, 1937). In 1976, it was mined at a surface operation on the north side of Cavanal Mountain, where it is 2 feet thick and overlain by 35 feet of blue-gray shale that is overlain by sandstone. Total remaining resources in the Cavanal Coal in the Arkoma Basin are 159 million tons (Friedman, 1974). About 60 feet below the Cavanal, the Lower Cavanal Coal, 2.0 to 2.2 feet thick, was mined by surface and underground methods in LeFlore County in 1942-43 (Knechtel, 1949). This medium-volatile bituminous coal contains undetermined resources.

### **LOWER WITTEVILLE COAL**

The Lower Witteville Coal is widely distributed in the Arkoma Basin. In the first half of the twentieth century, underground mines produced 522,000 tons of this coal from Cavanal Mountain, LeFlore County, where it is 3 to 4 feet thick and contains thin shale partings. The Lower Witteville may correlate with the Drywood Coal in the Savanna Formation of the Northeast Shelf area (Friedman, 1982), or with an unnamed coal that occurs in a shale interval within the Bluejacket sandstone member of the Boggy Formation (Hemish, 1994). It is medium-volatile bituminous in rank, and thus it probably contains coalbed methane resources. The Lower Witteville Coal contains 52 million tons of identified coal resources in LeFlore County (Friedman, 1974).

### **ROWE COAL**

A high-sulfur, high-volatile bituminous coal, the Rowe is 0.8 to 3.0 feet thick in Craig, Mayes, Muskogee, Rogers and Wagoner Counties. The remaining resources in the Rowe Coal are 25 million tons (Hemish, 1986, 1989). The Rowe Coal may be suitable for gasification and liquefaction conversion processes.

### **SECOR COAL**

The Secor Coal in the Boggy Formation contains a minimum of 446 million tons of identified coal resources (Friedman, 1974). Recent exploration and mining indicates that additional millions of tons of this coal are present in LeFlore County. The Secor Coalbed is 1.5 to 4.3 feet thick, moderately brightly banded and medium-to-high-volatile bituminous in rank. High in ash and sulfur content, it contains 12,000 to 14,000 BTU/lb. The coal has been considered of marginal economic value for most markets. Discovery of a rare occurrence of a low-sulfur (1% or less) deposit of the Secor Coal in McIntosh and Wagoner Counties (Friedman, 1978) resulted in 3.2 million tons of production of this rare coal from 10 strip mines from 1978-1990.

## **WEIR-PITTSBURG COAL**

Correlated from outcrops and drilling data in southeastern Kansas (Friedman, 1974), the Weir-Pittsburg Coal contains 496 million tons of identified coal resources in the Northeastern Oklahoma Shelf. Mined by surface methods in Craig, Mayes, Rogers, and Wagoner Counties, the Weir-Pittsburg Coal is 1.1 to 3.0 feet thick and is overlain by 20 to 30 feet of gray shale that in some places contains marine invertebrate fossils. This coal is high in sulfur (more than 3%) and ash (more than 12%). No production has been reported from this coalbed since 1980 because its run-of-mine condition has been of marginal economic value.

## **MINERAL COAL & MORRIS COAL**

The Mineral is a high-volatile bituminous coal, 1.2 to 2.7 feet thick, averaging 1.8 feet in Craig, Nowata, Rogers, Tulsa, and Wagoner Counties. The Mineral Coal is overlain by a hard, thin, impure limestone and gray shale in most places in Craig County. Dunham and Trumbull (1955) described the Morris Coal as 7 to 30 inches thick, averaging 16 inches in the Henryetta Mining District. About 30 million short tons of identified resources of Morris Coal have been determined (Friedman, 1974). Although adverse geologic and mining conditions are present in the faulted area north of Morris, additional resources and recoverable reserves of Morris Coal undoubtedly are present in other places in Okmulgee County. Physical, chemical, petrographic and stratigraphic characteristics of the Morris Coal strongly indicate its correlation with the Mineral Coal of the Northern Shelf area (and of Kansas and Missouri)(Friedman, 1974, 1982). The Eram Coal in Okmulgee County is also correlated with the Mineral Coal (Hemish, 1988). The Mineral Coal (and equivalent coalbeds) contains 198 million tons of identified coal resources in Craig, Nowata, Okmulgee, Rogers, Tulsa, and Wagoner Counties (Hemish, 1986, 1989, 1990, 1994). One mine produced 150 tons of Eram coal in 2020.

## **CROWEBURG COAL**

The Croweburg has been one of three leading coals produced in Oklahoma, because it contains 1% or less sulfur and a Free Swelling Index (FSI) of 6 or more in most of the area of its distribution in the Northeastern Oklahoma Shelf. A total of 681 million tons of identified remaining resources of the Croweburg Coal has been reported (Hemish, 1986, 1989, 1990, 1994) as present in Oklahoma. The Croweburg has been known as the Henryetta Coal, the Broken Arrow Coal, and the "Sequoyah" Coal (Oakes, 1944). In 2020, one mining company produced 645 tons of Hartshorne coal at one mine site.

## **IRON POST COAL**

Fort Scott Coal is also known as Iron Post Coal. The Iron Post Coal is the uppermost commercial coal in the Senora Formation. It crops out across Craig, Nowata, and Rogers Counties in an irregular line roughly parallel to the outcrop line of the Croweburg Coal. The Iron Post Coal lies about 30 to 50 feet above the Verdigris Limestone and is overlain by a few inches to a few feet of black and gray shale. The shale is overlain in turn by a limestone known as Breezy Hill. It has a high BTU value that averages about 13,000. It averages about 12 inches in thickness, and



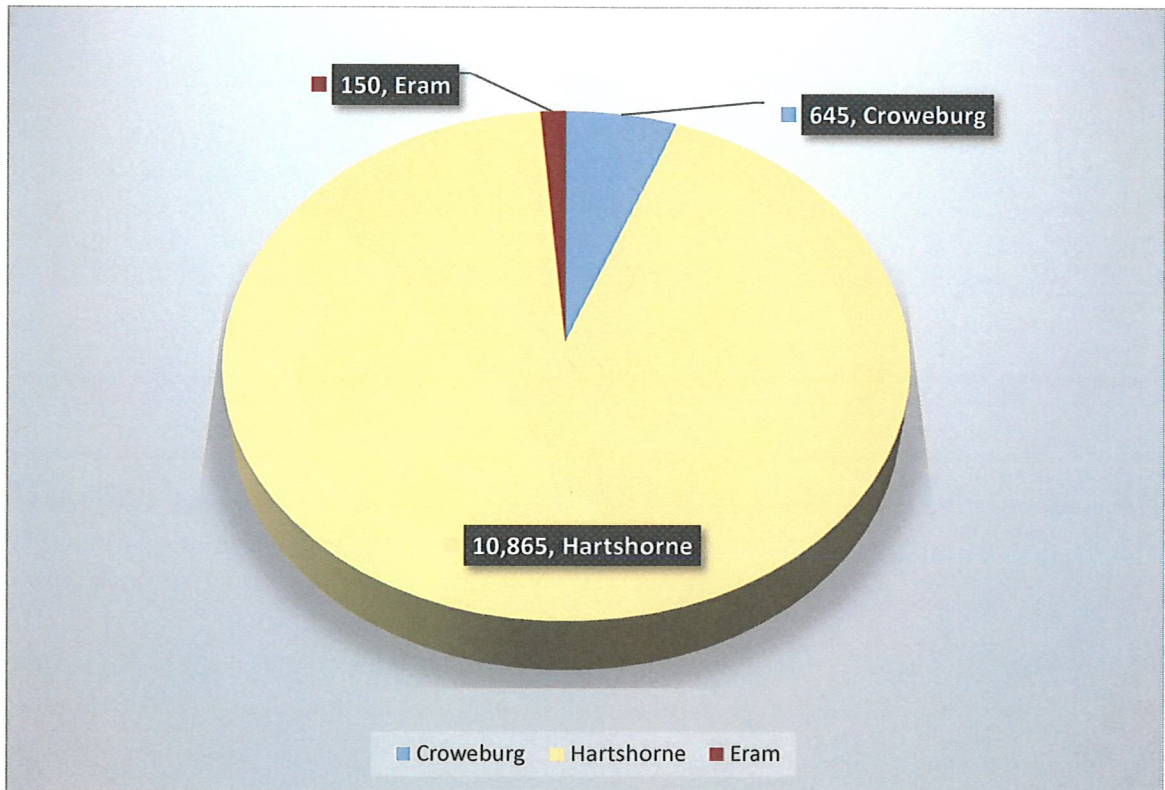
has an average sulfur content of about 3.5%. In 2020, there were no mine sites producing Iron Post Coal.

## COAL PRODUCTION

Oklahoma’s coal production decreased significantly in 2020 with 11,660 short tons of coal compared to 2019 with 294,334 short tons produced. Oklahoma coal production has steadily declined from its peak production of 5.73 million tons in 1981. Major in-state use of Oklahoma coal has been by the cement and lime industries and the use of coal at the Applied Energy Services Cogeneration Plant near Shady Point, Oklahoma. Until recent years, the major consumption of Oklahoma coal had been by out-of-state utilities. There is potential for Oklahoma’s coal resources to provide the basis for economic growth; only the apex of coal resources has been exploited.

<b>Oklahoma Coal Production Information (Tons Produced)</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	3
Companies Reporting	3
Mine Sites	3
Total Tonnage	11,660
<b>Counties / Mine Sites / Tons / Type of Coal</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Craig Co.:</b> Phoenix 4290 (Spur Mine) 645 tons - Croweburg	645
<b>LeFlore Co.:</b> GCI, Inc. 4243F (Pollyanna #8) 10,865 tons – Hartshorne	10,865
<b>Okmulgee Co.:</b> Joshua Coal 4238 (Metropolis) 150 tons – Eram	150
<b>Coal Permit Activities</b>	
<b>Permits Issued</b>	0
<b>Permits on Inspectable Units List</b>	50
<b>Acreage Permitted</b>	16,678
<b>Inspections Conducted</b>	468
<b>Violations Issued (NOVs/COs)</b>	33
<b>Cessation Orders</b>	12
<b>Acreage Released (Phase III Bond Release Approvals)</b>	710
<b>Revisions Issued</b>	9

# Coalbed Production – Tons 2020



<b>COAL</b>				
<b>Surface &amp; Underground Tonnage Comparison</b>				
<b>YEAR (Fiscal)</b>	<b>Surface</b>	<b>Underground</b>	<b>% Surface Mined</b>	<b>Total</b>
1930	351,109	2,905,557	11	3,256,666
1932	245,344	1,146,401	18	1,391,745
1933	228,674	758,230	23	986,904
1934	278,199	841,803	25	1,120,002
1935	275,233	832,590	25	1,107,823
1936	268,058	974,880	20	1,242,947
1937	452,704	875,037	36	1,327,741
1938	430,961	921,534	32	1,352,495
1939	355,175	707,037	33	1,062,212
1940	499,989	840,340	37	1,340,329
1941	675,429	982,583	41	1,658,012
1942	851,223	1,241,236	41	2,092,459
1943	1,273,960	1,582,462	45	2,856,422
1944	1,377,637	1,408,855	49	2,786,492
1945	1,804,954	1,295,974	58	3,100,928
1946	1,630,250	1,008,860	62	2,639,110
1947	1,812,881	1,013,885	64	2,826,766
1948	2,270,668	1,149,484	66	3,420,152
1949	2,218,492	991,960	69	3,210,452
1950	2,042,705	856,823	70	2,899,528
1951	1,437,278	957,691	60	2,394,969
1952	1,203,020	958,306	56	2,161,326
1953	1,426,672	870,162	62	2,296,834
1954	1,105,955	764,377	59	1,870,332
1955	1,118,841	787,440	59	1,906,281
1956	1,470,688	581,611	72	2,052,299
1957	1,469,891	474,875	76	1,944,766
1958	1,434,555	430,985	77	1,865,540
1959	1,347,922	348,608	80	1,696,530
1960	1,064,938	425,999	71	1,490,937
1961	953,265	128,436	88	1,081,701
1962	891,431	161,294	85	1,052,725
1963	956,232	55,713	94	1,011,945
1964	1,026,162	12,817	99	1,038,979
1965	954,043	9,523	99	963,566
1966	835,692	6,291	99	841,983
1967	822,903	2,352	99	825,983
1968	1,059,263	45,979	96	1,105,242
1969	1,716,877	120,490	94	1,837,367



COAL				
Surface & Underground Tonnage Comparison Cont...				
YEAR (Fiscal)	Surface	Underground	% Surface Mined	Total
1970	2,204,870	237,594	90	2,442,464
1971	2,038,565	194,928	91	2,233,493
1972	2,445,311	84,900	97	2,530,211
1973	2,194,670	0	100	2,194,670
1974	2,374,685	0	100	2,374,685
1975	2,850,427	0	100	2,850,427
1976	3,626,781	0	100	3,636,781
1977	5,346,654	0	100	5,346,654
1978	5,425,432	3,246	99	5,428,678
1979	4,491,211	1,476	99	4,492,687
1980	5,338,287	3,102	99	5,341,389
1981	5,723,312	5,149	99	5,728,461
1982	4,619,783	39,556	99	4,659,339
1983	3,672,107	13,783	99	3,685,890
1984	4,226,106	0	100	4,226,106
1985	3,343,188	0	100	3,343,188
1986	2,969,523	6,751	98	2,976,274
1987	2,866,840	0	100	2,866,840
1988	2,117,536	0	100	2,117,536
1989	1,728,437	39,855	98	1,768,292
1990	1,523,797	102,963	94	1,626,760
1991	1,863,720	26,839	99	1,890,599
1992	1,691,406	58,590	97	1,749,996
1993	1,704,275	92,076	95	1,796,351
1994	1,900,114	10,647	99	1,910,761
1995	1,860,514	25,450	99	1,885,964
1996	1,570,393	136,702	92	1,707,095
1997	1,407,562	211,686	87	1,619,248
1998	1,439,708	294,205	83	1,733,913
1999	1,461,234	199,760	88	1,660,994
2000	1,349,036	244,577	85	1,593,613
2001	1,303,334	412,434	76	1,715,818
2002	930,657	463,481	67	1,394,138
2003	1,174,237	456,837	72	1,631,074
2004	1,269,968	409,068	76	1,679,036
2005	1,172,751	465,459	72	1,638,209
2006	1,315,872	464,086	74	1,779,958
2007	1,146,230	514,288	69	1,660,518
2008	1,027,291	442,338	70	1,469,629
2009	548,961	487,063	53	1,036,024
2010	569,929	408,913	54	978,842
2011	736,306	438,266	57	1,174,572

<b>COAL</b>				
<b>Surface &amp; Underground Tonnage Comparison Cont...</b>				
<b>YEAR (Fiscal)</b>	<b>Surface</b>	<b>Underground</b>	<b>% Surface Mined</b>	<b>Total</b>
2012	706,695	368,374	56	1,075,069
2013	494,341	672,867	57	1,167,208
2014	419,725	507,338	54	927,063
2015	389,494	407,365	49	796,859
2016	398,800	271,810	41	670,610
2017	374,972	259,480	40	634,452
2018	235,469	294,867	46	639,462
2019	227,300	67,034	79	294,334
2020	795	10,865	7	11,660

## Major Mining Disasters in Oklahoma

Name & Location	Date	Number of Men Killed	Cause
Osage Coal & Mining, Krebs, OK	03/00/1885	13	Gas & Dust
Mines #1 & #2, Savannah, OK	04/06/1887	18	Gas & Dust
Osage Coal & Mining Co., Krebs, OK	01/07/1892	96	Gas & Dust
Choctaw-Oklahoma Gulf Railway Co., Alderson, OK	01/04/1897	5	Gas & Dust
McAlester Coal Co., Alderson, OK	04/29/1901	6	Gas & Dust
McAlester Coal Co., Hartshorne, OK	12/28/1901	6	Cage Dump
Milby-Dow Coal Co., Dow, OK	01/13/1902	10	Mine Fire
Central Coal & Coke Co., Canton, OK	04/13/1903	6	Gas & Dust
Missouri-Kansas Co., Wilburton, OK	04/30/1905	13	Gas & Dust
Poteau Coal & Mercantile Co., Witteville, OK	04/30/1906	14	Dynamite
Hailey-Ola Coal Co., Haileyville, OK	08/26/1908	29	Oil Fire
Rock Island Coal & Mining Co., Hartshorne, OK	10/21/1909	10	Gas & Dust
Western Coal & Coke Co., LeHigh, OK	03/31/1910	6	Gas & Dust
San Boise Coal Co., McCurtain, OK	03/20/1912	73	Gas & Oil
Union Coal Co., Adamson, OK	09/04/1914	14	Slope Cave-in
Rock Island Coal & Mining Co., Alderson, OK	06/30/1919	15	Gas & Dust
M.K. & T. Coal Co., Degnan, OK	08/21/1920	10	Gas & Dust
McCurtain Improvement Co., McCurtain, OK	10/20/1922	8	Gas & Dust
Eastern Coal Co., Wilburton, OK	01/13/1926	91	Gas & Dust
Superior Smokeless Coal Co., Tahona, OK	09/03/1926	16	Gas & Dust
Covington Coal Co., Poteau, OK	09/17/1929	8	Gas & Dust
Old Town Coal Co., McAlester, OK	12/17/1929	61	Gas & Dust
Sample Coal Co., McAlester, OK	10/30/1930	30	Gas & Dust
Hailey-Ola Coal Co., Lutie, OK	11/29/1930	13	Gas & Dust
Bond Valley Coal Company, Haileyville, OK	01/17/1945	9	Gas & Dust



## NON-FUEL MINERALS

In 2019, Oklahoma's estimated value of non-coal raw mineral production was \$1,070,000 based upon the annual U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) data. The state ranked 29th in 2019, of which Oklahoma accounted for 1.24% of the U. S. total value.

### MINERALS PERMITS

<b>Minerals Mining Permit Activities</b>	<b>2020</b>
Permits Issued	41
Revisions Issued	45
Transfers Issued	6
Limited Use Permits Issued	32
Annual Renewals Processed	608
Inspections Conducted	3,802
Violations Issued	144
<b>Non-Mining Blasting Activity</b>	<b>2020</b>
Blasting Permits Issued	17
Limited Time Permits	1
Blasting Plans Reviewed	9
Blasting Exemptions Issued	88
Non-Mining Blasting Inspections	8
Violations Issued	1

## **ASPHALT**

**Asphalt** is a viscous residue of petroleum found in porous rocks. It was mined commercially in Oklahoma from around 1900 through 1960, primarily in Murray and Atoka Counties, but has not been mined in recent years.

## **BENTONITE**

**Bentonite** is either of two principally aluminum silicate clays, containing some magnesium and iron, distinguished by sodium or calcium content with corresponding high or low swelling capacity and used in various adhesives, cements, and ceramic fillers. There has been no bentonite production in Oklahoma since 2010.

## **CALICHE**

**Caliche** is a sedimentary rock, a hardened deposit of calcium carbonate. This calcium carbonate cements together other materials, including gravel, sand, clay, and silt. Caliche is generally light colored but can range from white to light pink to reddish-brown, depending on the impurities present. It is generally found on or near the surface, but it can be found in deeper subsoil deposits as well. The layers can vary from a few inches to feet thick, and multiple layers can exist in a single location.

<b>Caliche Production Information</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	2
Companies Reporting	3
Total Tonnage	17,071
<b>Caliche Production by County</b>	
Ellis	16,824
Texas	247

## **CHAT (CHAT HAULING)**

The term "*chat*" is applied to fragments of silicious rock, limestone, and dolomitic waste rejected in the lead-zinc milling operations that accompanied lead-zinc mining in Ottawa County, largely in the first half of the twentieth century. These chats, found as huge man-made mounds in that county, are utilized as construction aggregate, principally for railroad ballast, highway construction, and concrete production.

<b>Chat Production Information</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	1
Companies Reporting	1
Total Tonnage	248,071
<b>Chat Production by County</b>	
Ottawa	248,071

## **CLAY**

*Clay* is a naturally occurring material composed primarily of fine-grained minerals. Clay deposits are mostly composed of clay minerals, a subtype of phyllosilicate minerals, which impart plasticity and harden when fired or dried; they also may contain variable amounts of water trapped in the mineral structure by polar attraction. Organic materials which do not impart plasticity may also be a part of clay deposits.

<b>Clay Production Information</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	19
Companies Reporting	29
Total Tonnage	1,313,155
<b>Clay Production by County</b>	
Beckham	9,360
Bryan	25,590
Canadian	38,040
Cherokee	18,300
Cleveland	19,550
Delaware	11,617
Greer	68,349
Kingfisher	248,214
LeFlore	5,958
Love	195,346
Mayes	86,585
Muskogee	165,309
Oklahoma	45,050



Clay Production by County	
Ottawa	25,365
Payne	25,485
Pontotoc	51,977
Rogers	72,113
Seminole	197,521
Sequoyah	3,426

## **COPPER**

The occurrence of *copper* in Oklahoma has been known since the mid-19th century, when observations were first recorded in what is now Jefferson County. Studies in 1962 proved that deposits in Jackson County were of a sufficient quality and thickness for commercial value. First production from these reserves was in 1965, although the operation is inactive now.

## **DIMENSIONAL STONE**

The term *dimensional stone* refers to stone that is finished to specific dimensions and shapes. Most commonly it is quarried in large rectangular blocks, which are then sawed into slabs for further finishing, and used in building, monuments, furniture industrial applications and other uses. Other stone, sold as fieldstone, flagging, rubble and other similar names, is sold in either natural or broken sizes and shapes that are sorted into size ranges, but not finished or dressed to specific dimensions. These types of stone can be used for building, paving, decorative, or other purposes.

Dimensional Stone Production Information	2020
Producing Counties	11
Companies Reporting	83
Total Tonnage	1,094,709
Dimensional Stone Production by County	
Ellis	286
Haskell	172,822
Latimer	2,607
LeFlore	629,365
McIntosh	36,571
Nowata	94,672
Pittsburg	4,850
Pontotoc	2,079
Pottawatomie	24,364
Rogers	860
Sequoyah	126,233

## DOLOMITE

*Dolomite* differs from limestone in that it contains magnesium as well as calcium. It is used to supply both of these elements and is a very effective neutralizing agent. It is a carbonate limestone type product that should contain between 8-12% Magnesium as Mg and 18-22% Calcium as Ca. Dolomite should contain less than 0.2% Sodium as well, so this should be checked prior to purchase. The best quality dolomite is sourced from limestone type rock, and requires crushing and screening.

<b>Dolomite Production Information</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	2
Companies Reporting	2
Total Tonnage	147,376
<b>Dolomite Production by County</b>	
Caddo	259
Johnston	147,117

## GRANITE

Oklahoma's commercially quarried *granite* deposits are confined to the Arbuckle and Wichita Mountains. Production is limited to Johnston and Murray Counties in the Arbuckles and Greer and Kiowa Counties in the Wichitas. The variety of colors of granite found in Oklahoma makes it desirable for use as dimension stone and monument stone.

<b>Granite Production Information</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	3
Companies Reporting	5
Total Tonnage	10,811,541
<b>Granite Production by County</b>	
Johnston	8,639,192
Kay	752,472
Kiowa	1,419,877

## GYPSUM

*Gypsum* is a calcium sulfate compound found in large quantities as rock in western Oklahoma, principally in Blaine, Caddo, Jackson, Major and Woods Counties. The mineral is used as a plaster for interior walls and wallboard, and soil conditioners. Oklahoma ranked fifth nationally in gypsum production for 2018.

<b>Gypsum Production Information</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	4
Companies Reporting	10
Total Tonnage	3,799,488
<b>Gypsum Production by County</b>	
Blaine	1,038,756
Caddo	1,035,365
Jackson	750,586
Major	974,781

## **IRON ORE**

The term "*iron ore*" refers to any body of rock which contains economically extractable quantities of iron. The most common iron ores are the iron-based minerals hematite, magnetite and goethite. These minerals occur quite commonly throughout the world and account for the majority of iron ore production. These minerals occur in sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic environments with percentages of iron contained in typical ores ranging from thirty to sixty-five percent or higher. No iron ore has been mined in Oklahoma since 1988.

## **LEAD & ZINC**

*Lead and zinc* ores were discovered in the Ottawa County region of northeastern Oklahoma in 1904. Rapid development of these resources and those in neighboring Kansas and Missouri made the Tri-State Mining District the leading producer of lead and zinc in the world. In almost every year from 1918 until 1945, Oklahoma led the world in the production of zinc. The greatest production levels were reached shortly after the discovery of the ore bodies at Picher in 1914; production highs for both lead and zinc mining industries were recorded in 1925. Production dropped to pre-World War I levels during the Great Depression. Although a minor resurgence in production occurred just before and during the Second World War, the lead and zinc mining industries were never able to again come close to the boom of the 1920's. Declining world prices forced a temporary shutdown of the field in 1959 and 1960; the mines were permanently closed in October 1970. Depletion of the higher grade ores in the field, a decline of the world price, and the cost of continual pumping made mining in the once-great mining center uneconomical and forced its closure. During the years of production, Oklahoma mines produced 1.3 million tons of recoverable lead and 5.2 million tons of recoverable zinc.

The lead and zinc mines of the Tri-State District operated with the room-and-pillar method of mining; many of the rooms were as much as sixty feet in height, with only a thin roof of rock separating them from the surface. Some of the contaminated waters from the mines have seeped into the drinking water and surface water systems of the area. In the 1980's and again in the early 2000's, the Department of Mines worked with task forces which focused on the pollution problems resulting from this situation. Extensive funding has been provided at various



times by both the State of Oklahoma and the federal government for the remediation of soil and water contamination, but some of the problems persist. Relocation of many residents has taken place.

## **LIMESTONE**

*Limestone* represents one of the most widely available of the mineral resources of Oklahoma, and has generally accounted for around 57% of the reported tonnage of all non-fuel minerals mined in the state. Three major production areas exist within Oklahoma: the Tulsa-Rogers-Mayes counties region of northeastern Oklahoma north of the Arkansas River; the Arbuckle Mountains region of Murray County and extending into Pontotoc County; and the Wichita Mountains area of Comanche and Kiowa counties. Limestone is used mainly in the crushed state as concrete aggregate for building highways and other structures, railroad ballast, glass manufacturing, cement production, preparation of lime, and agricultural purposes. Some limestone is used as dimensional building stone.

<b>Limestone Production Information</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	33
Companies Reporting	62
Total Tonnage	39,459,890
<b>Limestone Production By County</b>	
Adair	74,205
Atoka	3,430,314
Bryan	96,662
Carter	749,772
Cherokee	782,764
Choctaw	2,979,675
Comanche	3,449,534
Craig	384,661
Creek	727,842
Haskell	139,833
Johnston	3,958,837
Kay	273,604
Kiowa	1,695,083
LeFlore	12,062
Marshall	130
Mayes	1,501,697
McCurtain	515,200
McIntosh	109,106
Murray	7,569,690
Nowata	8,066
Osage	451,852
Ottawa	481,200
Pawnee	315,857

<b>Limestone Production By County</b>	
Payne	158,396
Pittsburg	757,236
Pontotoc	933,063
Pushmataha	38,717
Rogers	3,656,829
Seminole	145,158
Sequoyah	851,112
Tulsa	2,503,075
Wagoner	274,907
Washington	433,751

## **SALT**

Oklahoma's vast *salt* reserves underlie most of the northwestern portion of the state. Salt brine, dissolved from underground deposits by ground water, is brought to the surface either as natural springs or by pumping; the salt is recovered as a residue through solar evaporation of the brine. Salt is used primarily for stock feeds, recharging water softeners, and road de-icing.

<b>Salt Production Information</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	1
Companies Reporting	1
Total Tonnage	167,741
<b>Salt Production by County</b>	<b>2020</b>
Woods	167,741

## **SAND & GRAVEL**

*Sand and gravel* is produced in most counties in Oklahoma from deposits that are found near the many rivers and streams. Principal uses are in mixing concrete for highway building and other construction, and for railroad ballast. Silica sands, found chiefly in the Arbuckle Mountain region of south-central Oklahoma, are used in the manufacture of various grades of glass and other chemical and industrial activities.

<b>Sand &amp; Gravel Production Information</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	52
Companies Reporting	144
Total Tonnage	16,399,731
<b>Sand &amp; Gravel Production by County</b>	
Atoka	44,359
Beaver	259,462
Beckham	21,480

<b>Sand &amp; Gravel Production by County</b>	
Blaine	181,317
Bryan	2,823,958
Canadian	480,012
Carter	57,964
Cherokee	2,800
Choctaw	150,834
Cleveland	660,223
Comanche	170,457
Cotton	407,406
Creek	28,084
Dewey	325,697
Garfield	42,294
Garvin	4,265
Grady	546
Harper	1,957
Haskell	271,955
Hughes	1,095
Jackson	120,500
Jefferson	33,580
Johnston	1,281,791
Kay	246,094
Kingfisher	1,246,695
LeFlore	326,289
Lincoln	33,577
Logan	538,030
Love	158,609
Major	33,815
Marshall	156,236
Mayes	19,008
McClain	89,110
McCurtain	229,714
McIntosh	15,712
Muskogee	405,204
Okfuskee	790
Oklahoma	975,946
Okmulgee	11,000
Payne	50,709
Pittsburg	1,732
Pontotoc	1,581,409
Pottawatomie	424,315
Pushmataha	5,775
Seminole	78,444
Sequoyah	6,788



<b>Sand &amp; Gravel Production by County</b>	
Stephens	3,600
Texas	38,184
Tillman	131,140
Tulsa	1,086,141
Wagoner	1,107,074
Woodward	26,555

## **SELECT FILL**

*Select Fill* is a clay-based excavated product that packs well. This dirt has some rocks present, but is generally composed of clay and/or silty sand. It is appropriate for filling holes or as a base for other materials around a house foundation or berm.

<b>Select Fill Production Information</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	21
Companies Reporting	44
Total Tonnage	885,555
<b>Select Fill Production by County</b>	
Adair	17,879
Beckham	4,654
Caddo	3,880
Canadian	70,859
Cleveland	130,475
Commanche	2,319
Creek	43,590
Custer	2,446
Delaware	5,268
Haskell	19,118
Kingfisher	240
LeFlore	288
Lincoln	47,709
Logan	39,480
Love	13,976
McClain	18,372
Oklahoma	92,965
Rogers	97,703
Stephens	3,339
Tulsa	165,847
Wagoner	105,148

## SHALE

*Shale* is a classic sedimentary rock typically composed of variable amounts of clay sized particles and weathering debris. The addition of variable amounts of other mineral constituents alters the color of the rock. In manufacturing, shale is used as a filler material for concrete and brick.

<b>Shale Production Information</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	14
Companies Reporting	29
Total Tonnage	529,782
<b>Shale Production by County</b>	
Beckham	1,411
Blaine	17,667
Canadian	36,238
Coal	1,170
Creek	79,116
Harper	90,896
Kingfisher	10,765
LeFlore	38,125
McIntosh	821
Muskogee	9,921
Pontotoc	165
Sequoyah	74,239
Tulsa	149,748
Wagoner	19,500

## TRIPOLI

*Tripoli* is the general name for soft, porous silica found in sedimentary rocks in Ottawa County and neighboring parts of Missouri and Arkansas. Primarily used as an abrasive, it is also used in concrete and as paint filler. One company is at present responsible for the production in Oklahoma. The United States is self-sufficient in tripoli and much of the product is exported.

<b>Tripoli Production Information</b>	<b>2020</b>
Producing Counties	1
Companies Reporting	1
Total Tonnage	51,741
<b>Tripoli Production by County</b>	
Ottawa	51,741

## VOLCANIC ASH

*Volcanic Ash* is composed of fine, uncemented particles of volcanic dust that were deposited in lakes during pre-historic activity. These deposits occur in many western and central counties in Oklahoma. The material is primarily used for concrete mixtures, abrasives, and insulating compounds. There was no production of Volcanic Ash in Oklahoma for 2020.



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