

Natural Resources

Texas

In 1978, Texas' mineral production ranked first in the United States and provided \$19.6 billion worth of minerals. The most important minerals produced include petroleum, natural gas, natural gas liquids and cement. In 1978, Texas produced 1.073 billion barrels of crude petroleum, or about one-third of the U.S. total. Natural gas production in 1978 amounted to 195 billion cubic metres (6.5 trillion cu. ft.). Texas is a leading producer of asphalt and related bitumens, of helium, sulphur, iron, mercury, uranium and graphite, and also of magnesium compounds, common salt, sodium sulphate, stone vermiculite, clays, bromine and gypsum.

There is an estimated forested area of 9.5 million hectares (23.4 million acres), with most of the commercial timber in the state being produced in the East Texas pine-hardwood region. More than 37,000 people are employed in 106 Texas sawmills and nine pulp mills.

Oklahoma

Oklahoma's major source of mineral income is from crude petroleum production. In 1980, the state produced 150.4 million barrels of crude petroleum. Natural gas production in 1980 amounted to 57 billion cubic metres (1.9 trillion cu. ft.). Total mineral production in the state of Oklahoma in 1978 amounted to \$3.8 billion, ranking the state fifth in the United States. The most important non-fuel mineral is stone. Coal, zinc, lead, sand, gravel and clay are also mined. Oklahoma has 2 million hectares (5 million acres) of commercial forest land, most of it in the eastern part of the state.

Kansas

Kansas, like Oklahoma and Texas, relies on petroleum as its most important mineral resource. In 1980, it produced 60.2 million barrels of crude petroleum and 22.2 billion cubic metres (741.3 billion cu. ft.) of natural gas. Kansas is also a major producer of helium and portland cement, stone, and salt.

Arkansas

Arkansas accounts for almost the entire U.S. annual bauxite production. Petroleum and natural gas are