Geoscience in Your State Factsheets

How does geoscience affect your state?

The AGI Geoscience Policy team created State Geoscience Information factsheets to inform geoscientists and decision makers on how geoscience impacts their state. These factsheets highlight geoscience areas including, employment, water, minerals, energy and hazards in each state. They also demonstrate how federal research agencies, such as the National Science Foundation, U.S. Geological Survey, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration contribute beneficial geoscience information to each state.

If you have any questions on our state factsheets, please contact us at govt@americangeosciences.org

Alabama
Alaska
Arizona
Arkansas
California
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
Florida
Georgia
What is Geoscience?
Geoscience is the study of the Earth and the complex geologic, marine, atmospheric, and hydrologic processes that sustain life and the economy. Understanding these Earth surface and subsurface, its resources, fertility, and hazards allows us to develop solutions to critical economic, environmental, health, and safety challenges.

By the numbers: Virginia
- 7,200 geoscience employees (non-teaching/self-employed)
- 76 billion gallons/day: total groundwater withdrawn
- 32.5 billion: value of natural mineral production in 2017
- 92 total disaster declarations, including 17 severe storms, 15 floods, and 32 hurricanes/droughts (1965-2017)
- 916 million: NEF (estimated) grants awarded in 2017

Energy and Minerals in Virginia
- 1.3 billion: value of nuclear medical production in 2017
- 80 square feet: current industrial and agricultural construction (estimated) is the size of five football fields
- 12 billion: natural gas produced in 2017
- 2.5 billion: electricity produced in 2017
- 3.5 billion: nanometer: natural gas produced in 2017

Water in Virginia
- 35 billion: gallons/day: total groundwater withdrawn
- 4.5 billion: gallons/day: total water withdrawn
- 4.5 million: gallons/day: public supply water withdrawn
- 9.5 million: gallons/day: industrial/other water withdrawn
- 8%: the proportion of natural and public water supplied

Natural Hazards in Virginia
- 94 total disaster declarations, including 17 severe storms, 15 floods, and 32 hurricanes/droughts (1965-2017)
- 747,000: voluntary evacuations, with 479,000 evacuations

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