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
Hawaii
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
Montana
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Vermont
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming

Image:
Geoscience in Virginia

WHAT IS GEOSCIENCE?
Geosciences is the study of the Earth and the complex geologic, marine, atmospheric, hydrologic processes that sustain life and the economy. Understanding the Earth’s surface and subsurface, its resources, history, and hazards allows us to develop solutions to critical economic, environmental, health, and safety challenges.

By the numbers: VIRGINIA
- 4,200 geoscientists employed, (two-thirds self-employed)
- 1.5 million gallons total groundwater withdrawn
- 31,000 square miles of coastal mined production in 2017
- 94 total disaster declarations, including 17 severe storms, 15 floods, and 14 hurricanes/droughts (1965-2017)
- $516 million in R&D grants awarded in 2017

ENERGY AND MINERALS IN VIRGINIA
- 2,150 billion barrels of crude oil production in 2017
- 17 coal mines, present/active, and air permits issued
- Construction of new thermal facilities in order of scale, production in 2017
- 11 million tons of coal produced in 2017
- 15.5 million megawatt-hours, hydropower produced in 2017
- 13 million megawatt-hours, wind-derived electricity produced in 2017

WATER IN VIRGINIA
- 7.8 million gallons daily groundwater withdrawn
- 2.6 million gallons daily surface water withdrawn
- 47 million gallons daily public supply withdrawn
- 12.2 million gallons daily industrial/irrigation withdrawn
- 8% of the population is served by public water supplies

NATIONAL HAZARDS IN VIRGINIA
- 54 total disaster declarations, including 17 severe storms, 15 floods, and 13 hurricanes/droughts (1965-2017)
- 22.4 billion dollars of public assistance grants (2005-2017)
- 4.1 billion dollars of insurance payments (2005-2017)
- 25.7 billion dollars in state and local expenditures (2005-2017)

1. Virginia Division of Geology and Mineral Resources, 2017
2. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2017
5. Virginia Division of Forestry, 2017
7. U.S. Geological Survey, 2017
8. Virginia Division of Forestry, 2017
9. Virginia Division of Forestry, 2017
10. Virginia Division of Forestry, 2017


Compiled by the Virginia Geosciences program. For more information, visit www.virginiageosciences.org or call 804-225-5173.

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- policy