

Geoscience in Your State: Iowa

WHAT IS GEOSCIENCE?

Geoscience is the study of Earth and the composition, nature, structure, and physical processes that sustain life and the economy. Understanding Earth's history and evolution, its resources, history, and geoscientists are developing solutions to environmental health and safety challenges.



By the numbers: IOWA

- 3,913 geoscience employees (excludes self-employed)¹
- 630 million gallons/day: total groundwater withdrawal³
- 630 million acres of undeveloped production land²
- 200 million acres of land in Iowa (70% of total U.S. cropland and forestland)⁴
- 200 million acres of U.S. cropland⁵

DEVELOPING IOWA

- 630 million acres of undeveloped production land²
- 200 million acres of land in Iowa (70% of total U.S. cropland and forestland)⁴

INDUSTRY IOWA

- 3,913 geoscience employees (excludes self-employed)¹
- 630 million gallons/day: total groundwater withdrawal³
- 200 million acres of land in Iowa (70% of total U.S. cropland and forestland)⁴
- 200 million acres of U.S. cropland⁵

RESOURCES IOWA

- 630 million gallons/day: total groundwater withdrawal³
- 200 million acres of land in Iowa (70% of total U.S. cropland and forestland)⁴
- 200 million acres of U.S. cropland⁵
- 200 million acres of undeveloped production land²
- 200 million acres of land in Iowa (70% of total U.S. cropland and forestland)⁴
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WATER RESOURCES IOWA

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¹ Geoscience employees (excludes self-employed)
² Undeveloped production land
³ Total groundwater withdrawal
⁴ Land in Iowa (70% of total U.S. cropland and forestland)
⁵ Total U.S. cropland

For more information, please visit www.iowageology.com.
 Contact: info@iowageology.com | www.iowageology.com

By the numbers: Iowa

- 3,913 geoscience employees (excludes self-employed)¹
- 630 million gallons/day: total groundwater withdrawal³

- \$583 million: value of nonfuel mineral production in 20174
- 62 total disaster declarations, including 27 flood, 25 severe storm, and 4 tornado disasters (1953-2017)6
- \$2.71 million: NSF GEO grants awarded in 201714...

Read more in this Geoscience in Your State Factsheet...

Agencies Working on Geoscience Issues in Iowa

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

<https://www.iowadnr.gov/>

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources manages fish and wildlife programs, ensures the health of Iowa's forests and prairies, and provides recreational opportunities in Iowa's state parks. Just as importantly, the DNR carries out state and federal laws that protect air, land and water through technical assistance, permitting and compliance programs. The DNR also encourages the enjoyment and stewardship of natural resources among Iowans through outreach and education.

Iowa Geological Survey

<https://iowageologicalsurvey.org/>

The Iowa Geological Survey plans and implements programs that result in the acquisition of comprehensive information on the mineral and water resources of the State, with emphasis on water supply developments and monitoring the effects of environmental impacts on water quality.

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department

<https://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/>

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department leads, coordinates, and supports homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens. Emergency management activities related to the geosciences include preparedness for and response to floods, tornadoes, snow storms, and other natural hazards.

Iowa Mines and Minerals Bureau

<https://iowaagriculture.gov/mines-and-minerals-bureau>

The Iowa Mines and Mineral Bureau is housed within the Iowa Department of Agriculture. The Bureau handles abandoned mine land reclamation, as well as regulation, licensing, permitting, and bids for coal and mineral resource projects.

Maps & Visualizations



Interactive database for geologic maps of the United States

U.S. Geological Survey

The U.S. Geological Survey hosts the National Geologic Map Database (NGMDB). This interactive tool serves as a national archive for high-quality, standardized geologic maps created by the U.S. Geological Survey and state geological surveys. The MapView section of the NGMDB displays geologic maps...

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