

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

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U. S. COAL RESOURCES IN GROUND: 3,210 BILLION TONS

The estimated coal resources of the United States remaining in the ground as of January 1, 1967, totaled 3,210 billion tons, according to a new table released for public inspection by the Geological Survey, Department of the Interior. About half of this huge total is considered to be ultimately recoverable.

Of the total tonnage, which is tabulated by individual States, about half - or an estimated 1,560 billion tons - occurs in areas that have been explored and mapped in detail by the U.S. Geological Survey and various State agencies. The remainder is estimated to be present in unmapped and unexplored areas, and in the deeper parts of the larger coal basins.

Studies show that of the 1,560 billion tons of known coal resources, 44.5 percent is bituminous coal; 26.5 percent is subbituminous coal; 27.5 percent is lignite; and 1.5 percent is anthracite. Most of this coal is less than 1,000 feet below the surface.

Of the known coal resources, the table shows that Illinois has the most bituminous coal (139,756 million tons); Montana the most subbituminous (131,877 million tons); North Dakota the most lignite (350,680 million tons); and Pennsylvania the most anthracite (12,117 million tons).

The single sheet table, titled "Total Estimated Remaining Coal Resources of the United States, January 1, 1967," by Paul Averitt, is available for inspection in the following U.S. Geological Survey Libraries: Room 1033, General Services Administration Building, Washington, D.C. 20242; Building 25, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colo. 80225; and 345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, Calif. 94050.

The table may also be inspected at the following USGS Public Inquiries Offices: 1012 Federal Building, Denver, Colo. 80202; 8102 Federal Office Building, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111; 508 2nd Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501; 504 Custom House, 555 Battery Street, San Francisco, Calif. 94111; 7638 Federal Building, 300 North Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, Calif. 90012; 678 U.S. Court House, West 920 Riverside Avenue, Spokane, Wash. 99204.

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Note to Editors: Copy of table attached.

TOTAL ESTIMATED REMAINING COAL RESOURCES OF THE UNITED STATES, Jan. 1, 1967 [In millions of short tons. Figures are for resources in the ground, about half of which may be considered recoverable. Includes beds of bituminous coal and anthracite 14 in. or more thick and beds of subbituminous coal and lignite 2½ ft. or more thick.] 1/

Overburden 0-3,000 feet

Resources determined by mapping and exploration

Remaining resources in the ground as of Jan. 1, 1967 2/

State	Bituminous coal	Subbituminous coal	Lignite	Anthracite and semi-anthracite	Total	Estimated additional resources in unmapped and unexplored areas 3/	Estimated total remaining resources in the ground, 0-3,000 ft. overburden	Estimated resources in deeper structural basins 3,000-6,000 ft. overburden 3/	Estimated total remaining resources in the ground, 0-6,000 ft. overburden
Alabama	13,518	0	20	0	13,538	20,000	33,538	6,000	39,538
Alaska	19,415	110,674	4/ —	5/ —	130,089	130,000	260,089	5,000	265,089
Arkansas	1,640	0	350	430	2,420	4,000	6,420	0	6,420
Colorado	62,389	18,248	0	78	80,715	146,000	226,715	145,000	371,715
Georgia	18	0	0	0	18	60	78	0	78
Illinois	139,756	0	0	0	139,756	100,000	239,756	0	239,756
Indiana	34,779	0	0	0	34,779	22,000	56,779	0	56,779
Iowa	6,519	0	0	0	6,519	14,000	20,519	0	20,519
Kansas	18,686	0	6/ —	0	18,686	4,000	22,686	0	22,686
Kentucky	65,958	0	0	0	65,958	52,000	117,958	0	117,958
Maryland	1,172	0	0	0	1,172	400	1,572	0	1,572
Michigan	205	0	0	0	205	500	705	0	705
Missouri	23,359	0	0	0	23,359	0	23,359	0	23,359
Montana	2,299	131,877	87,525	0	221,701	157,000	378,701	0	378,701
New Mexico	10,760	50,715	0	4	61,479	27,000	88,479	21,000	109,479
North Carolina	110	0	0	0	110	20	130	5	135
North Dakota	0	0	350,680	0	350,680	180,000	530,680	0	530,680
Ohio	41,862	0	0	0	41,862	2,000	43,862	0	43,862
Oklahoma	3,299	0	6/ —	0	3,299	20,000	23,299	10,000	33,299
Oregon	48	284	0	0	332	100	432	0	432
Pennsylvania	57,533	0	0	12,117	69,650	10,000	79,650	0	79,650
South Dakota	0	0	2,031	0	2,031	1,000	3,031	0	3,031
Tennessee	2,652	0	0	0	2,652	2,000	4,652	0	4,652
Texas	6,048	0	6,878	0	12,926	14,000	26,926	0	26,926
Utah	32,100	150	0	0	32,250	48,000	80,250	35,000	115,250
Virginia	9,712	0	0	335	10,047	3,000	13,047	100	13,147
Washington	1,867	4,194	117	5	6,183	30,000	36,183	15,000	51,183
West Virginia	102,034	0	0	0	102,034	0	102,034	0	102,034
Wyoming	12,699	108,011	4/ —	0	120,710	325,000	445,710	100,000	545,710
Other States	7/ 618	8/ 4,057	9/ 46	0	4,721	1,000	5,721	0	5,721
Total	671,055	428,210	447,647	12,969	1,559,881	1,313,080	2,872,961	337,105	3,210,066

1/ By Paul Averitt, U.S. Geological Survey.

2/ Estimates from published reports of the U.S. Geological Survey and individual State Surveys reduced by production and losses in mining from date of estimate to Jan. 1, 1967. Losses assumed to be equal to production.

3/ Estimates by G. H. Ashley (Pennsylvania), H. M. Beikman (Washington), H. L. Berryhill, Jr., (Virginia and Wyoming), R. A. Brant (Ohio and North Dakota), W. C. Culbertson (Alabama), K. J. Englund (Kentucky), B. R. Haley (Arkansas), E. R. Landis (Colorado and Iowa), E. T. Luther (Tennessee), R. S. Mason (Oregon), F. C. Peterson (Kaiparowits Plateau, Utah), J. A. Simon (Illinois), J. V. A. Trumbull (Oklahoma), C. E. Wier (Indiana), and Paul Averitt for the remaining States

4/ Small resources of lignite included under subbituminous coal.

5/ Small resources of anthracite in the Bering River field believed to be too badly crushed and faulted to be economically recoverable.

6/ Small resources of lignite in beds generally less than 30 in. thick

7/ Arizona, California, Idaho, Nebraska, and Nevada. Bituminous coal in Black Mesa field, Arizona included under subbituminous coal.

8/ Arizona, California, Idaho.

9/ California, Idaho, Louisiana and Nevada.