



Colorado COAL

FACT SHEET

The total 2005 value of coal produced is estimated to be **\$813 million**.



Kennecott's Colowyo Coal Mine with dragline in the East Pit, Moffat County (photo by Chris Carroll)

EMPLOYMENT

- Colorado has 1,991 coal miners: a nine percent increase from 2004.
- The average coal production is 9.1 tons per miner-hour, one of the most efficient rates in the nation.

Why is coal mined?

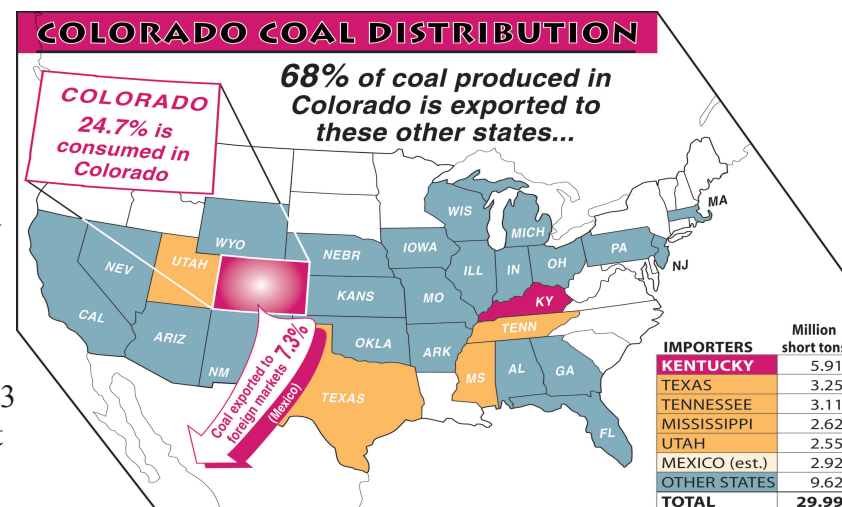
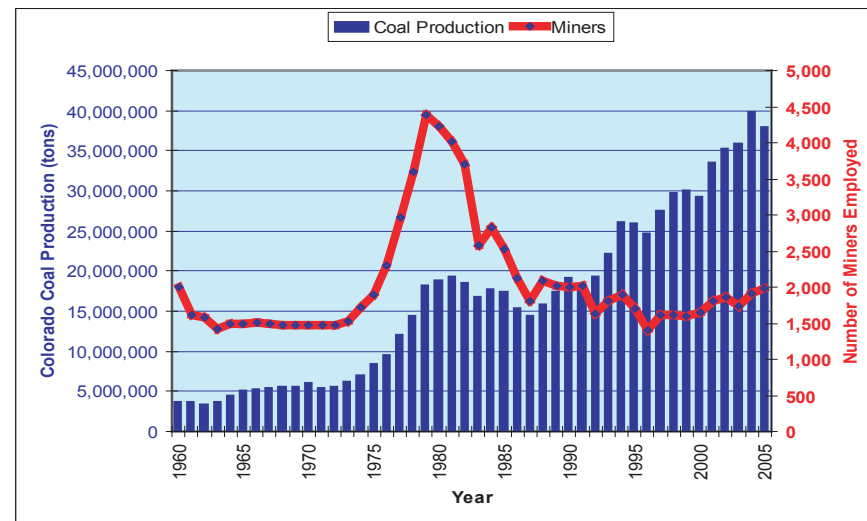
- Electricity generation in power plants
- Cement and steel-making processes
- Coal gasification

DISTRIBUTION and CONSUMPTION

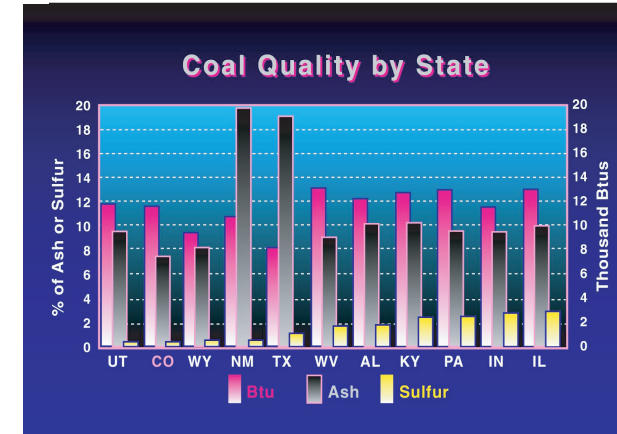
- 68 percent of Colorado's coal is shipped by rail to states such as Kentucky, Texas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Utah, and Illinois.
- 13 Colorado power plants consumed 18.76 million tons of coal in 2005, generating 37.3 million megawatt-hours of electricity. Most of this coal is from Colorado, but some is from Wyoming.

PRODUCTION

- Colorado is ranked 7th in coal production in the U.S.
- Peabody Energy's Foidel Creek/Twentymile Mine in Routt County is the fourth largest underground coal mine in the U.S. Colorado coal production record of 9.37 million tons set in 2005.
- The spot price of Colorado's Uinta Basin low sulfur bituminous coal increased from \$17/ton to \$37/ton in the last two years.
- 37.8 million tons of coal were produced in Colorado in 2005.

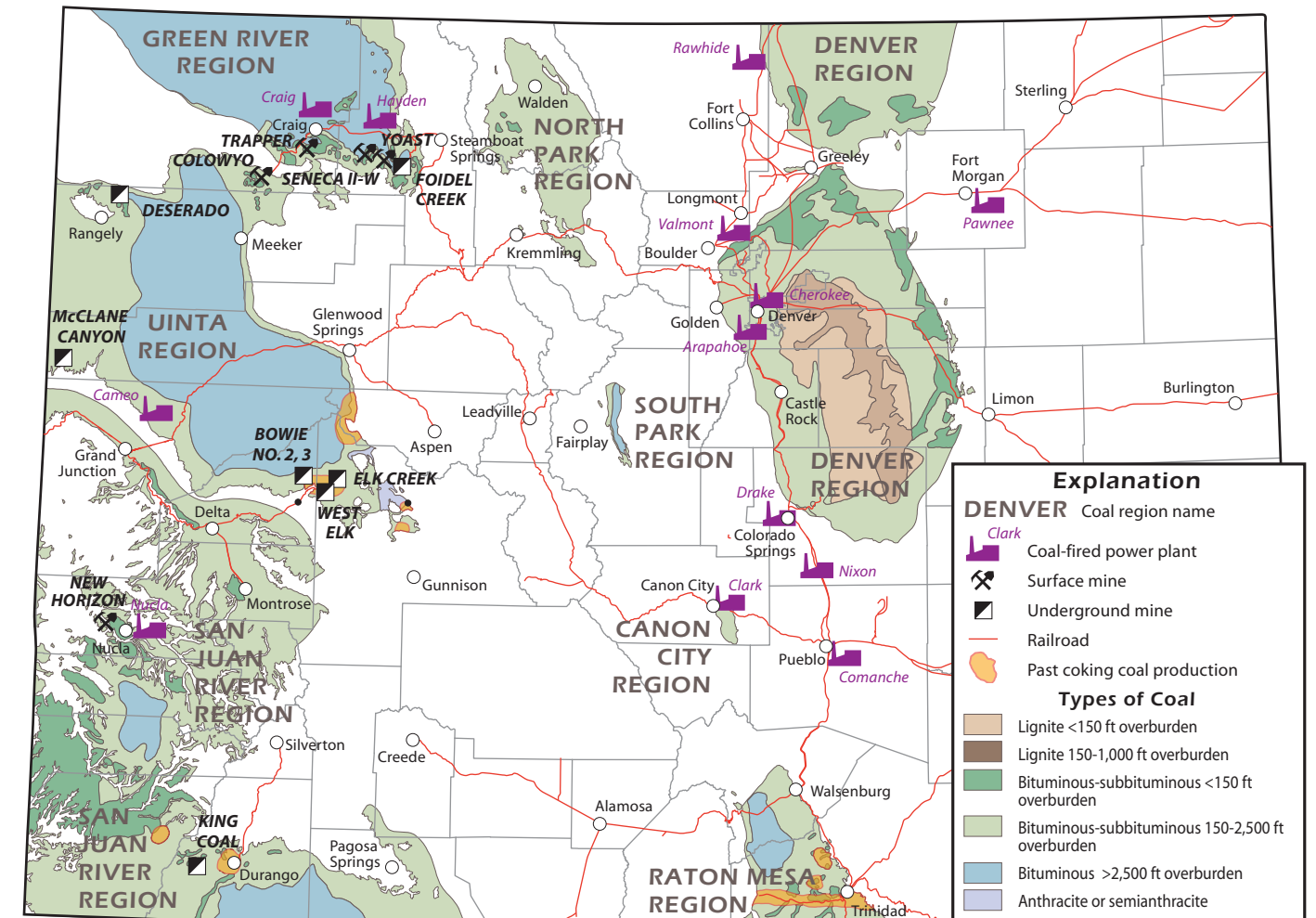


COLORADO COAL QUALITY



- Colorado coal is low in sulfur and ash content.
- Colorado's "clean coal" can be used at power plants without the added cost of washing.
- Colorado coal is also very low in mercury and arsenic.
- Western US coal contains less sulfur than eastern coal.

Coal Mines, Rank, and Power Plants



For more information on coal resources and coal mining visit:

- Colorado Geological Survey Mineral Resources, <http://geosurvey.state.co.us/Default.aspx?tabid=228>
- U.S. Geological Survey Energy Resources Group, <http://energy.cr.usgs.gov/coal/index.htm>
- Colorado Division of Minerals and Geology, <http://mining.state.co.us/>



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