

MISSOURI

Missouri has a long history of underground mining of coal, lead, zinc, iron, clay, industrial sand, sandstone and limestone. Over 9000 abandoned underground mines are estimated to exist in the state, ranging from drifts less than 100 feet in early mines to hundreds of miles in more recent mines. The Missouri Geological Survey and Resource Assessment Division (GSRAD) has maps for approximately 10% of coal mines. GSRAD has less than 50% representation of maps for noncoal commodities; the majority of these are in the Tri-State District.

Maps are currently filed in drawers by general area. A very rough, incomplete inventory is the only catalog. Less than 10% of the maps are original paper/linens, with the rest reproductions on various media. These reproductions are also commonly the only known remaining copies of these maps. About 10% have been electronically scanned, and only a few percent of these are georeferenced.

The map files sometimes receive extensive use by individuals and companies doing planning or construction projects or addressing geologic hazards such as new collapses in mined regions.

Currently only one GSRAD staff member is familiar with the locations of maps in the files.

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