

Eastern Kentucky mined about 3/4 of the coal produced in Kentucky in 2006. 6,055 employees at 328 surface mines produced 45.5 million tons (7,520 tons per employee). 8,997 empoyees at 287 underground mines produced 50.8 million tons (5,650 tons per employee). The five leading producers in the region--Pike, Perry, Harlan, Letcher, and Knott counties--mined 71 million tons of coal in 2006. Pike County, with over 26 million tons, mined nearly twice as much coal as any other county in the state.