

MAP OF MINING DISTRICTS OF BRAZIL, 1:5.000.000

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A mining district is referred to as a geologic or metallogenic environment, which produces metallic and/or non metallic mineral commodities, including industrial minerals and rocks. The delimitation of a mining district is based on the concentration of several mining claims. This concept encloses almost all mineral commodities produced in Brazil, with except of oil, gas, sand and gravel. In general, mining districts in Brazil are related to a large spectrum of geologic contexts comprising greenstone-belts and other volcano-sedimentary sequences, fold-belts, anorogenic granites, sedimentary/volcano-sedimentary platform covers and mafic-ultramafic complexes, all of archean or proterozoic ages, and also phanerozoic sedimentary/volcanic platform covers and mesozoic alkaline intrusive complexes and carbonatites. Taking as a reference the value of the mineral production, it results that the most important mining districts will concentrate in only ten states of Brazil, representing more than 90% of the global mineral production of the country. The southeastern region, specially the State of Minas Gerais, contributes with more than 50% of the mineral production of Brazil (gold, iron and manganese in the Iron Quadrangle, niobium, zinc and industrial minerals and rocks). The northern region, mainly the State of Pará, contributes with about 20% (iron and manganese in the Carajás District, gold, tin, bauxite, chromium and kaolin). The remaining regions represent about 30% of the total mineral production, principally copper, gold, nickel and a lot of industrial minerals and rocks.