

With a production of 88.5 Ton in 2014 and a contribution of 69.9% to the Mining GDP, coal has become the largest contributor to Colombia's GDP. The coal reserves measured are around 5,000 Mton and the potential resources were estimated at 15,500 Mton, from which 87.5% is thermal coal and 12.5% is metallurgical coal (SGC, 2012).

The 90% of the country's production is exploited by multinational companies in the Cesar and Guajira departments. These projects are developed by open pit mining on the Cerrejon and Los Cuervos formations - both from the Paleocene-Eocene age. These coals are of thermal type and are mostly exported through the ports of Santa Marta and Puerto Bolivar.

The remaining 10% of the production is performed by small and medium scale miners in the departments of Cordoba, Cundinamarca, Boyaca, Santander, Norte de

Santander, Antioquia, Valle and Cauca. These coals are mostly thermal type. However, in the mining areas of Santander, Norte de Santander, Boyaca and Cundinamarca, coal is metallurgical type and supplies the domestic and international markets. The mining activities in these regions is underground, corresponding to the geological formations Guaduas (in Cundinamarca-Boyaca from the Maastrichtian-Paleocene age); Amaga (in Antioquia, from the Oligocene-Miocene age); Los Cuervos and Carbonera (in Norte de Santander, from the Paleocene-Eocene age); Cienaga de Oro and Cerrito (in Cordoba, from the Oligocene-Miocene age), and Guachinte and Ferreira (in Valle del Cauca, from the Eocene - Oligocene age).

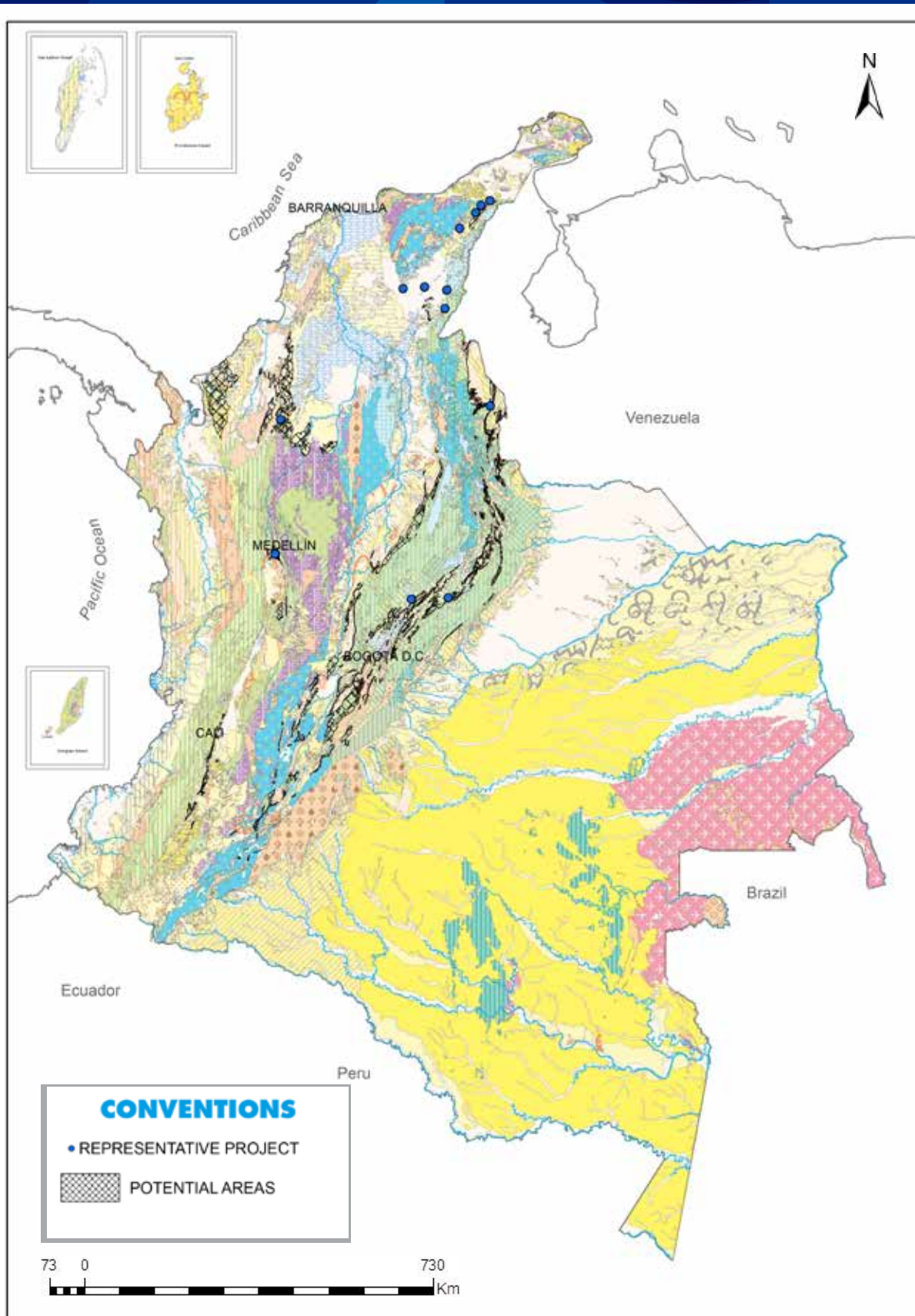
Coal production in 2014 by department

DEPARTMENT	PRODUCTION TON.	TYPE OF COAL
CESAR	47.306.242,61	Thermal
LA GUAJIRA	34.357.761,92	Thermal
CUNDINAMARCA	2.387.677,50	Thermal + Metallurgic
NORTE DE SANTANDER	2.198.035,67	Thermal + Metallurgic
BOYACÁ	1.772.054,15	Thermal + Metallurgic
ANTIOQUIA	264.708,30	Thermal
CÓRDOBA	136.772,74	Thermal
SANTANDER	102.117,11	Thermal + Metallurgic
VALLE	25.336,09	Thermal
CAUCA	24.311,97	Thermal
CASANARE	2.961,97	Thermal
TOTAL	88.577.980,04	



References

National Mining Agency, 2015. National Mineral Production 2014. In <http://www.anm.gov.co/?q=regalias-contraprestaciones-economicas>
 INGEOMINAS, 1987. Recursos Minerales de Colombia, Volumen II. Bogotá
 INGEOMINAS, 2004. El Carbón Colombiano. Bogotá
 COLOMBIAN GEOLOGICAL SERVICE, 2013. Colombia's Carbon Potential Map 2012 - Detailed Memory. In <http://aplicaciones1.sgc.gov.co/sicat/html/Metadato.aspx?CID=241986>



Mapa Geológico Colombiano, 2015 • Mapa de Zonas Potenciales, 2011 • Fuente: Servicio Geológico Colombiano