The Changes in American Lifestyle

1776 vs. 2005

The Minerals We Use In Our Everyday Lives

From the Mineral Information Institute An Affiliate of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration Foundation

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Mines, U.S. Geological Survey, Statistical Abstracts of the USA





In 1776

Average Life span was about 33 years Population was 2.8 million



At the time of the Revolutionary War, about 1,200 pounds of minerals were needed each year, for every person in the United States.

— 1975, U.S. Bureau of Mines

Cement (lime)	12
Clay	100
Coal	40
Copper	1
Pig Iron	20
Salt	4

Sand, gravel & stone	1,000
Lead	2
Potash	1
Sulfur	1
Zinc	0.5

43,200 lbs. in a Lifetime

By 1850, life had improved (a little)

	<u>1776</u>	<u>1850</u>
Population (millions):	2.8	23
Lifespan (years):	33	43
Annual consumption mined material (lbs.):	1,200 (est.)	unknown
Houses (millions):	unknown	3.4



Lifestyle in 1850:

In Charleston, 62% died by the age of 40 — 25% by the age of 5 Boston averaged 8.6 people per house Energy consumption was 10 times that of 1776— 90% from wood, 10% from coal In 1800: Boston to New York took 3 days by stage coach

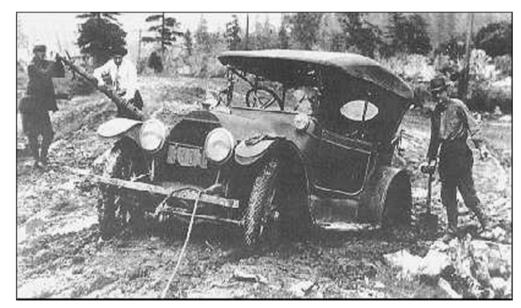
At the turn of the century, we were an emerging world power

	<u>1776</u>	1850	<u>1900</u>
Population (millions):	2.8	23	76
Lifespan (years):	33	43	47.3
Annual consumption mined material (lbs.):	1,200 (est.)	unknown	7,714
Houses (millions):	unknown	3.4	16
Motor Vehicles			8,000

Lifestyle in 1900:

1.5 million telephone instrumentsAvg. per capita consumption of liquorswas 17.68 gallons

Dozen eggs cost 14¢



2.8 million miles of Public Road (1923)

The Glorious 50s

	<u>1776</u>	1850	1900	1950
Population (millions):	2.8	23	76	152
Lifespan (years):	33	43	47.3	68.2
Annual consumption mined material (lbs.):	1,200 (est.)	unknown	7,714	25,938
Houses (millions):	unknown	3.4	16	42.5
Motor Vehicles			8,000	149 million



Lifestyle in 1950:

Houses: 983 sq. ft., averaged 4.6 rooms 5% had no electricity 71% had inside toilet — 15% had no kitchen sink 96% had a radio — 12% had a TV 50% had central heating — 1/2 with coal, 1/4 each fuel oil or gas 53% no garage/carport Average Value= \$10,800 Avg. Monthly Rent= \$46 Average Income was \$2,992 Bread cost 14¢ a loaf

1776 vs. 2005

	1776	1850	1900	1950	2005
Population (millions):	2.8	23	76	152	295
Lifespan (years):	33	43	47.3	68.2	77.8
Annual consumption mined material (lbs.):	1,200 (est.)	unknown	7,714	25,938	47,502
Houses (millions):		3.4	16	42.5	112
Motor Vehicles			8,000	149 million	237 million

Lifestyle in 2005:

New Houses averaged: 2,400 sq. ft., 88% with 3	3 or more bedrooms
95% with more than 2 bathrooms	76% had central air conditioning
Average Value= \$258,000	2 million new units were built

Nearly 240 million motor vehicles and 4 million miles of roads (2.6 million hard-surfaced).

18,500 airports, serving 281,000 non-military airplanes, flying 5.5 billion miles in 8 million trips for 550 million passengers.

62% of homes owned a computer — the Internet and computers used up to 2 percent of total U.S. electricity consumption. Ordering a book on-line burned an ounce of coal.

The American Lifestyle Depends on Minerals

