L’OHM Bassin Minier de Provence:

A very erratic linear evolution
333 km², 17 municipalities, 109,000 inhabitants in 2015
The structuring fact: industrial exploitation of lignite since 1840

The private companies period (1839-1946): 51 millions tons

The national company (1946-2003): 75 millions tons

Nombre de mineurs

![Graph showing the number of miners from 1900 to 2003](image.png)
The founding event: an “antagonic” event

1994 : Pacte charbonnier and Congé charbonnier in view of a closure in 2005

2003 : Abrupt closure 31 Janvier 2003

Disruption of the cycle

Local # National/International
A local level “en résistance”

- Mines closure
- Future of the coal power plant
- Future of the alumina plant
- Aix-Marseille-Provence Métropole
A very erratic linear evolution
Sustainability in the long term?

- Disappearance of the heavy industry, replaced by PME, development of the urbanization, new populations without industrial memory

- A large part of the territory became a suburb of the two main cities (Marseille et Aix)
  ➔ Loss of the “bassin minier” identity, banalisation of the territory

- Gardanne : primacy of economy on ecology : “l’écologie”
  ➔ preservation of an industrial activity, “positive energy” city (geothermal heating, solar, chemin des énergies)