

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF OREGON

In 1999, the preliminary estimated value¹ of nonfuel mineral production for Oregon was \$303 million, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). This was a 1% increase from that of 1998,² and followed a 5.6% increase from 1997 to 1998.

¹The terms "nonfuel mineral production" and related "values" encompass variations in meaning, depending upon the minerals or mineral products. Production may be measured by mine shipments, mineral commodity sales, or marketable production (including consumption by producers) as is applicable to the individual mineral commodity.

All 1999 USGS mineral production data published in this chapter are preliminary estimates as of May 2000, and are expected to change. For some mineral commodities, such as, construction sand and gravel, crushed stone, and portland cement, estimates are updated periodically. To obtain the most current information, please contact the appropriate USGS mineral commodity specialist. A telephone listing for the specialists may be retrieved over the Internet at URL <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/contacts/comdir.html>, by using MINES FaxBack at (703) 648-4999 from a fax machine with a touch-tone handset (request Document #1000 for a telephone listing of all mineral commodity specialists), or by calling USGS information at (703) 648-4000 for the specialist's name and number. All Mineral Industry Surveys—mineral commodity, State, and country—also may be retrieved over the Internet at URL <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>; facsimile copies may be obtained from MINES FaxBack.

²Values, percentage calculations, and rankings for 1998 may vary from the Minerals Yearbook, Area Reports: Domestic 1998, Volume II, owing to the revision of preliminary 1998 to final 1998 data. Data for 1999 are preliminary and are expected to change; related rankings may also be subject to change.

Industrial minerals accounted for all of Oregon's nonfuel mineral production. Crushed stone and construction sand and gravel, by value, remained Oregon's two leading nonfuel mineral commodities in 1999, together accounting for more than 70% of the State's total. In 1999, the increased values of pumice, lime, and portland cement more than offset decreases in construction sand and gravel, crushed stone, gemstones (descending order of change), resulting in a net increase for the year. All other nonfuel minerals had relatively small increases in value. In 1998, significant increases in the production values of crushed stone, portland cement, and diatomite, offset somewhat by decreases in construction sand and gravel and pumice, led the State's gain over the preceding year (table 1).

Based upon USGS estimates of the quantities of raw minerals produced in the United States during 1999, Oregon remained the only State to produce emery, first among six States that produce pumice and pumicite, and third in diatomite and zeolites. The State rose in rank to third from fourth in perlite, dropped to seventh from fourth in gemstones (by value), and produced significant quantities of construction sand and gravel and crushed stone.

TABLE 1
NONFUEL RAW MINERAL PRODUCTION IN OREGON 1/ 2/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	1997		1998		1999 p/	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Clays: Common	W	W	177	W	180	W
Gemstones	NA	980	NA	1,500	NA	649
Sand and gravel: Construction	19,100	100,000	18,600	99,200	17,700	96,500
Stone: Crushed	21,200	110,000	23,200	118,000	22,500	117,000
Zeolite	(3/)	NA	(3/)	NA	NA	NA
Combined values of cement [masonry (1997), portland], clays (bentonite), diatomite, emery, lime, perlite (crude), pumice and pumicite, talc and pyrophyllite, and values indicated by symbol W	XX	74,100	XX	82,400	XX	88,000
Total	XX	285,000	XX	301,000	XX	303,000

p/ Preliminary. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; value included with "Combined value" data. XX Not applicable.

1/ Production as measured by mine shipments, sales, or marketable production (including consumption by producers).

2/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

TABLE 2
OREGON: CRUSHED STONE SOLD OR USED, BY KIND 1/

Kind	1997				1998			
	Number of quarries	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value	Number of quarries	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value
Limestone	1	W	W	\$6.58	1	W	W	\$7.43
Granite	2	W	W	5.03	28	165	\$777	4.71
Marble	--	--	--	--	1	W	W	4.93
Sandstone	--	--	--	--	1	14	62	4.43
Traprock	161 r/	19,600 r/	\$100,000 r/	\$5.12 r/	225	19,400	97,300	5.02
Miscellaneous stone	25 r/	810 r/	4,120 r/	5.08	41	2,730	13,100	4.81
Total	XX	21,200	110,000	5.19	XX	23,200	118,000	5.08

r/ Revised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total." XX Not applicable. -- Zero.
1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 3
OREGON: CRUSHED STONE SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS IN 1998, BY USE 1/ 2/

Use	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value
Coarse aggregate (+1 1/2 inch):			
Macadam	70	\$241	\$3.45
Riprap and jetty stone	807	3,440	4.26
Filter stone	117	657	5.62
Other coarse aggregate	121	509	4.20
Coarse aggregate, graded:			
Concrete aggregate, coarse	242	1,220	5.05
Bituminous aggregate, coarse	524	2,840	5.42
Bituminous surface-treatment aggregate	48	297	6.19
Railroad ballast	341	2,290	6.70
Other graded coarse aggregate	32	213	6.64
Fine aggregate (-3/8 inch):			
Stone sand, concrete	39	245	6.28
Stone sand, bituminous mix or seal	143	820	5.74
Screening, undesignated	31	111	3.59
Other fine aggregate	44	298	6.76
Coarse and fine aggregates:			
Graded road base or subbase	4,820	28,600	5.95
Unpaved road surfacing	2,040	9,060	4.44
Terrazzo and exposed aggregate	254	1,260	4.96
Crusher run or fill or waste	2,140	10,600	4.94
Other coarse and fine aggregates 3/	1,500	7,110	4.73
Other construction materials 4/	66	302	4.58
Chemical and metallurgical: Cement manufacture	W	W	5.66
Other miscellaneous uses: Sugar refining	W	W	12.23
Unspecified: 5/			
Actual	3,830	18,300	4.78
Estimated	5,110	23,000	4.51
Total or average	23,200	118,000	5.08

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total."

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except unit value; may not add to totals

2/ Includes granite, limestone, marble, miscellaneous stone, sandstone, and traprock.

3/ Includes roofing granules.

4/ Includes drain fields.

5/ Reported and estimated production without a breakdown by end use.

TABLE 4
 OREGON: CRUSHED STONE SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS IN 1998, BY USE AND DISTRICT 1/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Use	District 1		District 2		District 3	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Construction aggregates:						
Coarse aggregate (+1 1/2 inch) 2/	385	1,760	639	2,660	W	W
Coarse aggregate, graded 3/	640	3,390	31	173	88	528
Fine aggregate (-3/8 inch) 4/	115	704	--	--	W	W
Coarse and fine aggregate 5/	6,570	34,600	2,800	15,000	665	3,720
Other construction materials 6/	--	--	66	302	--	--
Chemical and metallurgical 7/	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other miscellaneous uses	--	--	--	--	--	--
Unspecified: 8/						
Actual	1,970	9,700	62	273	--	--
Estimated	3,920	17,600	459	2,170	731	3,310
Total	13,600	67,700	4,060	20,600	1,500	7,670
	District 4		Unspecified districts			
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value		
Construction aggregates:						
Coarse aggregate (+1 1/2 inch) 2/	9	46	W	W		
Coarse aggregate, graded 3/	427	2,770	--	--		
Fine aggregate (-3/8 inch) 4/	W	W	--	--		
Coarse and fine aggregate 5/	W	W	W	W		
Other construction materials 6/	--	--	--	--		
Chemical and metallurgical 7/	W	W	--	--		
Other miscellaneous uses	W	W	--	--		
Unspecified: 8/						
Actual	186	821	1,620	7,510		
Estimated	--	--	--	--		
Total	2,180	13,500	1,890	8,610		

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total." -- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes filter stone, macadam, riprap and jetty stone, and other coarse aggregate.

3/ Includes concrete aggregate (coarse), bituminous aggregate (coarse), bituminous surface-treatment aggregate, railroad ballast, and other graded coarse aggregate.

4/ Includes stone sand (concrete), stone sand (bituminous mix or seal), screening (undesigned), and other fine aggregate.

5/ Includes crusher run (select material or fill), graded road base or subbase, roofing granules, terrazzo and exposed aggregates, unpaved road surfacing, and other coarse and fine aggregates.

6/ Includes drain fields.

7/ Includes cement manufacture.

8/ Reported and estimated production without a breakdown by end use.

TABLE 5
OREGON: CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED IN 1998,
BY MAJOR USE CATEGORY 1/

Use	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value
Concrete aggregate	3,860	\$21,300	\$5.52
Plaster and gunite sands	5	55	11.00
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and other bituminous mixtures	1,590	9,550	6.01
Road base and coverings 2/	3,830	20,400	5.32
Fill	622	2,310	3.71
Snow and ice control	41	317	7.73
Other miscellaneous uses 3/	946	6,760	7.15
Unspecified: 4/			
Actual	4,130	20,300	4.91
Estimated	3,530	18,200	5.15
Total or average	18,600	99,200	5.34

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except unit value; may not add to totals

2/ Includes road and other stabilization (cement).

3/ Includes railroad ballast.

4/ Reported and estimated production without a breakdown by end use.

TABLE 6
OREGON: CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED IN 1998, BY USE AND DISTRICT 1/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Use	District 1		District 2		District 3	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Concrete aggregates 2/	3,020	13,000	701	7,300	W	W
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and other bituminous mixtures	1,020	5,780	520	3,140	W	W
Road base materials 3/	2,810	15,000	722	3,470	54	275
Fill	347	1,470	216	719	--	--
Other miscellaneous uses 4/	866	6,080	62	320	--	--
Unspecified 5/	6,290	34,600	199	736	220	938
Total	14,400	75,900	2,420	15,700	327	1,420
	District 4		Unspecified districts 6/			
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value		
Concrete aggregates 2/	W	W	--	--		
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and other bituminous mixtures	W	W	--	--		
Road base materials 3/	248	1,660	--	--		
Fill	59	119	--	--		
Other miscellaneous uses 4/	59	679	--	--		
Unspecified 5/	235	1,050	717	1,190		
Total	743	5,030	717	1,190		

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total." -- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes plaster and gunite sands.

3/ Includes road and other stabilization (cement).

4/ Includes railroad ballast and snow and ice control.

5/ Reported production without a breakdown by end use.

6/ Includes production within the State with no district reported.