

STONE (DIMENSION)¹

(Data in thousand metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Domestic Production and Use: Approximately 1.35 million tons of dimension stone, valued at \$236 million, was sold or used in 2003. Dimension stone was produced by 132 companies, operating 176 quarries, in 34 States. Leading producer States, in descending order by tonnage, were Indiana, Wisconsin, Georgia, Vermont, and Massachusetts. These five States accounted for 53% of the tonnage output. Leading producer States, in descending order by value, were Indiana, Vermont, Georgia, South Dakota, and North Carolina. These States contributed 50% of the value of domestic production. Approximately 34%, by tonnage, of dimension stone sold or used was granite, followed by limestone (28%), sandstone (16%), marble (5%), slate (1%), and miscellaneous stone (16%). By value, the largest sales or uses were for granite (43%), followed by limestone (27%), miscellaneous stone (10%), sandstone (9%), marble (7%), and slate (4%). Rough block represented 52% of the tonnage and 41% of the value of all the dimension stone sold or used by domestic producers, including exports. The largest uses of rough block, by tonnage, were in construction (44%) and irregular-shaped stone (23%) applications. Dressed stone mainly was sold for flagging (26%), curbing (21%), and ashlars and partially squared pieces (15%), by tonnage.

Salient Statistics—United States²:	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003^e
Production:					
Tonnage	1,250	1,320	1,220	1,260	1,350
Value, million dollars	254	235	263	254	236
Imports for consumption, value, million dollars	808	986	1,070	1,190	1,460
Exports, value, million dollars	55	60	74	64	60
Consumption, apparent, value, million dollars	1,010	1,160	1,260	1,380	1,630
Price	Variable, depending on type of product				
Stocks, yearend	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Employment, quarry and mill, number ³	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Net import reliance ⁴ as a percentage of apparent consumption (based on value)	75	78	79	82	86
Granite only:					
Production	437	415	408	431	430
Imports for consumption	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Exports (rough and finished)	166	116	141	140	140
Consumption, apparent	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Price	Variable, depending on type of product				
Stocks, yearend	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Employment, quarry and mill, number ³	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Net import reliance ⁴ as a percentage of apparent consumption (based on tonnage)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Recycling: Small amounts of dimension stone were recycled principally by restorers of old stone work.

Import Sources (1999-2002 by value): Dimension stone: Italy, 40%; Canada, 13%; India, 11%; Spain, 9%; and other, 27%. Granite only: Italy, 41%; Brazil, 17%; India, 13%; Canada, 11%; and other, 18%.

Tariff: Dimension stone tariffs ranged from free to 6.5% ad valorem for countries with normal trade relations in 2003, according to type, degree of preparation, shape, and size. Most crude or rough trimmed stone was imported for 3.0% ad valorem or less.

Depletion Allowance: 14% (Domestic and foreign); slate used or sold as sintered or burned lightweight aggregate, 7.5% (Domestic and foreign); dimension stone used for rubble and other nonbuilding purposes, 5% (Domestic and foreign).

Government Stockpile: None.

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Events, Trends, and Issues: Domestic production tonnage increased to about 1.35 million tons, with value decreasing to \$236 million in 2003. Imports of dimension stone continued to increase. Imports increased by 23% in value to \$1.46 billion. Dimension stone exports decreased by 6% to \$60 million. Apparent consumption, by value, was \$1.6 billion in 2003—a \$254 million increase over 2002. Dimension stone is being used more commonly in residential markets. Additionally, improved quarrying, finishing, and handling technology, as well as a greater variety of stone and the rising costs of alternative construction materials, are among the factors that suggest a continuing increase in demand for dimension stone during the next 5 to 10 years.

World Mine Production, Reserves, and Reserve Base:

	Mine production		Reserves and reserve base ⁵
	2002	2003 ^e	
United States	1,260	1,350	Adequate except for certain special types and local shortages.
Other countries	NA	NA	
World total	NA	NA	

World Resources: Dimension stone resources of the world are sufficient. Resources can be limited on a local level or occasionally on a regional level by the lack of a particular kind of stone that is suitable for dimension purposes.

Substitutes: In some applications, substitutes for dimension stone include aluminum, brick, ceramic tile, concrete, glass, plastics, resin-agglomerated stone, and steel.

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹See also Stone (Crushed).

²Includes Puerto Rico.

³Excluding office staff.

⁴Defined as imports – exports + adjustments for Government and industry stock changes. Changes in stocks were assumed to be zero in the net import reliance and apparent consumption calculations because data on stocks were not available.

⁵See Appendix C for definitions.