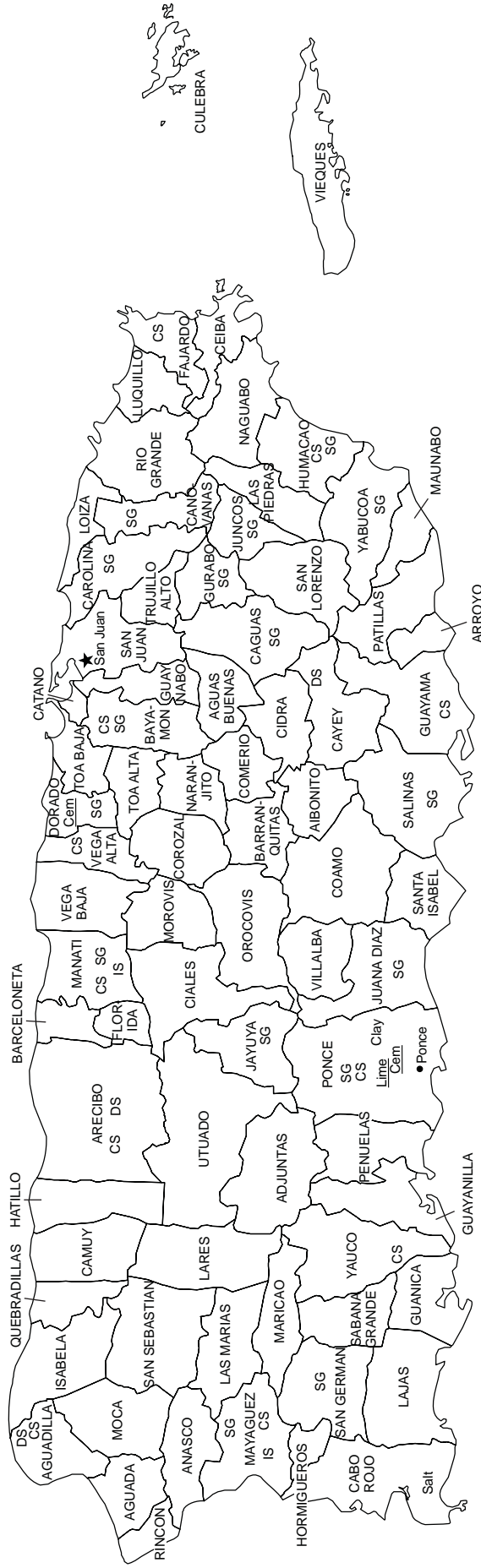




2005 Minerals Yearbook

PUERTO RICO

PUERTO RICO



0 50 Kilometers

LEGEND

★ Capital • City — Municipality

MINERAL SYMBOLS (Major producing areas)

Cem	Cement plant	DS	Dimension stone	Salt	Salt
Clay	Common clay	IS	Industrial sand	SG	Construction sand and gravel
CS	Crushed stone	Lime	Lime plant		

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF PUERTO RICO AND THE ADMINISTERED ISLANDS¹

This chapter has been prepared under a Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Geological Survey and the Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Geology, for collecting information on all nonfuel minerals.

In 2005, Puerto Rico's nonfuel raw mineral production was value² at \$209 million, based upon annual U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) data. If ranked in comparison with the 50 States, Puerto Rico would rank 41st in total nonfuel mineral production value.

Portland cement, by value, continued to be the Commonwealth's leading nonfuel mineral commodity, followed by crushed stone. In 2005, the nonfuel mineral production value of portland cement rose significantly despite no increase in production; the commodity's increase in value accounted for the largest portion of Puerto Rico's increase in nonfuel mineral production value. The largest decrease in value was \$5.7 million in crushed stone, the production of which was down by 10% (table 1).

Similarly, in 2004, the largest increase in production value was in portland cement (with a slight increase in average unit

value), and the largest decrease in production value was in crushed stone. With a 5% decrease in production, the value of crushed stone went down by \$2.4 million.

In 2005, Puerto Rico produced significant quantities of portland cement; the Commonwealth would rank 19th if ranked in comparison with the 37 producing States. Construction sand and gravel was produced in Puerto Rico, mainly for use as aggregate in concrete and concrete products, as road base materials, and as fill, but production data are not available. The collection and compilation of production data for construction sand and gravel were discontinued by the U.S. Bureau of Mines (the Federal Government Agency then responsible for collecting domestic raw nonfuel mineral production data) because of a substantially low rate of response to surveys by the industry (Sikich and Alonso, 1993).

Of the U.S. Administered Islands, only American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and Guam recently have reported nonfuel mineral production data, and these have been limited to crushed stone. Crushed stone production and value data for Guam and the Virgin Islands (limestone and traprock) are shown in table 1. Data for the production of crushed stone for American Samoa (traprock) and the Virgin Islands (2003-04) have been withheld (company proprietary data).

¹While a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was officially made between the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, MOUs were not established with the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, U.S. Caribbean and Pacific Island Possessions, or the U.S. Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. Nevertheless, data on nonfuel raw mineral production were reported from several of the Administered Islands to the USGS. Only aggregated crushed stone data for the island of Guam of the Pacific Island Possessions are nonproprietary; these data appear in table 1.

²The terms "nonfuel mineral production" and related "values" encompass variations in meaning, depending upon the 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 2005 USGS mineral production data published in this chapter are those available as of December 2006. All USGS Mineral Industry Surveys and USGS Minerals Yearbook chapters—mineral commodity, State, and country—can be retrieved over the Internet at URL <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>.

Reference Cited

Sikich, S.W., and Alonso, R.M., 1993, The mineral industries of Puerto Rico, Northern Marianas, Island Possessions, and Trust Territory: U.S. Bureau of Mines Minerals Yearbook 1992, v. II, p. 467-470.

TABLE 1
NONFUEL RAW MINERAL PRODUCTION IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO AND ISLANDS ADMINISTERED
BY THE UNITED STATES^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	2003		2004		2005	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Puerto Rico:						
Cement, portland	1,490	W	1,580	W	1,580	W
Clays, common	114	585	114	585	116	596
Lime	W	W	11	2,250	11	2,250
Salt	45	1,500	45	1,500	45	1,500
Stone, crushed	9,130	60,000	8,660	57,600	7,830	51,900
Combined values of sand and gravel (industrial), stone (dimension marble), and values indicated by symbol W	XX	119,000	XX	125,000	XX	153,000
Total	XX	181,000	XX	187,000	XX	209,000
Administered Islands:						
American Samoa, stone, crushed, traprock	W	(3)	W	(3)	W	(3)
Guam, stone, crushed	728	7,670	1,410	13,000	1,410	13,000
Virgin Islands, stone, crushed limestone and traprock	W	(3)	W	(3)	257	2,730
Total	XX	7,670	XX	13,000	XX	15,800

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. Withheld values included in "Combined values" data. XX Not applicable.

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

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

³Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.