

STONE (DIMENSION)¹

(Data in thousand metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Domestic Production and Use: Approximately 1.3 million tons of dimension stone, valued at \$240 million, was sold or used in 2002. Dimension stone was produced by 132 companies, operating 172 quarries, in 34 States. Leading producer States, in descending order by tonnage, were Indiana, Georgia, Wisconsin, Vermont, and Texas. These five States accounted for 49% of the tonnage output. Leading producer States, in descending order by value, were Indiana, Vermont, Georgia, South Dakota, and North Carolina. These States contributed 48% of the value of domestic production. Approximately 33%, by tonnage, of dimension stone sold or used was granite, followed by limestone (26%), sandstone (15%), marble (5%), slate (2%), and miscellaneous stone (19%). By value, the largest sales or uses were for granite (41%), followed by limestone (26%), sandstone (9%), marble (8%), slate (6%), and miscellaneous stone (10%). Rough block represented 50% 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 (38%) and monumental stone (26%). Dressed stone was sold for flagging (26%), curbing (21%), and ashlar and partially squared pieces (14%), by tonnage.

| Salient Statistics—United States:² | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002^e |
|---|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Production: | | | | | |
| Tonnage | 1,140 | 1,250 | 1,320 | 1,220 | 1,300 |
| Value, million dollars | 225 | 254 | 235 | 263 | 240 |
| Imports for consumption, value, million dollars | 698 | 808 | 986 | 1,070 | 1,700 |
| Exports, value, million dollars | 60 | 55 | 60 | 74 | 89 |
| Consumption, apparent, value, million dollars | 863 | 1,010 | 1,160 | 1,260 | 1,800 |
| 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) | 74 | 75 | 78 | 79 | 88 |
| Granite only: | | | | | |
| Production | 420 | 437 | 415 | 408 | 408 |
| Imports for consumption | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Exports (rough and finished) | 145 | 166 | 116 | 128 | 128 |
| 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 (1998-2001 by value): Dimension stone: Italy, 39%; Canada, 12%; India, 10%; Spain, 9%; and other, 30%. Granite only: Italy, 43%; Brazil, 15%; Canada, 13%; India, 12%; and other, 17%.

Tariff: Dimension stone tariffs ranged from free to 6.5% ad valorem for countries with normal trade relations in 2002, 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 aggregates, 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 1.3 million tons, with value decreasing to \$240 million in 2002. Imports of dimension stone continued their meteoric increase. Imports increased by 50% in value to \$1.7 billion. Dimension stone exports increased by 20% to \$89 million. Apparent consumption, by value, was \$1.8 billion in 2002—a \$540 million increase over the revised figure for 2001. 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.

A noteworthy event during the year that involved the U.S. dimension stone industry was the restoration and renovation of the damage to the Pentagon that resulted from the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Specifications called for the use of Indiana limestone, because this material was used when the Pentagon was originally constructed in 1943. The final piece of limestone was laid during a dedication ceremony on June 11, 2002.

World Mine Production, Reserves, and Reserve Base:

| | Mine production | | Reserves and reserve base ⁵ |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--|
| | 2001 | 2002 ^e | |
| United States | 1,220 | 1,300 | Adequate except for certain special types and local shortages. |
| Other countries ⁶ | 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 brick, concrete, steel, aluminum, resin-agglomerated stone, ceramic tile, plastics, and glass.

^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.

⁶No reliable production information for other countries is available, owing to a wide variation of ways in which countries report their dimension stone production. Some countries do not report production for this mineral commodity. Production information for some countries is available in the country chapters of the U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook.