

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF RHODE ISLAND

In 2000, the estimated value¹ of nonfuel mineral production for Rhode Island was \$23.7 million, based upon preliminary U.S. Geological Survey data. This was about a 7% increase

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 2000 USGS mineral production data published in this chapter are preliminary estimates as of July 2001 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 of 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.

from that of 1999² and followed a 12.6% decrease in value from 1998 to 1999. Because data for industrial sand and gravel has been withheld to protect company proprietary data, the actual total values for 1998-2000 are higher than (while following the same trend as) those reported in table 1. Most of the State’s nonfuel mineral production resulted from the mining and production of two basic construction materials—crushed stone and construction sand and gravel. These two, respectively, accounted for about 54% and 46% of Rhode Island’s nonfuel mineral economy as reported in table 1. Additionally, gemstones were mined in the State by hobbyists. In 1999, the production and value of both crushed stone and construction sand and gravel decreased, correspondingly down \$2 million and \$1.2 million (table 1). Industrial sand and gravel showed an increase in both production and value.

²Values, percentage calculations, and rankings for 1999 may vary from the Minerals Yearbook, Area Reports: Domestic 1999, Volume II, owing to the revision of preliminary 1999 to final 1999 data. Data for 2000 are preliminary and are expected to change; related rankings may also change.

TABLE 1
NONFUEL RAW MINERAL PRODUCTION IN RHODE ISLAND 1/ 2/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	1998		1999		2000 p/	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Gemstones	NA	1	NA	1	NA	1
Sand and gravel:						
Construction	1,390	11,100	1,310	9,900	1,380	11,000
Industrial	W	W	W	W	W	W
Stone, crushed	2,240	14,200	2,070	12,200	2,100	12,700
Total 3/	XX	25,300	XX	22,100	XX	23,700

p/ Preliminary. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary 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/ Partial total; excludes withheld values to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

Kind	1998				1999			
	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	W	1	W	W	W
Granite	6	W	W	W	6	W	W	W
Traprock	2	W	W	W	2	W	W	W
Total or average	XX	2,240	\$14,200	\$6.35	XX	2,070	\$12,200	\$5.90

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in “Total.” XX Not applicable.

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

TABLE 3
RHODE ISLAND: CRUSHED STONE SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS
IN 1999, BY USE 1/ 2/

Use	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value
Construction:			
Coarse and fine aggregate, crusher run (select material or fill)	W	W	\$2.00
Agricultural limestone	W	W	5.67
Other miscellaneous uses and specified uses not listed	W	W	6.00
Unspecified 3/			
Estimated	W	W	5.91
Total or average	2,070	\$12,200	5.90

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

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

2/ Includes granite, limestone, and traprock.

3/ Estimated production without a breakdown by end use.

TABLE 4
RHODE ISLAND: CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED IN 1999,
BY MAJOR USE CATEGORY 1/ 2/

Use	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value
Concrete aggregate (including concrete sand)	357	\$2,720	\$7.62
Concrete products (blocks, bricks, pipe, decorative, etc.) 3/	W	W	9.65
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and other bituminous mixtures	W	W	8.82
Road base and coverings	135	1,120	8.30
Fill	134	926	6.91
Snow and ice control	12	121	10.08
Other miscellaneous uses 4/	218	2,000	9.17
Unspecified 5/			
Estimated	500	3,000	6.00
Total or average	1,310	9,900	7.56

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

1/ To avoid disclosing company proprietary data, no district tables were produced in 1999.

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

3/ Includes gunite and plaster sands.

4/ Includes railroad ballast.

5/ Estimated production without a breakdown by end use.