

# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF RHODE ISLAND

This chapter has been prepared under a Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior, and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management for collecting information on all nonfuel minerals.

In 1996, Rhode Island ranked 48th among the 50 States in total nonfuel mineral production value,<sup>1</sup> according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The State was 49th in 1995. The estimated value for 1996 was nearly \$32 million, a 4% increase from that of 1995. This followed a 17% increase from 1994 to 1995 (based on final 1995 data). The State accounted for about one-tenth of 1% of the total U.S. nonfuel mineral production value. The increase in value of construction sand and gravel, the State's leading nonfuel mineral commodity, accounted for most of Rhode Island's gain in nonfuel mineral value in 1995 and 1996. Conversely, crushed stone values decreased during the same time period. Industrial sand and gravel, the value of which increased in 1995 and 1996, was produced in the State, but the data have been withheld from table 1 to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

<sup>1</sup>The terms "nonfuel mineral production" and related "values" encompass variations in meaning, depending on 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 1996 USGS mineral production data published in this chapter are estimates as of February 1997. Construction sand and gravel and crushed stone estimates are updated periodically. To obtain the most current information, please contact the appropriate USGS mineral commodity specialist. Call MINES FaxBack at (703) 648-4999 from a fax machine with a touch-tone handset and request Document # 1000 for a telephone listing of all mineral commodity specialists, or call USGS information at (703) 648-4000 for the specialist's name and number. This telephone listing may also be retrieved over the Internet at <http://minerals.er.usgs.gov/minerals/contacts/comdir.html>

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

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	1994		1995		1996 p/	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Gemstones	NA	1	NA	1	NA	1
Sand and gravel (construction)	2,310	14,200	2,790	21,500	3,000	23,900
Stone (crushed)	1,610	12,200	1,250	9,140	1,100	8,000
Total 3/	XX	26,300	XX	30,700	XX	31,900

p/ Preliminary. NA Not available. XX Not applicable.

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

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Partial total, excludes values which must be concealed to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

TABLE 2  
RHODE ISLAND: 1/ CRUSHED STONE 2/ SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS  
IN 1995, BY USE 3/

Use	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value
Construction aggregates 4/	375	\$2,660	\$7.10
Agricultural: Agricultural limestone	(5/)	(5/)	12.71
Other specified uses not listed	(5/)	(5/)	12.71
Unspecified: 6/			
Actual	95	830	8.74
Estimated	773	5,540	7.16
Total	1,250	9,140	7.30

1/ To avoid disclosing company proprietary data; "District tables were not produced for 1995."

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

3/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

4/ Includes bituminous aggregate (coarse), crusher run or fill or waste, filter stone, graded roadbase or subbase, riprap and jetty stone, screening (undesignated), and stone sand (concrete).

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

6/ Includes production reported without a breakdown by end use and estimates for nonrespondents.

TABLE 3  
RHODE ISLAND: CRUSHED STONE SOLD OR USED, BY KIND 1/

Kind	1994				1995			
	Number of quarries	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value	Number of quarries	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Unit value
Limestone	2	W	W	\$8.46	2	W	W	\$9.75
Granite	3	568	\$3,450	6.07	4	812	\$5,380	6.62
Traprock	2	W	W	8.27	2	W	W	8.41
Miscellaneous stone	--	--	--	--	1	76	668	8.79
Total	XX	1,610	12,200	7.58	XX	1,250	9,140	7.30

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

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4  
RHODE ISLAND: 1/ CONSTRUCTION SAND AND GRAVEL SOLD OR USED IN 1995,  
BY MAJOR USE CATEGORY 2/

Use	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value (thousands)	Value per ton
Concrete aggregate (including concrete sand)		\$1,460	\$6.44
Plaster and gunitite sands	227	46	7.67
Asphaltic concrete aggregates and other bituminous mixtures	6	W	5.09
Road base and coverings	W	860	7.23
Fill	119	324	5.49
Snow and ice control	59	W	10.67
Unspecified: 3/	W		
Actual	249	2,130	8.55
Estimated	2,060	16,300	7.91
Total or average	2,790	21,500	7.71

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

1/ To avoid disclosing company proprietary data; "District tables were not produced in 1995."

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Includes production reported without a breakdown by end use and estimates for nonrespondents.