

STONE (DIMENSION)¹

(Data in thousand metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Domestic Production and Use: Dimension stone totaling 1.16 million tons (1.28 short tons) valued at \$235 million was produced by 139 companies at 228 quarries in 35 States. Dimension stone was used in rough blocks in building, 26%; ashlar, 12%; rough blocks for monuments, 12%; dressed monumental, 4%; and other, 46%. Leading producing States were Georgia, Indiana, Texas, Vermont, and Wisconsin, which together accounted for 50% of the output. Of the total, 44% was granite; 30%, limestone; 13%, sandstone; 2%, slate; 2%, marble; and 9%, other.

Salient Statistics—United States:²	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997^e
Production: Tonnage	1,280	1,190	1,160	1,150	1,160
Value, million dollars	226	218	233	234	235
Imports for consumption, value, million dollars	398	440	478	462	470
Exports, value, million dollars	53	53	52	50	50
Consumption, apparent, value, million dollars	571	605	659	646	655
Price	Variable, depending on type of product				
Stocks, yearend	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Employment, quarry and mill, ³ number	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Net import reliance ⁴ as a percent of apparent consumption (based on value)	60	64	64	64	64
Granite only:					
Production	624	499	495	501	500
Imports for consumption	494	NA	NA	NA	NA
Exports (rough and finished)	143	170	158	137	140
Consumption, apparent	975	NA	NA	NA	NA
Price	Variable, depending on type of product				
Stocks, yearend	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Employment, quarry and mill, ³ number	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Net import reliance ⁴ as a percent of apparent consumption (based on tonnage)	36	NA	NA	NA	NA

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

Import Sources (1993-96) (based on value): Dimension stone: Italy, 42%; India, 17%; Brazil, 14%; Canada, 14%; and other, 13%. Granite only: Italy, 44%; Spain, 11%; India, 10%; and other, 35%.

Tariff: Dimension stone tariffs ranged from free to 6.6% ad valorem for most favored nations in 1997 according to type, size, value, and degree of preparation.

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Depletion Allowance: 14% (Domestic and Foreign); 5% if used for rubble and other nonbuilding purposes.

Government Stockpile: None.

Events, Trends, and Issues: Wider applications in residential markets, improved quarrying, finishing, and handling technology, and a greater variety of stone, as well as rising costs of alternative construction materials, are among the factors that indicate an increased demand for dimension stone during the next 5 to 10 years. Furthermore, current high commercial vacancy rates and increased competition have caused an increased use of stone to upgrade the appearance of buildings.

World Mine Production, Reserves, and Reserve Base:

	Mine production		Reserves and reserve base ⁵
	1996	1997 ^e	
United States ²	1,150	1,160	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: Substitutes for dimension stone include concrete, steel, aluminum, resin agglomerated stone, and plastics.

^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 D for definitions.