

STONE (CRUSHED)¹(Data in million metric tons unless otherwise noted)²

Domestic Production and Use: Crushed stone valued at more than \$11 billion was produced by 1,550 companies operating 4,000 quarries, 91 underground mines, and 210 sales/distribution yards in 50 States. Leading States, in descending order of production, were Texas, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Ohio, Illinois, Virginia, Indiana, Tennessee, Florida, and North Carolina, which together accounted for one-half of the total crushed stone output. Of the total crushed stone produced in 2012, about 69% was limestone and dolomite; 14%, granite; 7%, traprock; 5%, miscellaneous stone; 4%, sandstone and quartzite; and the remaining 1% was divided, in descending order of tonnage, among marble, volcanic cinder and scoria, slate, shell, and calcareous marl. It is estimated that of the 1.24 billion tons of crushed stone consumed in the United States in 2012, 46% was reported by use, 27% was reported for unspecified uses, and 27% of the total consumed was estimated for nonrespondents to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) canvasses. Of the 512 million tons reported by use, 82% was used as construction material, mostly for road construction and maintenance; 10%, for cement manufacturing; 2% each, for lime manufacturing and for agricultural uses; and 4%, for special and miscellaneous uses and products. To provide a more accurate estimate of the consumption patterns for crushed stone, the “unspecified uses—reported and estimated,” as defined in the USGS Minerals Yearbook, are not included in the above percentages.

The estimated output of crushed stone in the 48 conterminous States shipped for consumption in the first 6 months of 2012 was 532 million tons, a increase of 5.8% compared with that of the same period of 2011. Second quarter shipments for consumption increased slightly compared with those of the same period of 2011. Additional production information, by quarter for each State, geographic division, and the United States, is reported in the USGS quarterly Mineral Industry Surveys for Crushed Stone and Construction Sand and Gravel.

Salient Statistics—United States:	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012^e
Production	1,450	1,160	1,160	1,160	1,240
Recycled material	29	29	26	27	28
Imports for consumption	21	12	15	15	14
Exports	1	1	1	1	1
Consumption, apparent	1,500	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,280
Price, average value, dollars per metric ton	9.36	9.73	9.57	9.68	9.78
Employment, quarry and mill, number ^{e,3}	81,000	81,000	79,000	79,000	79,000
Net import reliance ⁴ as a percentage of apparent consumption	1	1	1	1	1

Recycling: Road surfaces made of asphalt and crushed stone and, to a lesser extent, cement concrete surface layers and structures were recycled on a limited but increasing basis in most States. Asphalt road surfaces and concrete were recycled in 49 States and Puerto Rico. The amount of material reported to be recycled increased by 11% in 2012 compared with that of the previous year.

Import Sources (2008–11): Canada, 43%; Mexico, 38%; The Bahamas, 17%; and other, 2%.

Tariff: Item	Number	Normal Trade Relations
Crushed stone	2517.10.00	<u>12–31–12</u> Free.

Depletion Allowance: (Domestic) 14% for some special uses; 5%, if used as ballast, concrete aggregate, riprap, road material, and similar purposes.

Government Stockpile: None.

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Events, Trends, and Issues: Crushed stone production was about 1.24 billion tons in 2012, a 7% increase compared with that of 2011. Apparent consumption also increased to about 1.28 billion tons. Demand for crushed stone was slightly higher in 2012 because of the apparent end of the slowdown in activity that some of the principal construction markets have experienced during the last 6 years. Long-term increases in construction aggregates demand will be influenced by activity in the public and private construction sectors, as well as by construction work related to security measures being implemented around the Nation. The underlying factors that would support a rise in prices of crushed stone are expected to be present in 2013, especially in and near metropolitan areas.

The crushed stone industry continued to be concerned with environmental, health, and safety regulations. Shortages of crushed stone in some urban and industrialized areas are expected to continue to increase owing to local zoning regulations and land-development alternatives. These issues are expected to continue and to cause new crushed stone quarries to locate away from large population centers.

World Mine Production and Reserves:

	Mine production		Reserves ⁵
	2011	2012 ^e	
United States	1,160	1,240	Adequate except where special types are needed or where local shortages exist.
Other countries ⁶	NA	NA	
World total	NA	NA	

World Resources: Stone resources of the world are very large. Supply of high-purity limestone and dolomite suitable for specialty uses is limited in many geographic areas. The largest resources of high-purity limestone and dolomite in the United States are in the central and eastern parts of the country.

Substitutes: Crushed stone substitutes for roadbuilding include sand and gravel, and iron and steel slag. Substitutes for crushed stone used as construction aggregates include sand and gravel, iron and steel slag, sintered or expanded clay or shale, and perlite or vermiculite.

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹See also Stone (Dimension).

²[See Appendix A for conversion to short tons.](#)

³Including office staff.

⁴Defined as imports – exports.

⁵[See Appendix C for resource/reserve definitions and information concerning data sources.](#)

⁶Consistent production information is not available for other countries owing to a wide variety of ways in which countries report their crushed 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 USGS Minerals Yearbook.