

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

Domestic Production and Use: In 2015, 1.32 billion metric tons of crushed stone valued at more than \$13.8 billion was produced by 1,430 companies operating 3,700 quarries, 82 underground mines, and 187 sales/distribution yards in 50 States. Leading States were, in descending order of production, Texas, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Florida, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, North Carolina, and Virginia, which together accounted for more than one-half of the total crushed stone output. Of the total domestic crushed stone produced in 2015, about 70% was limestone and dolomite; 13%, granite; 6%, traprock; 5%, miscellaneous stone; 4%, sandstone and quartzite; and the remaining 2% was divided, in descending order of tonnage, among marble, volcanic cinder and scoria, calcareous marl, slate, and shell. It is estimated that of the 1.39 billion tons of crushed stone consumed in the United States in 2015, 76% was used as construction material, mostly for road construction and maintenance; 11% for cement manufacturing; 7% for lime manufacturing; 4% for other chemical, special, and miscellaneous uses and products; and 2% for agricultural uses.

The estimated output of crushed stone in the 48 conterminous States shipped for consumption in the first 9 months of 2015 was 991 million tons, an increase of 6% compared with that of the same period of 2014. Third quarter shipments for consumption increased by 7% compared with those of the same period of 2014. Additional production information, by quarter for each State, geographic division, and the United States, is reported in the U.S. Geological Survey quarterly Mineral Industry Surveys for Crushed Stone and Construction Sand and Gravel.

Salient Statistics—United States:	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015^e
Production	1,160	1,180	1,180	1,250	1,320
Recycled material	27	31	41	42	42
Imports for consumption	15	15	18	20	22
Exports	1	1	(³)	(³)	(³)
Consumption, apparent	1,200	1,220	1,240	1,310	1,390
Price, average value, dollars per metric ton	9.60	9.73	9.89	10.15	10.46
Employment, quarry and mill, number ⁴	67,000	66,200	65,900	65,600	65,500
Net import reliance ⁵ as a percentage of apparent consumption	1	1	1	2	2

Recycling: Road surfaces made of asphalt and crushed stone and portland 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 all 50 States. The amount of material reported to be recycled increased by 3% in 2015 compared with that of the previous year.

Import Sources (2011–2014): Mexico, 71%; The Bahamas, 16%; Canada, 7%; Honduras, 5%; and other, 1%.

Tariff: Item	Number	Normal Trade Relations
Crushed stone	2517.10.0000	<u>12–31–15</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 1.32 billion tons in 2015, an increase of 6% compared with that of 2014. Apparent consumption also increased, to about 1.39 billion tons. Demand for crushed stone was higher in 2015 because of increased demand during every quarter since the second quarter of 2013, which offset the slowdown in activity that some of the principal construction markets had experienced during the previous years. With significantly stronger construction activity across the country in 2015 and recovery in the private sector and residential construction experiencing a level of growth not seen since late 2005, consumption of construction aggregates is likely to continue to increase. It is expected that the increased consumption in 2015 from that in 2014 will reach or exceed the historical annual average of the past 50 years, which was a 2% to 4% increase per year. The underlying factors that would support a rise in prices of crushed stone are expected to be present in 2016, especially in and near metropolitan areas.

World Mine Production and Reserves:

	Mine production		Reserves ⁶
	2014	2015 ^e	
United States	1,250	1,320	Adequate, except where special types are needed or where local shortages exist.
Other countries ⁷	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 construction sand and gravel, iron and steel slag, sintered or expanded clay or shale, perlite, or vermiculite.

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹See also Stone (Dimension).

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

³Less than ½ unit.

⁴Including office staff. Source: Mine Safety and Health Administration.

⁵Defined as imports – exports.

⁶See [Appendix C](#) for resource/reserve definitions and information concerning data sources.

⁷Consistent 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.