

STONE (DIMENSION)¹

(Data in thousand metric tons unless otherwise noted)

Domestic Production and Use: Approximately 1.5 million tons of dimension stone, valued at \$283 million, was sold or used by U.S. producers in 2007. Dimension stone was produced by 110 companies, operating 135 quarries, in 35 States. Leading producer States, in descending order by tonnage, were Wisconsin, Indiana, Georgia, Vermont, and Massachusetts. These five States accounted for about 60% of the production. Leading producer States, in descending order by value, were Indiana, Wisconsin, Vermont, Georgia, and South Dakota. These States contributed about 54% of the value of domestic production. Approximately 42%, by tonnage, of dimension stone sold or used was limestone, followed by granite (32%), sandstone (15%), miscellaneous stone (6%), marble (4%), and slate (1%). By value, the leading sales or uses were for granite (40%), followed by limestone (36%), sandstone (8%), marble (7%), miscellaneous stone (5%), and slate (4%). Dressed stone represented 56% of the tonnage and 61% of the value of all the dimension stone sold or used by domestic producers, including exports. The leading uses and distribution of dressed stone, by tonnage, were in panels and veneer, tile, blackboards, exports, and unlisted and unspecified uses (28%), flagging (27%), and ashlars and partially squared pieces (20%). Rough stone mainly was sold for building and construction (50%), and flagging, exports, and unlisted and unspecified uses (20%), by tonnage.

Salient Statistics—United States:²

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007^e
Sold or used by producers:					
Tonnage	1,340	1,460	1,360	1,330	1,500
Value, million dollars	268	281	269	265	283
Imports for consumption, value, million dollars	1,390	1,790	2,180	2,500	2,700
Exports, value, million dollars	64	64	66	76	133
Consumption, apparent, value, million dollars	1,590	2,010	2,380	2,690	2,850
Price	Variable, depending on type of product				
Employment, quarry and mill, number ³	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Net import reliance ⁴ as a percentage of apparent consumption (based on value)	83	86	89	90	90
Granite only:					
Production	463	429	416	428	467
Exports (rough and finished)	144	143	135	108	125
Price	Variable, depending on type of product				
Employment, quarry and mill, number ³	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500

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

Import Sources (2003-06 by value): Dimension stone: Italy, 20%; Turkey, 17%; China, 12%; Mexico, 7%; and other, 44%. Granite only: Brazil, 31%; Italy, 19%; India, 16%; Canada, 8%; and other, 26%.

Tariff: Dimension stone tariffs ranged from free to 6.5% ad valorem, according to type, degree of preparation, shape, and size, for countries with normal trade relations in 2007. Most crude or rough trimmed stone was imported at 3.0% ad valorem or less.

Depletion Allowance: 14% (Domestic and foreign); slate used or sold as sintered or burned lightweight aggregate, 7.5% (Domestic and foreign); dimension stone used for rubble and other nonbuilding purposes, 5% (Domestic and foreign).

Government Stockpile: None.

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Events, Trends, and Issues: The United States is the world's largest market for dimension stone. Imports of dimension stone continued to increase. Imports increased by 8% in value to about \$2.7 billion compared with those of 2006. Dimension stone exports nearly doubled to about \$133 million. Apparent consumption, by value, was \$2.85 billion in 2007—a \$160 million increase from that of 2006. Dimension stone for new construction and refurbishment is being used more commonly in both commercial and residential markets. Increased domestic production and imports, along with improved quarrying, finishing, handling technology, greater varieties of stone, and the rising costs of alternative construction materials, are among the factors that suggest the demand for dimension stone will continue to increase during the next 5 years.

World Mine Production, Reserves, and Reserve Base:

	Mine production		Reserves and reserve base ⁵
	2006	2007 ^e	
United States	1,330	1,500	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: In certain applications, substitutes for dimension stone include aluminum, brick, ceramic tile, concrete, glass, plastics, resin-agglomerated stone, and steel.

^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.

⁵[See Appendix C for definitions.](#)