

STONE (DIMENSION)¹

(Data in thousand metric tons unless otherwise noted)

Domestic Production and Use: Approximately 1.45 million tons of dimension stone, valued at \$294 million, was sold or used by U.S. producers in 2010. Dimension stone was produced by 176 companies, operating 249 quarries, in 37 States. Leading producer States, in descending order by tonnage, were Texas, Wisconsin, Indiana, Georgia, and Vermont. These five States accounted for about 56% of the production and contributed about 49% of the value of domestic production. Approximately 34%, by tonnage, of dimension stone sold or used was limestone, followed by granite (29%), miscellaneous stone (19%), sandstone (15%), marble (2%), and slate (1%). By value, the leading sales or uses were for granite (34%), followed by limestone (32%), miscellaneous stone (15%), sandstone (11%), marble (4%), and slate (4%). Rough stone represented 53% of the tonnage and 40% of the value of all the dimension stone sold or used by domestic producers, including exports. The leading uses and distribution of rough stone, by tonnage, were in building and construction (47%), and in irregular-shaped stone (30%). Dressed stone mainly was sold for other uses, which included panels and veneer, tile, blackboards, exports, unspecified uses, structural and sanitary, and unlisted uses (27%), ashlar and partially squared pieces (24%), and curbing (19%), by tonnage.

Salient Statistics—United States:²

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010^e
Sold or used by producers:					
Tonnage	1,850	1,920	1,800	1,620	1,450
Value, million dollars	334	346	324	328	294
Imports for consumption, value, million dollars	2,500	2,540	2,150	1,350	1,800
Exports, value, million dollars	76	74	66	48	130
Consumption, apparent, value, million dollars	2,760	2,810	2,400	1,630	1,960
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)	88	88	87	80	85
Granite only:					
Production	505	536	464	469	470
Exports (rough and finished)	108	112	103	75	128
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 (2006–09 by value): All dimension stone: Brazil, 21%; China, 20%; Italy, 17%; Turkey, 16%; and other, 26%. Granite only: Brazil, 37%; China, 26%; Italy, 16%; India, 14%; and other, 7%.

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 2010. 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 increased in value to about \$1.8 billion compared with \$1.4 billion in 2009. Dimension stone exports increased to about \$130 million. Apparent consumption, by value, was \$1.96 billion in 2010—a \$330 million, or 20%, increase from that of 2009. Dimension stone for construction and refurbishment was used in both commercial and residential markets, with 2010 activity improving compared with that of 2009. The weakening of the U.S. dollar has aided the U.S. export market for dimension stone. Additionally, the sluggish U.S. economy tended to decrease demand for and imports of dimension stone in the near term.

World Mine Production and Reserves:

	Mine production		Reserves ⁵
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010^e</u>	
United States	1,620	1,450	Adequate except for certain special types and local shortages.
Other countries	<u>NA</u>	<u>NA</u>	
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 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.

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