

STONE (DIMENSION)¹

(Data in thousand metric tons unless otherwise noted)

Domestic Production and Use: Approximately 2.73 million tons of dimension stone, valued at \$440 million, was sold or used by U.S. producers in 2017. Dimension stone was produced by 205 companies, operating 275 quarries, in 34 States. Leading producer States were, in descending order by tonnage, Texas, Indiana, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, and Georgia. These five States accounted for about 69% of the production and contributed about 59% of the value of domestic production. Approximately 54%, by tonnage, of dimension stone sold or used was limestone, followed by granite (21%), sandstone (14%), miscellaneous stone (8%), marble (2%), and slate (1%). By value, the leading sales or uses were for limestone (41%), followed by granite (29%), sandstone (11%), miscellaneous stone (10%), marble (5%), and slate (4%). Rough stone represented 58% of the tonnage and 44% 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 (48%) and in irregular-shaped stone (40%). The leading uses and distribution of dressed stone, by tonnage, were in ashlars and partially squared pieces (39%), curbing (14%), and other uses (13%).

Salient Statistics—United States:	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017^e
Sold or used by producers ²					
Tonnage	2,280	2,470	2,630	2,780	2,730
Value, million dollars	459	470	461	445	440
Imports for consumption, value, million dollars	2,100	2,230	2,380	2,170	2,200
Exports, value, million dollars	61	70	75	66	71
Consumption, apparent, value, million dollars ³	2,500	2,630	2,760	2,550	2,570
Price	Variable, depending on type of product				
Employment, quarry and mill, number ⁴	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	3,900
Net import reliance ⁵ as a percentage of apparent consumption (based on value)	82	82	84	83	83
Granite only, sold or used by producers:					
Tonnage	496	519	585	593	590
Value, million dollars	132	117	130	130	130
Imports, value, million dollars	1,300	1,330	1,330	1,110	1,060
Exports, value, million dollars	30	32	27	21	23
Consumption, apparent, value, million dollars ³	1,400	1,420	1,430	1,220	1,170
Price	Variable, depending on type of product				
Employment, quarry and mill, number ⁴	880	880	880	880	880
Net import reliance ⁵ as a percentage of apparent consumption (based on value)	91	91	91	89	89

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

Import Sources (2013–16 by value): All dimension stone: China, 26%; Brazil, 25%; Italy, 22%; Turkey, 12%; and other, 15%. Granite only: Brazil, 47%; China, 23%; India, 15%; Italy, 10%; and other, 5%.

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 2017. 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.

STONE (DIMENSION)

Events, Trends, and Issues: The United States is one of the world's leading markets for dimension stone. For 2017, total imports of dimension stone remained essentially unchanged in value compared with 2016. In 2017, mixed to slight growth in new residential construction, resulted in lower domestic production of dimension stone compared with the previous year. Dimension stone for construction and refurbishment was used in commercial and residential markets; in 2017, the renovation market for existing homes remained healthy and robust—continuing a trend from the previous year. These factors contributed to a slight rise in dimension stone imports. Dimension stone exports increased to about \$71 million. Apparent consumption, by value, was estimated to be \$2.6 billion in 2017—a slight increase from that of 2016.

The dimension stone industry continued to be concerned with safety and health regulations and environmental restrictions in 2017, especially those concerning crystalline silica exposure. In 2016, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration finalized new regulations to further restrict exposure to crystalline silica at quarry sites and other industries that use materials containing it. Phased implementation of the new regulations are scheduled to take effect from 2017 through 2021.

According to Italy's Internazionale Marmi e Macchine Carrara S.p.A., world dimension granite and marble production, including the United States, was estimated to be approximately 155 million tons in 2014, the last year for which data were available. Although some small-scale production was likely in many nations, dimension granite and marble was produced and officially reported in 27 countries. The top five producing countries in 2014 were, in descending order by tonnage, China, India, Turkey, Iran, and Italy, and these countries accounted for about 74% of the world's dimension granite and marble production. Global production of dimension granite and marble increased by 12% in 2014 compared with that of 2013. The United States ranked 18th in world production of dimension granite and marble in 2014.

World Mine Production and Reserves:

	Mine production		Reserves ⁶
	2016	2017 ^e	
United States	2,780	2,730	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 aluminum, brick, ceramic tile, concrete, glass, plastics, resin-agglomerated stone, and steel.

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹See also Stone (Crushed).

²Includes granite, limestone, and other types of dimension stone.

³Defined as sold or used (value) + imports (value) – exports (value).

⁴Excludes office staff.

⁵Defined as imports – exports.

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