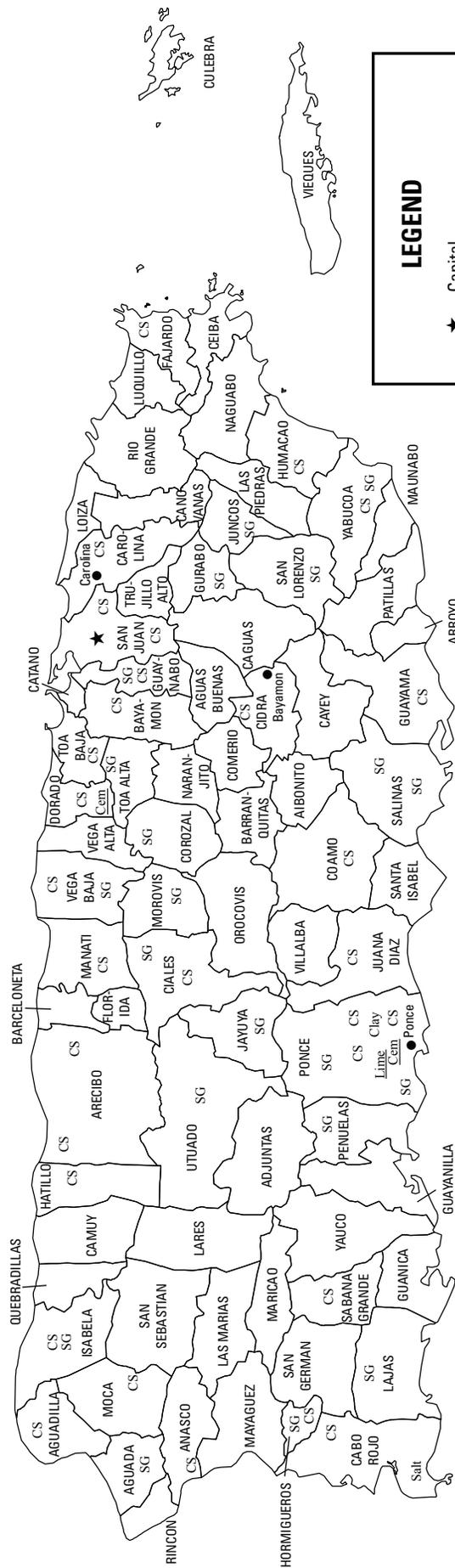




2012–2013 Minerals Yearbook

PUERTO RICO [ADVANCE RELEASE]

PUERTO RICO



LEGEND

- ★ Capital
- City
- Municipality boundary

MINERAL SYMBOLS
(Principal producing areas)

- Cem Cement plant
- Clay Common clay
- CS Crushed stone
- Lime Lime plant
- Salt Salt
- SG Construction sand and gravel



THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF PUERTO RICO AND THE ADMINISTERED ISLANDS

In 2013, the value of the nonfuel mineral production¹ in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico decreased to \$66.3 million,² 0.09% of the total U.S. nonfuel mineral production, ranking it 48th if compared with the 50 States. In 2012, the corresponding value was \$79.6 million,² 0.1% of the U.S. total nonfuel mineral production, again ranking it 48th if compared with the 50 States. In 2013, on a per capita basis, nonfuel mineral production in Puerto Rico had a value of \$18 compared with the U.S. average of \$238. In 2012, the per capita value was \$22 compared with the U.S. average of \$241.

The value of nonfuel mineral production in Puerto Rico² for the years 2006 through 2013 was as follows (in millions of dollars): \$84.1 (2006), \$105 (2007), \$90.0 (2008), \$84.7 (2009), \$69.4 (2010), \$78.9 (2011), \$79.6 (2012), and \$66.3 (2013).

In 2013, there were 568 employees in nonfuel mineral mines in Puerto Rico and 523 in mills and preparation plants. In 2012, the corresponding numbers were 649 in nonfuel mineral mines and 525 in mills and preparation plants (U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration, 2013, p. 14; 2014, p. 14). The mining sector's contribution to Puerto Rico's gross domestic product (GDP) decreased by about 2.5% from 2012 to 2013; as a whole, Puerto Rico's GDP decreased by about 2% (Puerto Rico Bureau of Labor Statistics, p. 7, 2014).

Other than aggregates, Puerto Rico had two cement plants that produced masonry and portland cement; one of these

¹The terms "nonfuel mineral production" and related "values" encompass variations in meaning, depending upon the mineral products. Production may be measured by mine shipments, mineral commodity sales, or marketable production (including consumption by producers) as is applicable to the individual mineral commodity.

All USGS mineral production data published in this chapter are those available as of February 2016. Data in this report are rounded to three significant digits and percentages are calculated from unrounded data. All USGS Mineral Industry Surveys and USGS Minerals Yearbook chapters—mineral commodity, State, and country—can be retrieved over the Internet at <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>.

²Partial total; excludes construction sand and gravel and values that must be withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

cement companies also had a lime plant that produced high-calcium hydrated lime and high-calcium quicklime. Cement was both imported and exported from Puerto Rico; on balance more cement was consumed in Puerto Rico than produced, despite relatively low capacity utilization. Most cement in Puerto Rico was shipped to building material dealers as bagged cement; in the 50 States, ready-mixed concrete was by far the leading end use of portland cement (van Oss, 2015). There was one salt operation in Puerto Rico that produced solar salt from sea water and had markets in the Eastern United States and the Caribbean for chemical, ice-control, industrial, and water softening applications (Puerto Rico International Salt Corporation, [undated]). Some common clay was also produced. Table 1 shows production quantities and their values for Puerto Rico's nonfuel mineral commodities.

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TABLE 1
 NONFUEL MINERAL PRODUCTION IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO AND ISLANDS ADMINISTERED
 BY THE UNITED STATES^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	2011		2012		2013	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Puerto Rico:						
Cement:						
Masonry	--	--	W	W	W	W
Portland	744	W	783	W	610	W
Clays, common ^c	54	328	55	328	55	328
Lime	W	3,760 ^e	W	3,760 ^e	W	3,760 ^e
Salt ^c	45	1,500	45	1,500	45	1,500
Stone, crushed	7,140 ^r	73,400 ^r	7,370	74,100	5,960	60,800
Total	XX	78,900 ^r	XX	79,600	XX	66,300

^cEstimated. ^rRevised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; excluded from "Total." XX Not applicable.

¹Production as measured by mine shipments, sales, or marketable production (including consumption by producers).

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.