

STONE (DIMENSION)¹

(Data in thousand metric tons unless otherwise noted)

Domestic Production and Use: Approximately 2.8 million tons of dimension stone, valued at \$450 million, was sold or used by U.S. producers in 2018. Dimension stone was produced by 195 companies operating 251 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 quantity and contributed about 59% of the value of domestic production. Approximately 48%, by tonnage, of dimension stone sold or used was limestone, followed by sandstone (23%), granite (18%), miscellaneous stone (7%), and marble and slate (2% each). By value, the leading sales or uses were for limestone (46%), followed by granite (25%), sandstone (12%), miscellaneous stone (8%), slate (5%), and marble (4%). Rough stone represented 58% of the tonnage and 45% 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 (51%) and in irregular-shaped stone (38%). The leading uses and distribution of dressed stone, by tonnage, were in ashlars and partially squared pieces (43%), flagging (14%), and slabs and blocks for building and construction (11%).

Salient Statistics—United States:	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018^e
Sold or used by producers: ²					
Tonnage	2,470	2,630	2,790	2,810	2,800
Value, million dollars	470	461	445	446	450
Imports for consumption, value, million dollars	2,230	2,380	2,170	2,110	2,100
Exports, value, million dollars	70	75	66	70	71
Consumption, apparent, value, million dollars ³	2,630	2,760	2,550	2,490	2,500
Price	Variable, depending on type of product				
Employment, quarry and mill, number ⁴	4,000	4,000	4,000	3,900	3,900
Net import reliance ⁵ as a percentage of apparent consumption (based on value)	82	84	83	82	82
Granite only, sold or used by producers:					
Tonnage	519	585	593	504	500
Value, million dollars	117	130	130	110	110
Imports, value, million dollars	1,330	1,330	1,100	1,010	1,000
Exports, value, million dollars	32	27	21	22	22
Consumption, apparent, value, million dollars ³	1,420	1,430	1,210	1,100	1,100
Price	Variable, depending on type of product				
Employment, quarry and mill, number ⁴	880	880	880	800	800
Net import reliance ⁵ as a percentage of apparent consumption (based on value)	91	91	89	89	90

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

Import Sources (2014–17 by value): All dimension stone: Brazil, 25%; China, 25%; Italy, 22%; Turkey, 14%; and other, 14%. Granite only: Brazil, 47%; China, 24%; India, 16%; Italy, 9%; and other, 4%.

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 2018. Most crude or roughly trimmed stone was imported at 3.7% 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 remained one of the world's leading markets for dimension stone. In 2018, total imports of dimension stone were unchanged in value compared with those in 2017. In 2018, mixed to steady activity in new residential construction resulted in essentially unchanged domestic production of dimension stone compared with the previous year. Dimension stone for construction and refurbishment was used in commercial and residential markets; in 2018, the renovation market for existing homes remained steady and unchanged compared with that in the previous year. These factors contributed to a slight decline in dimension stone imports. Dimension stone exports increased to about \$71 million. Apparent consumption, by value, was estimated to be \$2.5 billion in 2018—about the same as that of 2017.

The dimension stone industry continued to be concerned with safety and health regulations and environmental restrictions in 2018, 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 was scheduled to take effect through 2021, affecting various industries that use materials containing silica. Most provisions of the new regulations became enforceable on June 23, 2018, for general industry and maritime operations.

Although some small-scale production was likely in many nations, dimension granite and marble was produced and officially reported in 27 countries. The leading five producing countries, in descending order by tonnage, were thought to be China, India, Turkey, Iran, and Italy.

World Mine Production and Reserves:

	Mine production		Reserves ⁶
	2017	2018 ^e	
United States	2,810	2,800	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.