

## GEMSTONES<sup>1</sup>

(Data in million dollars unless otherwise specified)

**Domestic Production and Use:** The combined value of U.S. natural and synthetic gemstone output in 2023 was an estimated \$99 million, a slight increase compared with that in 2022. Domestic gemstone production included agate, beryl, coral, diamond, garnet, jade, jasper, opal, pearl, quartz, sapphire, shell, topaz, tourmaline, turquoise, and many other gem materials. In descending order of production value, Arizona led the Nation in natural gemstone production, followed by Oregon, Nevada, California, and Montana. These five States accounted for 64% of the natural gemstone production in the United States. Synthetic gemstones were manufactured by eight companies in North Carolina, California, Oregon, Maryland, New York, South Carolina, Wisconsin, and Arizona, in descending order of production value. U.S. synthetic gemstone production increased slightly compared with that in 2022. Major gemstone end uses were carvings, gem and mineral collections, and jewelry.

<b><u>Salient Statistics—United States:</u></b>	<b><u>2019</u></b>	<b><u>2020</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b><u>2023<sup>e</sup></u></b>
Production: <sup>2</sup>					
Natural <sup>3</sup>	9.22	9.82	9.48	9.95	9.9
Laboratory-created (synthetic)	94.3	55.0	79.3	87.1	89
Imports for consumption	24,400	16,300	24,600	28,000	25,000
Exports, excluding reexports	1,020	1,330	992	1,890	3,800
Consumption, apparent <sup>4</sup>	23,500	15,000	23,700	26,200	21,000
Price	Variable, depending on size, type, and quality				
Employment, mine, number <sup>e</sup>	1,120	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100
Net import reliance <sup>5</sup> as a percentage of apparent consumption	99	99	99	99	99

**Recycling:** Gemstones are often recycled by being resold as estate jewelry, reset, or recut, but this report does not account for those stones.

**Import Sources (2019–22, by value):** Diamond: India, 47%; Israel, 27%; Belgium, 11%; South Africa, 4%; and other, 11%. Diamond imports accounted for an average of 89% of the total value of gem imports in 2019–22.

<b><u>Tariff:</u></b>	<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>Normal Trade Relations</u></b> <b><u>12–31–23</u></b>
	Coral and similar materials, unworked	0508.00.0000	Free.
	Imitation gemstones	3926.90.4000	2.8% ad valorem.
	Imitation pearls and imitation pearl beads, not strung	7018.10.1000	4% ad valorem.
	Imitation gemstones	7018.10.2000	Free.
	Pearls, natural, graded and temporarily strung	7101.10.3000	Free.
	Pearls, natural, other	7101.10.6000	Free.
	Pearls, cultured	7101.21.0000	Free.
	Diamonds, unworked or sawn	7102.31.0000	Free.
	Diamonds, cut, 0.5 carat or less	7102.39.0010	Free.
	Diamonds, cut, more than 0.5 carat	7102.39.0050	Free.
	Other nondiamond gemstones, unworked	7103.10.2000	Free.
	Other nondiamond gemstones, uncut	7103.10.4000	10.5% ad valorem.
	Rubies, cut	7103.91.0010	Free.
	Sapphires, cut	7103.91.0020	Free.
	Emeralds, cut	7103.91.0030	Free.
	Other nondiamond gemstones, cut	7103.99.1000	Free.
	Other nondiamond gemstones, worked	7103.99.5000	10.5% ad valorem.
	Synthetic diamonds, unworked or roughly shaped	7104.21.0000	3% ad valorem.
	Synthetic gemstones, unworked or roughly shaped	7104.29.0000	3% ad valorem.
	Synthetic diamonds, cut but not set	7104.91.1000	Free.
	Synthetic diamonds, other	7104.91.5000	6.4% ad valorem.
	Synthetic gemstones, worked or cut but not set	7104.99.1000	Free.
	Synthetic gemstones, other	7104.99.5000	6.4% ad valorem.

**Depletion Allowance:** 14% (domestic and foreign).

**Government Stockpile:** None.

## GEMSTONES

**Events, Trends, and Issues:** Total world diamond production in 2023 was estimated to have decreased slightly from that in 2022. In 2023, Russia was the world's leading diamond producer and exporter by volume. Russia's state-owned diamond mining company produced nearly one-third of all natural diamonds. The United States was one of the world's leading markets for polished diamonds. In April 2022, the U.S. Government banned the import of rough and finished diamonds from Russia, and the U.S. Treasury Department placed sanctions on the Russian state-owned diamond-mining company to prevent diamond revenues from funding the conflict with Ukraine. During the last part of 2023, the Group of Seven (G7; representatives of the seven leading industrial nations) and the European Union were considering regulatory actions to ban the import of Russian rough and polished diamonds, to take effect at the beginning of 2024.

In 2023, the global natural diamond market experienced a slowdown, which affected the entire diamond pipeline. Fewer jewelry sales led to a decline in polished trading and a buildup of midstream inventory, which in turn led to a decline in diamond rough sales and lower prices, affecting the ability of mining companies to maintain operations. This slowdown was a result of decreased demand for luxury goods and an increasing popularity of synthetic gemstones.

In 2023, U.S. imports for consumption of gemstones were valued at about \$25 billion, which was a 10% decrease compared with \$28.0 billion in 2022. The decrease in U.S. total gemstone imports combined with the increase in total gemstone exports contributed to a 19% decrease in apparent consumption to a value of \$21 billion in 2023 compared with \$26.2 billion in 2022. The U.S. apparent consumption value was 92% gem-quality diamond and 8% nondiamond gemstones. The United States was one of the leading global markets in terms of sales and is expected to continue as a dominant global gemstone consumer.

### World Gem-Quality Natural Diamond Mine Production and Reserves:

	Mine production <sup>6</sup>		Reserves <sup>7</sup>
	2022	2023 <sup>e</sup>	
United States	—	—	World reserves of diamond-bearing deposits are substantial. No reserves data were available for other gemstones.
Angola	7,890	7,900	
Botswana	17,100	17,000	
Brazil	158	160	
Canada	16,200	15,000	
Congo (Kinshasa)	1,980	2,000	
Guinea	103	100	
Lesotho	728	730	
Namibia	2,050	2,000	
Russia	23,500	24,000	
Sierra Leone	551	550	
South Africa	3,860	3,800	
Tanzania	319	320	
Zimbabwe	446	440	
Other countries	302	300	
World total (rounded)	75,200	74,000	

**World Resources:**<sup>7</sup> Most diamond ore bodies have a diamond content that ranges from less than 1 carat to about 6 carats per ton of ore. The major diamond reserves are in southern Africa, Australia, Canada, and Russia.

**Substitutes:** Glass, plastics, and other materials are substituted for natural gemstones. Synthetic gemstones (manufactured materials that have the same chemical and physical properties as natural gemstones) are common substitutes. Simulants (materials that appear to be gems but differ in chemical and physical characteristics) also are frequently substituted for natural gemstones.

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. — Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes industrial diamond and industrial garnet. See the Diamond (Industrial) and Garnet (Industrial) chapters.

<sup>2</sup>Estimated minimum production.

<sup>3</sup>Includes production of freshwater shell.

<sup>4</sup>Defined as production (natural and synthetic) + imports (natural and synthetic) – exports (natural and synthetic, excluding reexports).

<sup>5</sup>Defined as imports (natural and synthetic) – exports (natural and synthetic, excluding reexports).

<sup>6</sup>Data in thousands of carats of gem-quality natural diamond.

<sup>7</sup>See Appendix C for resource and reserve definitions and information concerning data sources.