

STONE (DIMENSION)¹

(Data in thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Domestic Production and Use: Approximately 2.3 million tons of dimension stone, valued at \$410 million, was sold or used by U.S. producers in 2023. Dimension stone was produced by 176 companies operating 224 quarries in 33 States. Leading producing States were, in descending order by tonnage, Texas, Wisconsin, Indiana, Vermont, and Georgia. These five States accounted for about 70% of the production quantity and contributed about 60% of the value of domestic production.

Approximately 51%, by tonnage, of dimension stone sold or used was limestone, followed by granite (20%), sandstone (14%), and dolomite (4%); the remaining 11% was divided, in descending order of tonnage, among miscellaneous stone, quartzite, marble, traprock, and slate. By value, the leading sales or uses were for limestone (49%), granite (25%), sandstone (9%), and dolomite and quartzite (4% each); the remaining 9% was divided, in descending order of total value, among slate, marble, miscellaneous stone, and traprock.

Rough stone represented 58% of the tonnage and 51% 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 (62%) and in irregular-shaped stone (29%). The leading uses and distribution of dressed stone, by tonnage, were in ashlar and partially squared pieces (47%); curbing (12%); slabs and blocks for building and construction, and flagging (11% each).

Salient Statistics—United States:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023^e
Sold or used by producers: ²					
Quantity	2,510	2,120	2,290	2,380	2,300
Value, million dollars	415	397	413	421	410
Imports for consumption, value, million dollars	1,890	1,750	2,200	2,320	2,600
Exports, value, million dollars	61	48	50	54	50
Consumption, apparent, value, million dollars ³	2,250	2,100	2,560	2,680	3,000
Price	Variable, depending on type of product				
Employment, quarry and mill, number ⁴	3,900	3,800	3,700	3,800	3,700
Net import reliance ⁵ as a percentage of apparent consumption (based on value)	82	81	84	84	86
Granite only:					
Quantity, sold or used by producers	430	436	445	491	450
Value, sold or used by producers, million dollars	108	105	108	102	130
Imports, value, million dollars	913	859	900	902	880
Exports, value, million dollars	17	13	12	13	13
Consumption, apparent, value, million dollars ³	1,000	951	996	991	1,000
Price	Variable, depending on type of product				
Employment, quarry and mill, number ⁴	800	800	800	800	800
Net import reliance ⁵ as a percentage of apparent consumption (based on value)	89	89	89	90	87

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

Import Sources (2019–22, by value): All dimension stone: Brazil, 22%; China,⁶ 19%; Italy, 16%; Turkey, 14%; and other, 29%. Granite only: Brazil, 45%; India, 23%; China,⁶ 17%; Italy, 5%; and other, 10%.

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 2022. Most crude or roughly trimmed stone was imported at 3.7% ad valorem or less.

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Depletion Allowance: All dimension stone, 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.

Events, Trends, and Issues: The United States remained one of the world's leading markets for dimension stone in 2023. In 2023, the value of domestic sales of dimension stone was estimated to have decreased by 3% compared with that in 2022. The funding of construction projects continued through the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act with over \$370 billion in awards announced. In 2023, U.S construction spending increased by an estimated 6% from that in 2022. However, there was an estimated 13% decrease in new housing starts.

The Dimension Stone Committee of the standard development organization named ASTM International has proposed a new standard that tests the physical properties of dimension and other natural building stone under freeze-thaw conditions. The testing procedures would produce additional data on the mechanical performance of different building stones that are subjected to especially cold and harsh environments.

The dimension stone industry continued to address safety and health regulations and environmental restrictions in 2023, 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 industrial operations that use materials containing it. Final implementation of the new regulations took effect in 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.

World Mine Production and Reserves:

	Mine production		Reserves ⁷
	2022	2023 ^e	
United States	2,380	2,300	Adequate, except for certain special types and local shortages.
Other countries	NA	NA	
World total	NA	NA	

World Resources:⁷ 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 the Stone (Crushed) chapter.

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

³Defined as sold or used + imports – exports.

⁴Excludes office staff.

⁵Defined as imports – exports.

⁶Includes Hong Kong.

⁷See Appendix C for resource and reserve definitions and information concerning data sources.