

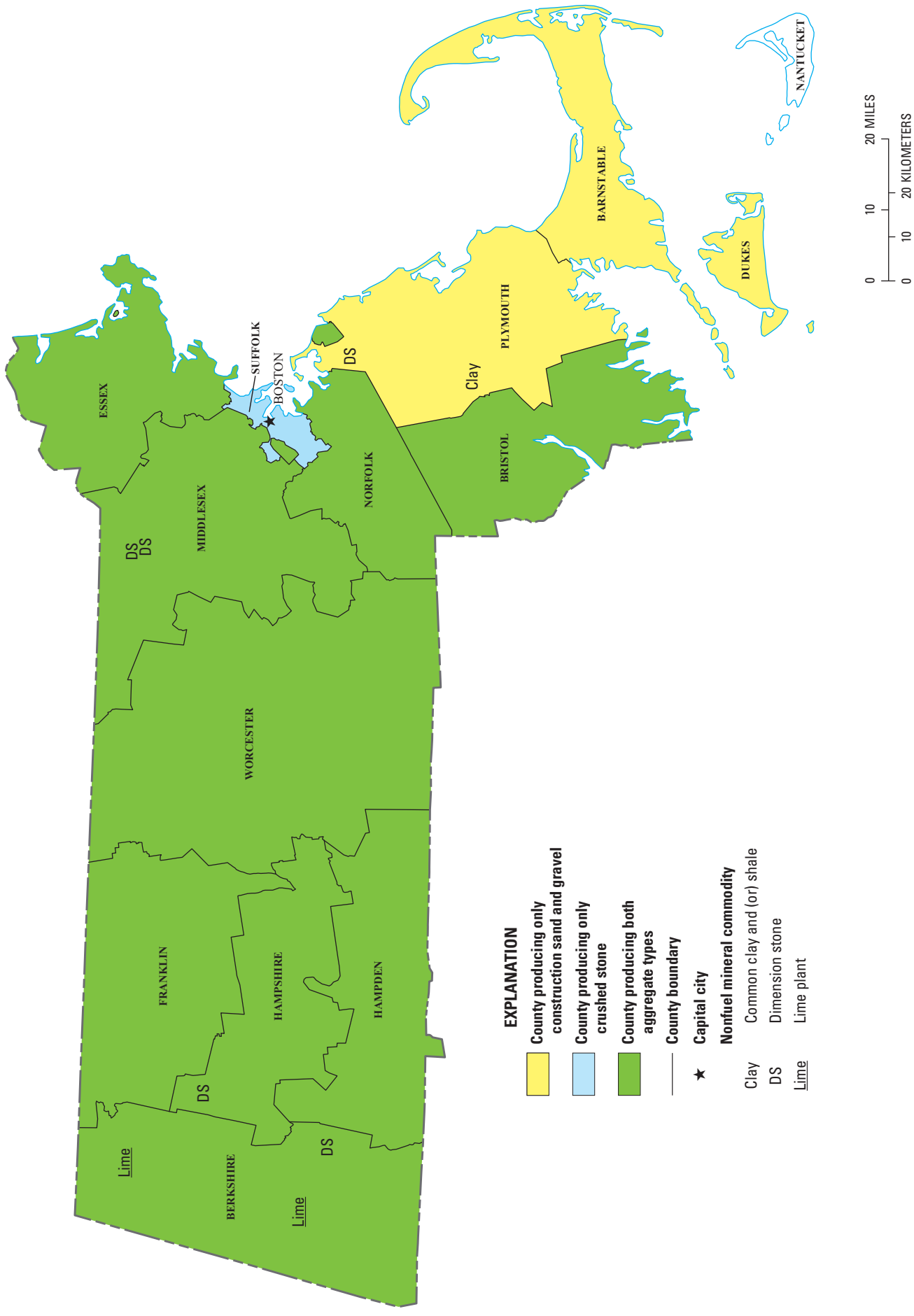


# 2014 Minerals Yearbook

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**MASSACHUSETTS [ADVANCE RELEASE]**

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Base from U.S. Geological Survey digital data  
Allbers Equal-Area Conic projection

**Figure 1.** Map showing major nonfuel-mineral-producing areas in Massachusetts in 2014. Sources: Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and U.S. Geological Survey.

# THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF MASSACHUSETTS

By Madan M. Singh

**This chapter has been prepared under a Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Geological Survey and the Massachusetts Geological Survey for collecting information on all nonfuel minerals.**

In 2014, the partial value of nonfuel mineral production<sup>1</sup> in the State of Massachusetts was \$274 million.<sup>2</sup> This was a 2.1% decrease from the State's revised nonfuel mineral production partial value of \$280 million<sup>2</sup> in 2013 (table 1). Nonfuel mineral production in the State surpassed \$290 million in partial value in 2006 but it has been below that figure since then (fig. 1). The Massachusetts partial State value accounted for approximately 0.34% of the total U.S. nonfuel mineral value in 2014 and, based on total State value, ranked 41st among the 50 States. On a per capita basis, Massachusetts had a partial nonfuel mineral production value of \$41 in 2014 compared with the national average of \$252 (table 2).

In 2014, the leading minerals in the State, in descending order of value of production, were crushed stone, construction sand and gravel, and dimension stone. Massachusetts produced 836,000 metric tons (t) of limestone, 153,000 t of dolomite, 4.79 million metric tons (Mt) of traprock, and 4.91 Mt of miscellaneous stone (which includes granite, the quantity of which is withheld to avoid disclosing proprietary data). Concrete aggregates used 116,000 t of limestone and dolomite; 63,000 t of limestone and dolomite was used for bituminous aggregates; 153,000 t for cement manufacture; and the rest for other uses. Recycled asphalt, sold or used, amounted to 446,000 t, and 230,000 t of recycled concrete was sold or used in the State. There were 43 active crushed stone operations in Massachusetts, with 38 quarries and 38 processing plants (Willett, 2016, p. 71.22). Concrete aggregates used 126 Mt of construction sand and gravel; 31.1 Mt of construction sand and gravel was used for asphaltic concrete aggregates, 65.7 Mt for road base and coverings, 32.9 Mt for fill, 2.93 Mt for snow and ice control, 385,000 t for railroad ballast, and 16.3 Mt for other uses. In 2014, there were 91 active construction sand and gravel operations in the State, with 92 pits and 80 processing plants (Willett, 2017, p. 64.11).

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<sup>1</sup>The 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 June 2017. 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>.

<sup>2</sup>Partial total; excludes values that must be withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

## Events, Trends, and Issues

In 2014, the gross domestic product (GDP) for all industries in Massachusetts was \$460 billion in current dollars, a 4.0% increase from a year earlier. The contribution of construction to the State GDP was \$16.2 billion, an increase of 5.0% from 2013 (Bureau of Economic Analysis, undated).

In 2014, the production quantity of construction sand and gravel in Massachusetts decreased by 8.1% and crushed stone increased by 5.8% from the previous year (table 1).

## Aggregates by State and End Use

A companion dataset, “Aggregates by State and End Use,” replaces the discrete aggregate tables that were included in the individual State chapters prior to 2014 and is available on the State Minerals Statistics and Information web page at <https://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/state/>. This dataset is updated annually.

## References Cited

- Bureau of Economic Analysis, [undated], Regional data—GDP & personal income—Annual gross domestic product (GDP) by State: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. (Accessed May 18, 2018, at [https://www.bea.gov/iTable/index\\_nipa.cfm](https://www.bea.gov/iTable/index_nipa.cfm).)
- Willett, J.C., 2016, Stone, crushed [advance release], *in* Metals and minerals: U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook 2014, v. I, p. 71.1–71.24. (Accessed April 12, 2018, at [https://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/commodity/stone\\_crushed/myb1-2014-stonc.pdf](https://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/commodity/stone_crushed/myb1-2014-stonc.pdf).)
- Willett, J.C., 2017, Sand and gravel, construction [advance release], *in* Metals and minerals: U.S. Geological Survey Minerals Yearbook 2014, v. I, p. 64.1–64.13. (Accessed April 12, 2018, at [https://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/commodity/sand\\_&\\_gravel\\_construction/myb1-2014-sandc.pdf](https://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/commodity/sand_&_gravel_construction/myb1-2014-sandc.pdf).)

TABLE 1  
NONFUEL MINERAL PRODUCTION IN MASSACHUSETTS<sup>1,2,3</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	2012		2013		2014	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Clays, common clay	18	180 <sup>r</sup>	W	W	W	W
Gemstones, natural <sup>c</sup>	NA	1	NA	1	NA	1
Lime	W	W	W	W	W	W
Sand and gravel, construction	9,960 <sup>r</sup>	92,400 <sup>r</sup>	11,700 <sup>r</sup>	106,000 <sup>r</sup>	10,800	82,700
Stone:						
Crushed	10,800	131,000	10,100	130,000	10,700	148,000
Dimension	145	34,200	148	43,500	165	43,100
Total	XX	258,000 <sup>r</sup>	XX	280,000 <sup>r</sup>	XX	274,000

<sup>c</sup>Estimated. <sup>r</sup>Revised. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; excluded from "Total." XX Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data available through June 2017.

<sup>2</sup>Production as measured by mine shipments, sales, or marketable production (including consumption by producers).

<sup>3</sup>Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 2  
MINING ACTIVITY IN MASSACHUSETTS

Mining activity	2012	2013	2014
State rank <sup>1</sup>	40	39	41
Employment, number: <sup>2</sup>			
Nonfuel mineral mines	702	719	733
Mills and plants	258	292	281
Number of nonfuel mineral mines <sup>2</sup>	165	165	159
Number of mills and plants <sup>2</sup>	15	17	17
Average annual wage, all mining <sup>3</sup>	dollars per year	56,188	55,877
Average annual wage, all industries <sup>3</sup>	do.	61,471	62,317
Per capita value <sup>4</sup>	dollars per person	39	42
National per capita value <sup>1</sup>	do.	241	236

do. Ditto.

<sup>1</sup>Based on unadjusted State total value.

<sup>2</sup>Source: U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration.

<sup>3</sup>Source: National Mining Association.

<sup>4</sup>Based on partial State total value to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

TABLE 3  
STRUCTURE OF THE NONFUEL MINERAL INDUSTRY IN MASSACHUSETTS

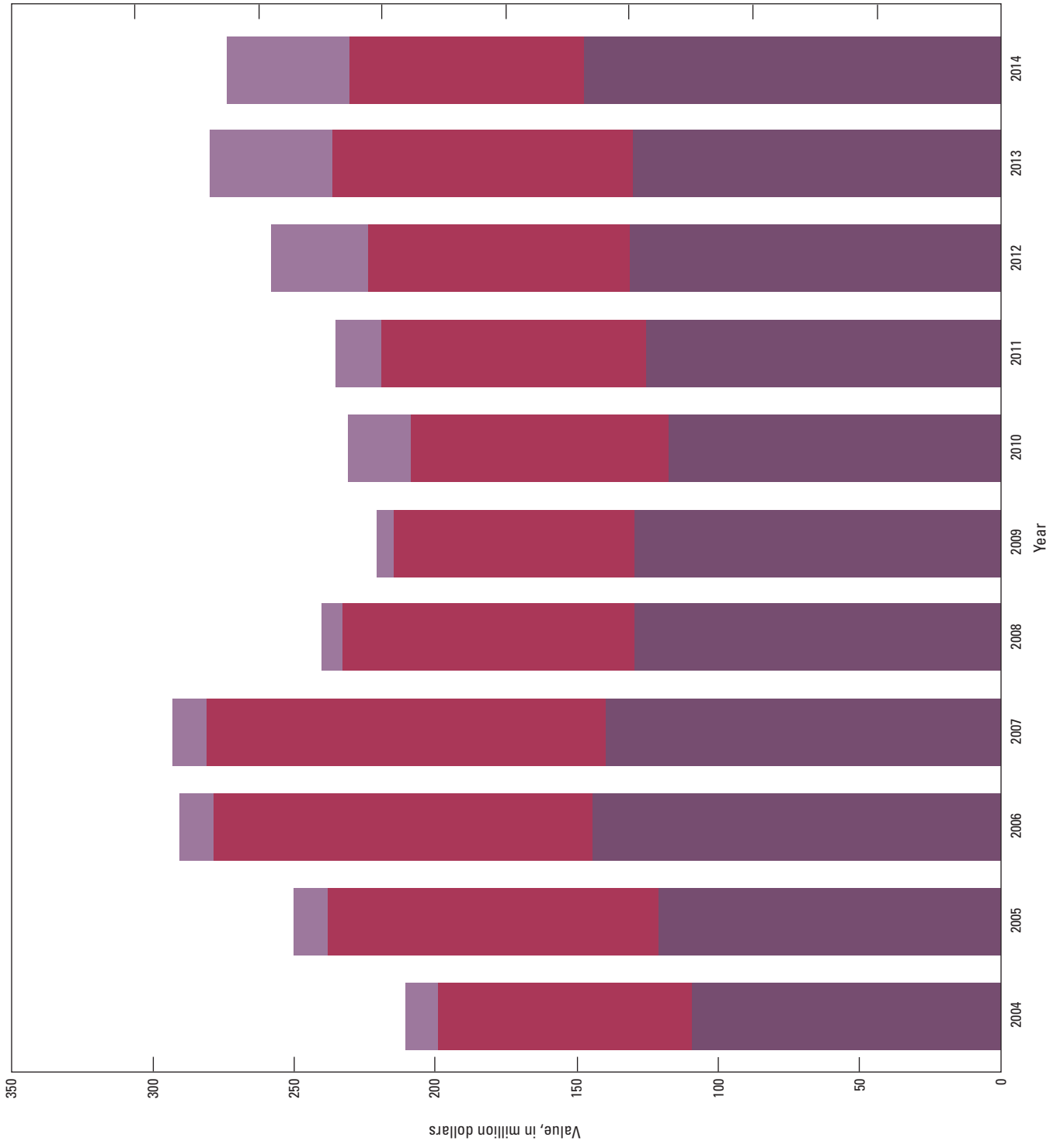
(Nonfuel-mineral-producing companies, not including aggregate producers)

Commodity	Company	County
Clays, common clay	Stiles & Hart Brick Co.	Plymouth
Lime	Oldcastle Industrial Minerals, Inc.	Berkshire
Do.	Specialty Minerals Inc.	Do.
Stone, dimension	Fletcher Granite Co.	Middlesex
Do.	La Masurier Granite Quarry Inc.	Do.
Do.	Plymouth Quarries Inc.	Plymouth
Do.	Sugarledge Stone Quarry Inc.	Hampshire
Do.	Williams Stone Co. Inc. (Chester Quarry)	Berkshire

Do. Ditto.

**EXPLANATION**

- Stone (dimension)
- Sand and gravel (construction)
- Stone (crushed)



**Figure 2.** The production value of nonfuel mineral commodities from 2004 through 2014 in Massachusetts. Values less than \$5 million are not shown. For a complete list of nonfuel mineral commodities and production values for all States, please refer to the Statistical Summary chapter (tables 5, 6).