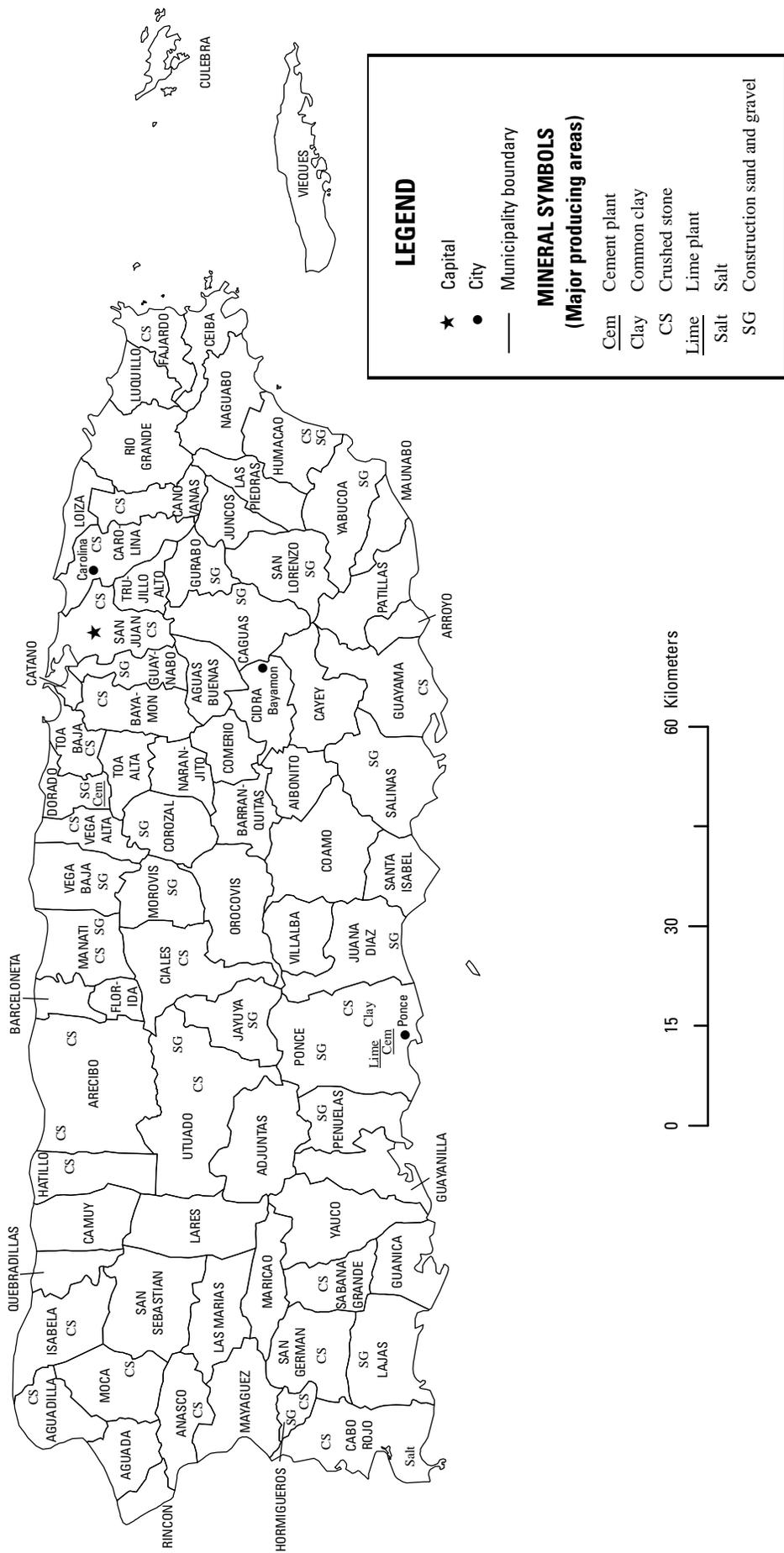




2007 Minerals Yearbook

PUERTO RICO [ADVANCE RELEASE]

PUERTO RICO



Source: Department of Natural Resources, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico/U.S. Geological Survey (2007).

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF PUERTO RICO AND THE ADMINISTERED ISLANDS¹

In 2007, Puerto Rico's nonfuel raw mineral production¹ was valued at \$98.6 million, based upon annual U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) data. This was nearly a \$1.6 million, or 1.6%, increase from the \$97 million of 2006, which was up \$37.2 million, or by more than 62%, from 2005 to 2006. If ranked in comparison with the 50 States, Puerto Rico would rank 48th in total nonfuel mineral production value.

Puerto Rico's leading nonfuel mineral commodity remained portland cement, followed by crushed stone, lime, and salt, in descending order of value. The value of portland cement increased by more than 8% in 2007, despite a greater than 10% decline in production. The Commonwealth's increase in total mineral production value does not reflect the increase in portland cement value in order to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. In 2007, the second leading mineral

commodity value increase in Puerto Rico took place in crushed stone. Despite a nearly 9% decrease in production quantity, crushed stone rose \$1.6 million in value. Significant increase in value also took place in salt. Crushed stone value makes up 95.5% of Puerto Rico's total nonfuel mineral value and together with the next leading commodity's value, lime, makes up nearly 98% of the Commonwealth's total nonfuel mineral value. The only mineral commodity to depreciate in value was common clay, which decreased 11% in value and nearly 14% in production (table 1).

In 2007, Puerto Rico's significant production of portland cement would rank 21st, if ranked in comparison with the 36 producing States in the Nation. The Commonwealth would also rank 30th out of 42 in common clay and 29th of all the States in crushed stone production, again, if compared with the producing States of each mineral commodity.

Of the U.S. Administered Islands, only American Samoa, Guam, and the Virgin Islands have reported nonfuel mineral production data for 2007, and this was limited to crushed stone. Table 1 shows this information, though it is limited, as much of the data have been withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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 2007 USGS mineral production data published in this chapter are those available as of June 2009. All USGS Mineral Industry Surveys and USGS Minerals Yearbook chapters—mineral commodity, State, and country—can be retrieved over the Internet at URL <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>.

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

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Mineral	2005		2006		2007	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Puerto Rico:						
Cement, portland	1,580	W	1,550	W	1,390	W
Clays, common	116	596	111	614	96	547
Lime	11	2,250	11	2,250	11	2,250
Salt	45	1,500	45	1,500	45	1,600
Stone, crushed	8,300	55,500	14,800 ^r	92,600 ^r	13,500	94,200
Total	XX	59,800 ^r	XX	97,000 ^r	XX	98,600
Administered Islands:						
American Samoa, stone, crushed, traprock	W	W	W	W	W	W
Guam, stone, crushed	1,410	13,000	900	8,460 ^r	329	3,760
Virgin Islands, stone, crushed, limestone, and traprock	257	2,730	210	2,010	W	W
Total	XX	15,800	XX	10,500 ^r	XX	3,760

^rRevised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. 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.