

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Stephen M. Jasinski, Phosphate Rock Commodity Specialist
U.S. Geological Survey
989 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-7711, Fax: (703) 648-7757
E-mail: sjasinsk@usgs.gov

Raymond I. Eldridge III (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7982
Fax: (703) 648-7975
E-mail: reldridge@usgs.gov

Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN OCTOBER 2010

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in October was 2.15 million metric tons (Mt), which was slightly higher than that in September and 5% lower than that in October 2009, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Total production for January through October was 5% lower than that in the same period of 2009.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in October was 2.12 Mt, which was 5% lower than that in September and 17% lower than that in October 2009. Total phosphate rock used in January through October was 10% higher than that in the same period of 2009. There have been no reported sales of phosphate rock by domestic producers since late 2006 because all phosphate rock is used internally by domestic producers to manufacture

phosphoric acid or elemental phosphorus. U.S. producer stocks were slightly lower than those in September and 27% lower than those in October 2009.

Imports of phosphate rock were estimated based on U.S. Census Bureau figures and data from other sources. Morocco supplies more than 99% of the phosphate rock imported into the United States; however, the U.S. Census Bureau does not report some of the phosphate rock data from Morocco.

Apparent consumption of phosphate rock decreased by 13% in 2009 to 27.6 Mt, compared with 31.6 Mt in 2008. Estimated apparent consumption for 2010, based on annualized data, was 30.0 Mt.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks ²
2009:			
January-October	22,800	21,000	XX
October	2,270	2,550	7,640
November	1,900	2,260	7,280
December	1,810	2,400	6,690
January-December	26,500	25,600	XX
2010:			
January	1,950	2,360	7,670
February	2,180	2,150	7,540
March	2,130	2,370	7,390
April	2,360	2,420	7,240
May	2,350	2,440	7,040
June	2,200	2,160	6,890
July	1,940	2,500	6,140
August	2,260	2,470	5,840
September	2,110	2,230	5,590
October	2,150	2,120	5,570
Total	21,600	23,200	XX

XX Not applicable.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK¹

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value ²
2009:		
January-September	1,010	88,300
September	117	7,390
October	155	9,710
November	72	4,080
December	124	7,950
January-December	1,370	110,000
Total year ³	2,000	161,000
2010: ⁴		
January	155	11,100
February	--	--
March	135	9,780
April	254	22,700
May	110	8,110
June	119	8,550
July	60	4,450
August	28	1,740
September	156	13,600
Total	1,020	80,100

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

³Includes an estimate for data not reported by the U.S. Census Bureau.

⁴Data for the current month not available at time of publication.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; some data on phosphate rock imports from Morocco were not reported by Census.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2008	2009	2010 ^{e,1}
Marketable production	30.2	26.5	26.0
Sold or used by producers	28.9	25.6	27.9
Yearend stocks	6.3	6.7	5.6
Imports for consumption ^e	2.8	2.0	2.1
Average value per ton	\$96.95	\$80.61	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e,2,3}	31.6	27.6	30.0

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹Annualized data.

²Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

³Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.