

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN MARCH 2011

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in March was 2.4 million metric tons (Mt), which was 8% higher than that in February and 13% higher than that in March 2010, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Total production in January through March was 6.93 Mt, which was 11% higher than that in the same period in 2010.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in March was 2.53 Mt, which was 13% higher than that in February and 7% higher than that in March 2010. Total phosphate rock used in January through March was 7.07 Mt, which was 3% higher than that in the same period in 2010. U.S. producer stocks were slightly

lower than those in February and 24% lower than those in March 2010.

The U.S. Census Bureau does not report some of the phosphate rock import data from Morocco, which is the major supplier to the United States. Therefore, imports of phosphate rock were estimated based on data from Census and other sources.

Apparent consumption of phosphate rock increased by 10% in 2010 to 30.2 Mt, compared with 27.5 Mt in 2009. Estimated apparent consumption for 2011, based on annualized data, was 32.3 Mt.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Used	Ending stocks ²
2010:			
January-March	6,260	6,890	XX
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
November	1,870	2,210	5,350
December	2,230	2,240	5,460
January-December	25,700	27,700	XX
2011:			
January	2,310	2,300	5,600
February	2,210	2,240	5,680
March	2,400	2,530	5,600
Total	6,930	7,070	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 ROCK^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value ³
2010:		
January-February	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
October	323	31,300
November	279	30,000
December	264	23,900
Total year ⁴	2,500	219,000
2011:		
January	353	38,400
February	190	10,900
Total	543	49,300

-- Zero.

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

²Data for the current month not available at time of publication.

³Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

⁴Includes an estimate for data not reported by the U.S. Census Bureau.

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)

	2009	2010	2011 ^{e,1}
Marketable production	26.4	25.7	28.1
Used by producers	25.5	27.7	28.7
Yearend stocks	8.1	5.5	5.6
Imports for consumption ^e	2.0	2.5	3.6
Average value per ton	\$80.61	\$87.79	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e, 2,3}	27.5	30.2	32.3

^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.