

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN SEPTEMBER 2011

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in September was 2.29 million metric tons (Mt), which was 9% lower than that in August and 8% higher than that in September 2010. Total phosphate rock production in January through September was 21.2 Mt, which was 10% higher than that in the same period in 2010.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in September was 2.43 Mt, which was slightly lower than that in August and 9% higher than that in September 2010. Total phosphate rock used in January through September was 21.5 Mt, which was slightly higher than that in the same period in 2010.

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

Apparent consumption of phosphate rock increased by 11% in 2010 to 30.5 Mt, compared with 27.5 Mt in 2009. Estimated apparent consumption for 2011, based on annualized data, was 32.0 Mt.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Used	Stocks, end of period ²
2010:			
January–September	19,300 ^r	21,400 ^r	5,590
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	5,460
2011:			
January	2,310	2,300	5,600
February	2,240	2,240	5,710
March	2,440	2,530	5,680
April	2,320	2,380	5,530
May	2,430	2,370	5,420
June	2,080	2,220	5,080
July	2,570	2,590	4,880
August	2,520	2,460	4,840
September	2,290	2,430	4,550
January–September	21,200	21,500	4,550

^rRevised.

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–August ^r	952	73,300
August	28	1,740
September	156	13,600
October	323	31,300
November	279	30,000
December	264	23,900
January–December ⁴	2,400	211,000
2011:		
January	353	38,400
February	117	10,900
March	269	39,100
April	246	32,700
May	118	14,300
June	206	38,900
July	169	26,700
August	158	24,300
January–August	1,640	225,000

^rRevised.

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	25.8	28.4
Used by producers	25.5	28.1	28.7
Yearend stocks	8.1	5.6	4.8
Imports for consumption ^c	2.0	2.4	3.3
Average value per ton	\$80.61	\$87.79	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e, 2, 3}	27.5	30.5	32.0

^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.