

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN DECEMBER 2011

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in December was 2.31 million metric tons (Mt), which was slightly lower than that in November and 3% higher than that in December 2010. Total phosphate rock production in calendar year 2011 was 28.1 Mt, which was 9% higher than that in 2010.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in December was 2.29 Mt, which was slightly lower than that in November and slightly higher than that in December 2010. Total phosphate rock used in calendar year 2011 was 28.5 Mt, which was slightly higher than that in 2010. U.S. producer stocks were 3%

higher than those at the end of November and 22% lower than those at the end of December 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 reported data from Census and other sources.

Apparent consumption of phosphate rock increased by 4% in 2011 to 31.8 Mt, compared with 30.5 Mt in 2010.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Used	Stocks, end of period ²
2010:			
January–December	25,800	28,100	5,620
December	2,230	2,240	5,620
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
October	2,250	2,310	4,400
November	2,320	2,330	4,220
December	2,310	2,290	4,360
January–December	28,100	28,500	4,360

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–November ^f	1,460	120,000
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
September	423	66,300
October	230	34,400
November	316	52,900
January–November	2,610	379,000

^fRevised.

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
Marketable production	26.4	25.8	28.1
Used by producers	25.5	28.1	28.5
Yearend stocks	8.1	5.6	4.4
Imports for consumption ^e	2.0	2.4	3.3
Average value per ton	\$80.61	\$87.79	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e, 1, 2}	27.5	30.5	31.8

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

²Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.