



Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN SEPTEMBER 2012

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in September was 2.69 million metric tons (Mt), which was 10% less than that in August and 18% more than that in September 2011. Total phosphate rock production for January through September was 22.7 Mt, which was 20% more than that in the same period in 2011.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in September was 2.39 Mt, which was 4% less than that in August and slightly less than that in September 2011. Total phosphate rock used in January through September was 20.3 Mt, which was 6% more

than that in the same period in 2011. U.S. producer stocks were 2% more than those at the end of August and 26% more than those at the end of September 2011.

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 PIERS.

Estimated apparent consumption, based on annualized data, for 2012 was 30.1 Mt.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Used	Stocks, end of period ²
2011:			
January–September	18,900	19,100	4,840
September	2,290	2,430	4,840
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
2012:			
January	2,080	2,170	4,310
February	2,020	2,040	4,560
March	2,360	2,380	4,650
April	2,480	2,210	4,790
May	2,830	2,110	5,320
June	2,610	2,150	5,570
July	2,650	2,380	5,640
August	3,000	2,480	5,980
September	2,690	2,390	6,110
January–September	22,700	20,300	6,110

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
2011:		
January–September	2,060	291,000
September	423	66,300
October	230	34,400
November	316	52,900
December	175	29,100
January–December	2,780	408,000
Total year ³	3,350	492,000
2012:		
January	275	43,800
February	214	29,900
March	312	43,600
April	115	18,000
May	301	40,000
June	166	22,300
July	184	28,700
August	105	14,800
September	279	41,700
January–September	1,950	283,000

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.

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)

	2010	2011	2012 ^{e,1}
Marketable production	25.8	28.1	30.4
Used by producers	28.1	28.5	27.1
Yearend stocks	5.6	4.4	6.1
Imports for consumption ^c	2.4	3.3	3.0
Average value per ton	\$87.79	\$146.73	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e,2,3}	30.5	31.8	30.1

^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.