



# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN DECEMBER 2012

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in December was 2.38 million metric tons (Mt), which was 3% less than that in November and 3% more than that in December 2011. Total phosphate rock production for calendar year 2012 was 30.1 Mt, which was 7% more than that in 2011.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in December was 2.46 Mt, which was 3% more than that in November and 7% more than that in December 2011. Total phosphate rock used in calendar year 2012 was 27.2 Mt, which was 5% less than that in 2011. U.S. producer stocks were slightly more than those at the

end of November and 46% more than those at the end of December 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 for 2012 was 30.3 Mt compared with 32.0 Mt in 2011.

TABLE 1  
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Used	Stocks, end of period <sup>2</sup>
2011:			
January–December	28,100	28,600	4,580
December	2,310	2,290	4,580
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	2,610	2,190	6,230
October	2,580	2,250	6,470
November	2,460	2,380	6,670
December	2,380	2,460	6,700
January–December	30,100	27,200	6,700

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2  
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value <sup>2</sup>
2011:		
January–December	2,780	325,000
December	175	29,100
Total year <sup>3</sup>	3,350	392,000
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
October	160	21,400
November	272	37,800
December	176	26,700
January–December	2,560	369,000
Total year <sup>3</sup>	3,080	444,000

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

<sup>2</sup>Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

<sup>3</sup>Includes 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
Marketable production	25.8	28.1	30.1
Used by producers	28.1	28.6	27.2
Yearend stocks	5.6	4.6	6.7
Imports for consumption <sup>e</sup>	2.4	3.4	3.1
Average value per ton	\$87.79	\$116.88	\$144.04
Apparent consumption <sup>e, 1, 2</sup>	30.5	32.0	30.3

<sup>e</sup>Estimated.

<sup>1</sup>Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

<sup>2</sup>Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.