

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN MARCH 2014

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in March was 2.66 million metric tons (Mt), which was 30% more than that in February and 6% less than that in March 2013. Production for January through March was 6.94 Mt, which was 12% less than in the same period of 2013.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in March was 2.59 Mt, which was 21% more than that in February and 7% more than that in March 2013. Phosphate rock used in January through March was 6.83 Mt, which was slightly less than that in the same period of 2013. U.S. producer stocks were slightly

more than those at the end of February and 16% more than those at the end of March 2013.

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, annual imports of phosphate rock were estimated based on reported data from Census and PIERS.

Apparent consumption for 2014, using annualized data, was projected to be 30.2 Mt, compared with 31.3 Mt in 2013.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Used	Stocks, end of period ²
2013:			
January–March	7,860	6,840	7,780
March	2,830	2,410	7,780
April	2,790	2,510	7,820
May	3,000	2,460	8,180
June	2,650	2,480	8,350
July	2,580	2,480	8,250
August	2,650	2,550	8,220
September	2,570	2,450	8,140
October	2,430	2,340	8,300
November	2,410	2,370	8,420
December	2,320	2,260	8,580
January–December	31,200	28,700	8,580
2014:			
January	2,240	2,110	8,830
February	2,040	2,130	8,820
March	2,660	2,590	9,000
January–March	6,940	6,830	9,000

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
2013:		
January–March	395	61,300
March	113	17,400
April	232	32,300
May	182	22,600
June	173	17,200
July	223	28,000
August	233	24,500
September	177	24,500
October	243	30,200
November	113	11,500
December	227	25,200
January–December	2,200	277,000
Total year ³	2,560	323,000
2014:		
January	154	15,200
February	178	15,800
March	154	15,900
January–March	486	46,900

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)

	2012	2013	2014 ^{e, 1}
Marketable production	30.1	31.2	28.2
Used by producers	27.3	28.7	27.7
Yearend stocks	6.7	8.6	9.0
Imports for consumption ^e	3.1	2.6	2.5
Average value per ton	\$144.04	\$126.15	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e, 1, 2, 3}	30.4	31.3	30.2

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹Annualized data.

²Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

³Calculated as domestic used plus imports.