

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN AUGUST 2014

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in August was 2.38 million metric tons (Mt), which was 4% more than that in July and 10% less than that in August 2013. Production for January through August was 18.3 Mt, which was 15% less than that in the same period of 2013.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in August was 2.64 Mt, which was 9% more than that in July and 3% more than that in August 2013. Phosphate rock used in January through August was 18.7 Mt, which was 3% less than that in the same period of 2013. U.S. producer stocks were 6% less than those at the end of July and 16% less than those at the end of August 2013.

U.S. phosphate rock imports for 2013 were revised to include shipments of phosphate rock that were reported in another trade category and were previously estimated based in PIERS data.

Imports of phosphate rock were 234,000 metric tons in August, which was 4% more than that in July and 19% less than that in August 2013. Total imports for January through August were 1.84 Mt, which was 13% less than that in the same period of 2013.

Estimated apparent consumption for 2014, using annualized data, was 30.6 Mt, compared with 32.0 Mt in 2013.

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TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

| Period | Marketable production | Used | Stocks, end of period ² |
|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2013: | | | |
| January–August | 21,500 | 19,200 ^r | 8,220 |
| 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 | 9,000 ^r |
| January–December | 31,200 | 28,800 ^r | 9,000 ^r |
| 2014: | | | |
| January | 2,250 | 2,110 | 8,830 |
| February | 2,040 | 2,130 | 8,820 |
| March | 2,340 | 2,250 | 9,020 |
| April | 2,250 | 2,420 | 8,700 |
| May | 2,410 | 2,540 | 7,710 |
| June | 2,290 | 2,180 | 7,590 |
| July | 2,290 ^r | 2,420 | 7,280 |
| August | 2,380 | 2,640 | 6,870 |
| January–August | 18,300 | 18,700 | 6,870 |

^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 ROCK¹

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

| Period | Quantity | Value ² |
|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
| 2013: ^r | | |
| January–August | 2,120 | 258,000 |
| August | 290 | 31,400 |
| September | 231 | 31,300 |
| October | 299 | 38,100 |
| November | 229 | 22,300 |
| December | 285 | 32,200 |
| January–December | 3,170 | 382,000 |
| 2014: | | |
| January | 210 | 22,000 |
| February | 289 | 25,400 |
| March | 209 | 21,200 |
| April | 277 | 30,400 |
| May | 224 | 28,300 |
| June | 171 | 15,400 |
| July | 224 | 20,000 |
| August | 234 | 25,900 |
| January–August | 1,840 | 189,000 |

^rRevised.

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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

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 | 27.1 |
| Used by producers | 27.3 | 28.8 ^r | 28.1 |
| Yearend stocks | 6.7 | 9.0 ^r | 6.8 |
| Imports for consumption ^e | 3.1 | 3.2 ^r | 2.5 |
| Average value per ton | \$144.04 | \$126.15 | NA |
| Apparent consumption ^{e, 2, 3} | 30.4 | 32.0 ^r | 30.6 |

^eEstimated. ^rRevised. NA Not available.

¹Annualized data.

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

³Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.