

Mineral Industry Surveys

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SULFUR IN JUNE 2013

During June 2013, production of recovered elemental sulfur was 684,000 metric tons (t), which was 4% lower than that of May 2013 and slightly lower than that of June 2012. Shipments were 676,000 t, which was 4% lower than those of May 2013. Producers' ending stocks for June 2013 were 137,000 t.

Imports of recovered sulfur for June 2013 were estimated to be 255,000 t; exports were 116,000 t. Imports of sulfuric acid for June 2013 were 211,000 t; exports were 12,000 t.

U.S. sulfur consumption, calculated as shipments minus exports plus imports, was 815,000 t in June 2013. This was about 7% less than that of May 2013 and 14% more than that of June 2012.

Significant adjustments have been made to the sulfur import data. The U.S. Census Bureau appears to underreport sulfur imports, especially material from Canada. The revised figures are based on Census information and other published data.

TABLE 1
SALIENT SULFUR STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Production			Shipments, all sources	Stocks, end of period ³
	Petroleum ²	Natural gas	Total		
2012:					
January–December	7,360	1,040	8,400	8,440 ^r	130 ^r
January–June	3,570	551 ^r	4,120	4,140	159 ^r
June	618	76	694	680	159
July	672	95	768	772	152
August	637	98	735	732	153
September	607	82	689	695	141
October	612	76	688	698 ^r	127 ^r
November	622	61	683	679 ^r	132 ^r
December	642	76	718	720 ^r	130 ^r
2013:					
January	615	85	700	703 ^r	127 ^r
February	526	80 ^r	607	612	121 ^r
March	592	85	677	668 ^r	134 ^r
April	593	83 ^r	676 ^r	686 ^r	123 ^r
May	627	84	711	702 ^r	131 ^r
June ^p	602	82	684	676	137
January–June	3,560	499	4,050	4,050	137

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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

²Includes a small quantity from coking operations.

³Subject to inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF SULFUR¹

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Canada		Mexico		Venezuela		Total, all countries ²	
	Quantity ^e	Value ³	Quantity	Value ³	Quantity ^e	Value ³	Quantity ^e	Value ³
2012:								
January–December	2,440	163,000	366	56,000	115	14,200	2,930	238,000
January–June	1,280 ^r	83,000	213 ^r	32,800	47 ^r	6,580	1,540 ^r	124,000
June	190	15,800	35	5,980	--	--	225	22,200
July	190	13,400	16	4,350	20	839	226	18,800
August	190	13,800	30	4,590	20	3,310	241	22,100
September	190	12,100	30	3,920	12	1,620	233	17,800
October	200	13,600	30	3,870	--	--	231	18,100
November	190	14,000	30	3,630	--	--	220	18,000
December	200	13,500	16	2,840	15	1,840	233	18,900
2013:								
January	190	15,300	2	122	--	--	193	16,000
February	170	11,800	63	8,040	20	2,580	254	22,700
March	190	14,100	30	3,730	--	--	222	18,500
April	190	15,300	31	3,660	30	2,520	251	21,800
May	190	10,600	51	6,530	--	--	241	17,800
June	190	13,800	51	6,530	14	1,600	255	22,200
January–June	1,120	80,900	228	28,600	64	6,700	1,420	119,000

^eEstimated. ^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

²May include other countries not listed.

³Declared customs valuation.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau data as adjusted by U.S. Geological Survey and ICIS PentaSul North America Sulphur Service.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS OF SULFURIC ACID¹

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Canada			Mexico			Total, all countries ²		
	Quantity	Sulfur content	Value ³	Quantity	Sulfur content	Value ³	Quantity	Sulfur content	Value ³
2012:									
January–December	1,980	646	155,000	471	154	33,700	2,850	933	239,000
January–June	992	324	79,500	229	75 ^r	16,800	1,430	468	122,000
June	162	53	11,800	37	12	2,660	239	78	19,500
July	179	59	13,300	45	15	3,090	241	79	19,900
August	166	54	12,500	34	11	2,350	228	75	17,900
September	151	49	12,000	31	10	2,130	232	76	19,000
October	169	55	13,200	49	16	3,400	279	91	23,200
November	166	54	12,900	43	14	3,060	211	69	17,100
December	153	50	11,900	40	13	2,840	230	75	19,600
2013:									
January	170	56	13,500	38	12	2,500	236	77	18,000
February	162	53	13,000	39	13	2,460	201	66	15,500
March	186	61	14,700	45	15	2,930	269	88	19,500
April	179	59	12,100	51	17	3,170	280	92	17,600
May	173	57	10,900	47	15	2,870	286	93	16,700
June	149	49	9,380	62	20	3,950	211	69	13,300
January–June	1,020	333	73,600	282	92	17,900	1,480	485	101,000

^rRevised.

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

²May include other countries not listed.

³Declared customs valuation.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
U.S. EXPORTS OF SULFUR AND SULFURIC ACID¹

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Sulfur		Sulfuric acid		
	Quantity	Value ²	Quantity	Sulfur content	Value ²
2012:					
January–December	1,850	366,000	161	53	33,000
January–June	895 ^r	190,000	72	24	14,500
June	190	33,700	11	4	2,530
July	111	20,900	24	8	4,810
August	141	26,000	11	4	2,480
September	192	38,600	17	6	2,830
October	232	41,100	15	5	3,060
November	104	18,800	10	3	1,810
December	174	31,300	12	4	3,530
2013:					
January	77	15,900	15	5	2,900
February	130	22,600	8	3	1,820
March	155	30,000	20	7	3,090
April	227	35,200	11	4	2,290
May	64	14,400	17	6	3,100
June	116	19,500	12	4	2,430
January–June	769	138,000	83	27	15,600

^rRevised.

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

²Declared f.a.s. (free alongside ship) valuation.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
U.S. CONSUMPTION OF SULFUR¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Domestic sources ²	Imports ^e	Consumption
2012:			
January–December	6,590 ^r	2,930	9,510
January–June ^f	3,250	1,540	4,790
June	490	225	715
July	661	226	887
August	591	241	832
September	503	233	736
October	466 ^r	231	697 ^r
November	575 ^r	220	795 ^r
December	546 ^r	233	779 ^r
2013:			
January	626 ^r	193	819 ^r
February	482	254	736
March	513 ^r	222	735 ^r
April	459 ^r	251	710 ^r
May	638 ^r	241	879 ^r
June ^p	560	255	815
January–June	3,280	1,420	4,690

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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

²Calculated as shipments minus exports.

TABLE 6
RECOVERED SULFUR PRODUCED AND SHIPPED IN THE UNITED STATES,
BY PAD (PETROLEUM ADMINISTRATION FOR DEFENSE) DISTRICT¹

(Thousand metric tons)

District and source	January–June 2012 ²		May 2013		June 2013 ^p		January–June 2013 ^{p,2}	
	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments
PAD 1:								
Petroleum and coke	48	50	14	14	14	14	87	87
Natural gas	7	7	1	1	1	1	7	7
Total	54	56	15	15	15	15	93	94
PAD 2:								
Petroleum and coke	546	545	88	88	78	77	510	510
Natural gas	9	9	1	1	1	1	7	7
Total	556	554	90	89	79	78	518	517
PAD 3: ³								
Petroleum and coke	2,340	2,370	417	417	407	405	2,340	2,340
Natural gas	228	224	37	36 ^r	36	36	217	217
Total	2,570	2,590	454	453	442	440	2,550	2,550
PAD 4 and 5								
Petroleum and coke	632	635	108	106	103	101	622	621
Natural gas	307	306	45	39	44	42	268	264
Total	939	941	153	144	148	143	890	885
Grand total	4,120	4,140	711	702 ^r	684	676	4,050	4,050

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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

²May include revisions to previously published data.

³Includes the U.S. Virgin Islands.

TABLE 7
COMPARATIVE SULFUR AND SULFURIC ACID STATISTICS¹

(Million metric tons per year [annualized basis] and dollars per metric ton for period shown)

	2013			
	2012	May	June	January– June
Production	8.40	8.37	8.32 ^P	8.18
Shipments	8.43	8.27 ^r	8.22 ^P	8.16
Exports of sulfur	1.85	0.75	1.41	1.55
Imports of sulfur:				
Canada ^e	2.44	2.24	2.31	2.26
Mexico	0.37	0.60	0.62	0.46
Venezuela ^e	0.12	--	0.17	0.13
Total ^{e,2}	2.93	2.84	3.10	2.86
Exports of H ₂ SO ₄	0.16	0.20	0.15	0.17
Imports of H ₂ SO ₄ :				
Canada	1.98	2.04	1.81	2.05
Mexico	0.47	0.55	0.75	0.57
Total ²	2.85	3.37	2.57	2.99
Consumption:				
Domestic sources	6.58	7.51 ^r	6.81	6.61
Imports ^e	2.93	2.84	3.10	2.86
Total	9.51	10.40 ^r	9.92	9.47
Sulfur export values ³	198	225	168	179
Sulfur import values: ³				
Canada	67	56	75	72
Mexico	153	128	128	125
Venezuela	123	XX	114	102
Average ²	81	74	87	84
H ₂ SO ₄ export values ³	205	182	203	188
H ₂ SO ₄ import values: ³				
Canada	79	63	63	72
Mexico	71	61	64	63
Average ²	84	59	63	68

^eEstimated. ^PPreliminary. ^rRevised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²Includes other countries not listed.

³Average value per ton.