

Mineral Industry Surveys

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SULFUR IN JULY 2014

During July 2014, production of recovered elemental sulfur was 801,000 metric tons (t), which was 7% higher than that of June 2014 and 8% higher than that of July 2013. Shipments were 787,000 t, which was 4% higher than those of June 2014. Producers' ending stocks for July 2014 were 157,000 t.

Imports of recovered sulfur for July 2014 were estimated to be 186,000 t; exports were 87,000 t. Imports of sulfuric acid for July 2014 were 314,000 t; exports were 16,000 t.

U.S. sulfur consumption, calculated as shipments minus exports plus imports, was 886,000 t in July 2014. This was 28% higher than that of June 2014 and about the same as that of July 2013.

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.

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TABLE 1
SALIENT SULFUR STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Production			Shipments, all sources	Stocks, end of period ³
	Petroleum ²	Natural gas	Total		
2013:					
January–December ^p	7,580	1,020	8,600	8,590	161
January–July ^r	4,210	600	4,810	4,800	142
July	660 ^r	85	745 ^r	740 ^r	142 ^r
August	674 ^r	80	754 ^r	765 ^r	132
September	644	75	719	709 ^r	144
October	660 ^r	89	749 ^r	749 ^r	147 ^r
November	661 ^r	92	752 ^r	764 ^r	137
December	725 ^r	85	810 ^r	799 ^r	161
2014:					
January	664 ^r	89	752 ^r	786 ^r	128 ^r
February	581 ^r	82	663 ^r	660 ^r	132 ^r
March	671 ^r	87	757 ^r	761 ^r	132 ^r
April	680 ^r	88	768 ^r	776 ^r	127 ^r
May	679 ^r	81	761 ^r	739 ^r	149 ^r
June	671 ^r	77	748 ^r	756 ^r	143 ^r
July ^p	725	76	801	787	157
January–July	4,670	579	5,250	5,270	157

^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
2013:								
January–December	2,420	135,000	448	48,200	115	13,400	2,990	202,000
January–July	1,430 ^r	96,300	258 ^r	34,000	72	7,660	1,760 ^r	142,000
July	200	15,400	50	5,420	8	967	260	22,300
August	200	12,600	44	4,040	14	1,550	259	18,700
September	200	6,760	34	3,170	--	--	234	10,600
October	200	7,210	35	2,600	--	--	235	10,100
November	190	6,820	48	2,880	1	43	239	9,940
December	200	5,340	29	1,460	28	4,150	260	11,400
2014:								
January	100	6,130	39	3,320	28	1,360	169	11,400
February	90	3,990	45	4,130	--	--	136	8,570
March	100	5,270	18	4,950	14	1,030	133	11,800
April	100	7,030	36	4,570	19	1,630	157	13,800
May	100	6,600	44	3,560	--	--	145	10,700
June	100	7,770	23 ^e	1,350 ^e	--	--	124	8,980
July	100	9,140	45	2,650	14	1,210	186	16,900
January–July	690	45,900	250	24,500	75	5,220	1,050	82,100

^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
2013:									
January–December	2,050	673	145,000	555	272	34,800	2,980	973	211,000
January–July	1,200	391	86,200	342	112 ^r	21,700	1,770	579 ^r	124,000
July	178	58	12,600	60	20	3,810	265	87	20,100
August	187	61	13,100	55	18	3,500	254	83	19,600
September	183	60	12,700	45	15	2,800	270	88	20,600
October	160	52	10,800	48	16	2,950	257	84	17,800
November	173	57	11,600	40	13	2,500	245	80	16,000
December	154	50	10,500	25	8	1,330	180	59	13,300
2014:									
January	152	50	9,110	62	20	3,610	277	91	16,100
February	168	55	9,940	59	19	3,170	245	80	14,100
March	173	57	10,400	65	21	3,450	284	93	15,600
April	156	51	10,900	54	18	2,890	228	75	15,400
May	149	49	11,200	54	18	2,920	250	82	18,400
June	165	54	11,600	49	16	2,870	286	94	17,400
July	199	65	11,500	62	20	3,110	314	103	18,600
January–July	1,160	381	74,600	405	132	22,000	1,880	618	116,000

^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
2013:					
January–December	1,750	234,000	150	50	30,100
January–July	884 ^r	156,000	98	32	19,000
July	113	18,600	15	5	3,360
August	257	18,100	12	4	2,790
September	161	14,200	14	5	2,500
October	94	8,960	16	5	2,100
November	96	7,910	11	4	1,830
December	258	28,800	14	5	1,860
2014:					
January	206	23,400	9	3	1,840
February	234	33,400	13	4	1,670
March	198	26,100	10	3	2,090
April	152	31,300	20	7	2,450
May	107	17,600	11	4	1,610
June	190	29,000	13	4	1,910
July	87	15,000	16	5	2,290
January–July	1,170	176,000	92	30	13,900

^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
2013:			
January–December ^p	6,840	2,990	9,830
January–July ^f	3,920	1,760	5,680
July	627 ^r	260	887 ^r
August	508 ^r	259	767 ^r
September	548 ^r	234	782 ^r
October	655 ^r	235	890 ^r
November	668 ^r	239	907 ^r
December	541 ^r	260	801 ^r
2014:			
January	580 ^r	169	749 ^r
February	426 ^r	136	562 ^r
March	563 ^r	133	696 ^r
April	624 ^r	157	781 ^r
May	632 ^r	145	777 ^r
June	566 ^r	124	690 ^r
July ^p	700	186	886
January–July	4,090	1,050	5,140

^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–July 2013 ²		June 2014 ²		July 2014 ^p		January–July 2014 ^{p, 2}	
	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments
PAD 1:								
Petroleum and coke	108	108	17	17	17	17	119	119
Natural gas	8	8	1	1	1	1	8	8
Total	116	117	18	19	18	18	127	127
PAD 2:								
Petroleum and coke	600	599	117	117	119	121	729	726
Natural gas	9	9	1	1	1	1	3	3
Total	609	608	118	118	120	121	732	729
PAD 3:								
Petroleum and coke	2,720	2,710	431	434	475	455	3,070	3,060
Natural gas	254	255	35	35	35	36	242	244
Total	2,980	2,970	466	469	510	491	3,310	3,310
PAD 4 and 5:								
Petroleum and coke	780	783	106	107	114	118	755	775
Natural gas	330	325	39	45	40	38	326	330
Total	1,110	1,110	146	151	153	156	1,080	1,110
Grand total	4,810	4,800	748	756	801	787	5,250	5,270

^pPreliminary.

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

²May include revisions to previously published data.

TABLE 7
COMPARATIVE SULFUR AND SULFURIC ACID STATISTICS¹

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

	2013	2014		
		June	July	January– July
Production	8.60 ^p	9.10 ^r	9.43 ^p	9.04
Shipments	8.59 ^p	9.20 ^r	9.27 ^p	9.06
Exports of sulfur	1.75	2.31	1.02	2.02
Imports of sulfur:				
Canada ^e	2.42	1.22	1.18	1.19
Mexico	0.45 ^r	0.28	0.53	0.43
Venezuela ^e	0.12	--	0.16	0.13
Total ^{e,2}	2.99	1.51	2.20	1.81
Exports of H ₂ SO ₄	0.17	0.16	0.19	0.16
Imports of H ₂ SO ₄ :				
Canada	2.05	2.01	2.34	2.00
Mexico	0.56	0.60	0.73	0.70
Total ²	2.98	3.48	3.70	3.24
Consumption:				
Domestic sources	6.84	6.89 ^r	8.24	7.04
Imports ^e	2.99 ^r	1.51	2.20	1.81
Total	9.83 ^r	8.40 ^r	10.40	8.85
Sulfur export values ³	134	153	172	150
Sulfur import values: ³				
Canada	56	78 ^r	91	67
Mexico	108	59	59	98
Venezuela	117	XX	86	70
Average ²	68	72	91	78
H ₂ SO ₄ export values ³	200 ^r	147	143	151
H ₂ SO ₄ import values: ³				
Canada	71	70	58	64
Mexico	63	59	50	54
Average ²	71	61	59	61

^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.