



Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN MARCH 2012

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in March was 2.36 million metric tons (Mt), which was 17% higher than that in February and 4% lower than that in March 2011. Total phosphate rock production for January through March was 6.46 Mt, which was 8% lower than that in the same period in 2011.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in March was 2.38 Mt, which was 17% higher than that in February and 6% lower than that in March 2011. Total phosphate rock used in January through March was 6.58 Mt, which was 7% lower than that in the same period in 2011. U.S. producer stocks were slightly

higher than those at the end of February 2012 and 18% lower than those at the end of March 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 other sources.

Apparent consumption of phosphate rock increased by 4% in 2011 to 31.8 Mt, compared with 30.5 Mt in 2010. Estimated apparent consumption, based on annualized data, for 2012 was 30.0 Mt.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Used	Stocks, end of period ²
2011:			
January–March	7,000	7,070	5,680
March	2,440	2,530	5,680
April	2,320	2,380	5,530
May	2,430	2,370	5,420
June	2,080	2,220	5,080
July	2,570	2,590	4,880
August	2,520	2,460	4,840
September	2,290	2,430	4,550
October	2,250	2,310	4,400
November	2,320	2,330	4,220
December	2,310	2,290	4,360
January–December	28,100	28,500	4,360
2012:			
January	2,080	2,170	4,310
February	2,020	2,040	4,560
March	2,360	2,380	4,650
January–March	6,460	6,580	4,650

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
2011:		
January–March	739	88,400
March	269	39,100
April	246	32,700
May	118	14,300
June	206	38,900
July	169	26,700
August	158	24,300
September	423	66,300
October	230	34,400
November	316	52,900
December	175	29,100
January–December	2,780	408,000
Total year ³	3,350	492,000
2012:		
January	275	43,800 ^r
February	214	29,900 ^r
March	312	43,600
January–March	801	117,000

^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.

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)

	2010	2011	2012 ^{e, 1}
Marketable production	25.8	28.1	26.0
Used by producers	28.1	28.5	26.5
Yearend stocks	5.6	4.4	4.6
Imports for consumption ^e	2.4	3.3	3.5
Average value per ton	\$87.79	\$146.73	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e, 2, 3}	30.5	31.8	30.0

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹Annualized data.

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

³Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.