



# Mineral Industry Surveys

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**For information, contact:**

Stephen M. Jasinski, Phosphate Rock Commodity Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
989 National Center  
Reston, VA 20192  
Telephone: (703) 648-7711, Fax: (703) 648-7757  
E-mail: [sjasinsk@usgs.gov](mailto:sjasinsk@usgs.gov)

Jesse J. Inestroza (Data)  
Telephone: (703) 648-7779  
Fax: (703) 648-7975  
E-mail: [jinestroza@usgs.gov](mailto:jinestroza@usgs.gov)

**Internet:** <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

## MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN OCTOBER 2012

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in October was 2.58 million metric tons (Mt), which was slightly less than that in September and 15% more than that in October 2011. Total phosphate rock production for January through October was 25.2 Mt, which was 7% more than that in the same period in 2011.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in October was 2.26 Mt, which was 3% more than that in September and 3% less than that in October 2011. Total phosphate rock used in January through October was 22.3 Mt, which was 6% less than that in

the same period in 2011. U.S. producer stocks at the end of October were 5% more than those at the end of September and 49% more than those at the end of October 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 PIERS.

Estimated apparent consumption, based on annualized data, for 2012 was 29.8 Mt.

TABLE 1  
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Used	Stocks, end of period <sup>2</sup>
2011:			
January–October	23,500	23,800	4,400
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
April	2,480	2,210	4,790
May	2,830	2,110	5,320
June	2,610	2,150	5,570
July	2,650	2,380	5,640
August	3,000	2,480	5,980
September <sup>f</sup>	2,610	2,190	6,230
October	2,580	2,260	6,560
January–October	25,200	22,300	6,560

<sup>f</sup>Revised.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2  
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value <sup>2</sup>
2011:		
January–October	2,290	326,000
October	230	34,400
November	316	52,900
December	175	29,100
January–December	2,780	408,000
Total year <sup>3</sup>	3,350	492,000
2012:		
January	275	43,800
February	214	29,900
March	312	43,600
April	115	18,000
May	301	40,000
June	166	22,300
July	184	28,700
August	105	14,800
September	279	41,700
October	160	21,400
January–October	2,110	304,000

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

<sup>2</sup>Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

<sup>3</sup>Includes 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 <sup>e, 1</sup>
Marketable production	25.8	28.1	30.3
Used by producers	28.1	28.5	26.8
Yearend stocks	5.6	4.4	6.6
Imports for consumption <sup>e</sup>	2.4	3.3	3.0
Average value per ton	\$87.79	\$146.73	NA
Apparent consumption <sup>e, 2, 3</sup>	30.5	31.8	29.8

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Annualized data.

<sup>2</sup>Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

<sup>3</sup>Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.