

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN JULY 2016

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in July was 2.3 million metric tons (Mt), which was 5% lower than that in June and 3% higher than that in July 2015. Total production for January through July was 15.1 Mt, which was 6% lower than that in the same period of 2015.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in July was 2.36 Mt, which was 22% higher than that in June and 6% higher than that in July 2015. The large increase in July was from the restarting of some phosphoric acid plants that were closed for part of June for normal maintenance. Total phosphate rock used in January through July was 15.3 Mt, which was slightly higher than that in the same period of 2015. U.S. producer stocks were 4% lower than those at the end of June and 6% lower than those at the end of July 2015.

Imports of phosphate rock in July were 112,000 metric tons, which was 3% lower than those in June and slightly lower than those in July 2015. Imports for January through July were 844,000 t, which was 23% lower than those in same period of 2015. Imports of phosphate rock can vary substantially from month to month based on sales contracts and production schedules of the phosphate plants.

Estimated apparent consumption for 2016, using annualized data, was 27.8 Mt, compared with 28.4 Mt in 2015.

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TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Used	Stocks, end of period ²
2015:			
January–July ^r	16,000	15,000	6,770
July	2,230	2,230	6,770
August	2,310	2,270	6,680
September	2,450	2,360	6,680
October	2,500	2,350	6,690
November	2,290	2,250	6,710
December	2,200	2,140	6,890
January–December	27,800	26,400	6,890
2016:			
January	1,860	2,300	6,760
February	2,250	2,040	7,080
March	2,090	2,360	6,890
April	2,070	2,110	6,720
May	2,080	2,220	6,260
June ^r	2,430	1,930	6,630
July	2,300	2,360	6,380
January–July	15,100	15,300	6,380

^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
2015:		
January–July	1,090	124,000 ^r
July	114	11,300
August	210	29,000
September	151	15,200
October	180	23,700
November	171	18,000
December	160	16,200
January–December	1,960	226,000
2016:		
January	--	--
February	110	10,900
March	287	32,200
April	(³)	47
May	219	21,100
June	116	15,000
July	112	9,740
January–July	844	89,000

^rRevised. -- Zero.

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.

³Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2014	2015	2016 ^{e,1}
Marketable production	25.3	27.8	25.9
Used by producers	26.7	26.4	26.3
Yearend stocks	5.9	6.9	6.4
Imports for consumption	2.4	2.0	1.5
Average value per ton	99.75	115.17	NA
Apparent consumption ^{1,2,3}	29.1	28.4	27.8

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹Annualized data.

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

³Calculated as domestic used plus imports.