

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Lori E. Apodaca, Sulfur Commodity Specialist
National Minerals Information Center
U.S. Geological Survey
989 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-7724, Fax: (703) 648-7757
Email: lapodaca@usgs.gov

Sheema Merchant (Data)
Telephone: (703) 659-9944
Fax: (703) 648-7975
Email: smerchant@usgs.gov

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

SULFUR IN JUNE 2016

During June 2016, production of recovered elemental sulfur was 750,000 metric tons (t), which was 3% lower than that of May 2016 and about the same as that of June 2015. Total production from January through June was 4.47 million metric tons (Mt), which was 3% higher than that of the same period in 2015. Shipments were 747,000 t, which was slightly lower than those of May 2016. Total shipments from January through June were 4.47 Mt, which was 3% higher than those in the same period in 2015. Producers' ending stocks for June 2016 were 145,000 t, which was about the same as May 2016.

Imports of recovered sulfur for June 2016 were estimated to be 143,000 t; exports were 168,000 t. Total imports of recovered sulfur from January through June were 955,000 t, which was 14% lower than those in the same period of 2015. Total exports for January through June of recovered sulfur were 1.05 Mt, which was 24% higher than those in the same period of 2015.

Imports of sulfuric acid for June 2016 were 254,000 t; exports were 13,000 t. Total imports for January through June were 1.6 Mt, which was 4% lower than those in the same period of 2015.

Total exports for January through June of sulfuric acid were 72,000 t, which was 16% lower than those in the same period of 2015.

U.S. sulfur consumption, calculated as shipments minus exports plus imports, was 722,000 t in June 2016. This was 3% lower than that of May 2016 and 6% lower than that of June 2015. Total consumption from January through June was 4.38 Mt, which was 5% lower than that in the same period of 2015.

List services and Web feed subscribers are the first to receive notification of USGS minerals information publications and data releases. For information on how to subscribe, go to <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/>.

TABLE 1
SALIENT SULFUR STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Production			Shipments, all sources	Stocks, end of period ³
	Petroleum ²	Natural gas	Total		
2015:					
January–December	7,910	984	8,890	8,920	138
January–June	3,860 ^r	487	4,340 ^r	4,360 ^r	143
June	673	78	751	757	143
July	693	83	776	785	134
August	654	81	735	731	142
September	641	84 ^r	725	737	131
October	644	80 ^r	724	707 ^r	148
November	682	80 ^r	762	753 ^r	158
December	739	86	826	846	138
2016:					
January	678	81 ^r	759	758	141
February	616	79	695	692	145
March	679	81	760 ^r	781	127
April	660	71	731	730	128 ^r
May	710	67	777	764 ^r	142 ^r
June ^p	692	58	750	747	145
January–June	4,040	437	4,470	4,470	145

^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
2015:								
January–December	1,860	87,400	191	16,500	20	426	2,240	136,000
January–June	890 ^r	40,900	118	7,210	20	426	1,110 ^r	65,900
June	140	6,760	15	358	--	--	155	7,310
July	170	6,900	15	2,270	--	--	185	9,780
August	170	7,630	15	3,030	--	--	218	16,400
September	160	7,520	--	--	--	--	161	7,870
October	160	7,860	29	1,640	--	--	236	16,000
November	150	8,840	--	--	--	--	151	9,420
December	160	7,800	14	2,310	--	--	174	10,500
2016:								
January	150	8,050	15	471	(4)	33	167	9,530
February	140	4,780	29	795	--	--	171	6,230
March	150	4,430	15	278	(4)	19	166	5,450
April	140	2,400	--	--	--	--	142	3,380
May	150	2,050	15	282	--	--	166	3,400
June	140	2,250	--	--	3	242	143	2,960
January–June	870	24,000	74	1,830	3	294	955	30,900

^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.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

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
2015:									
January–December	2,070	677	124,000	767	252	41,000	3,540	1,160	208,000
January–June	1,000	328 ^r	61,100	343	112	18,300	1,690	553	103,000
June	183	60	11,500	60	20	3,160	272	89	17,000
July	186	61	10,700	64	21	3,410	284	93	16,900
August	165	54	10,100	75	25	3,980	378	124	22,000
September	167	55	9,600	70	23	3,700	275	90	14,600
October	186	61	11,000	73	24	3,920	310	101	17,400
November	187	61	11,100	73	24	3,940	328	107	18,100
December	175	57	9,970	69	23	3,810	273	89	15,700
2016:									
January	157	51	7,640	60	20	2,540	277	91	12,900
February	164	54	7,600	55	18	2,190	247	81	11,400
March	175	57	7,640	62	20	2,720	291	95	13,000
April	186	61	6,900	54	18	2,140	274	90	10,600
May	170	56	5,810	60	20	2,360	258	84	9,560
June	165	54	5,640	58	19	2,240	254	83	9,440
January–June	1,020	333	41,200	349	115	14,200	1,600	524	66,900

^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
2015:					
January–December	1,820	279,000	159	54	30,400
January–June	846	143,000	86	29	12,900
June	144	21,200	21	7	3,000
July	93	14,700	13	4	5,540
August	131	21,700	17	6	2,770
September	209	32,200	11	4	2,070
October	166	15,700	15	5	2,100
November	128	16,500	9	3	2,440
December	244	34,500	8	3	2,560
2016:					
January	225	28,900	9	3	2,480
February	130	16,200	12	4	2,710
March	174	18,700	8	3	1,740
April	165	16,700	14	5	2,200
May	187	17,500	16	5	2,250
June	168	14,900	13	4	2,730
January–June	1,050	113,000	72	24	14,100

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
2015:			
January–December	7,100	2,240	9,340
January–June ^r	3,510	1,110	4,620
June	613	155	768
July	692	185	877
August	600	218	818
September	528	161	689
October	541 ^r	236	777 ^r
November	625 ^r	151	776 ^r
December	602	174	776
2016:			
January	533	167	700
February	562	171	733
March	607	166	773
April	565	142	707
May	577 ^r	166	743 ^r
June ^p	579	143	722
January–June	3,420	955	4,380

^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 2015 ²		May 2016		June 2016 ^p		January–June 2016 ^{p,2}	
	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments
PAD 1:								
Petroleum and coke	103	103	17	17	17	17	83	83
Natural gas	7	7	1	1	1	1	7	7
Total	109	110	19	18	18	18	89	89
PAD 2:								
Petroleum and coke	654	656	114	112	121	122	710	706
Natural gas	7	7	--	(3)	1	(3)	4	4
Total	661	663	114	113	122	123	715	710
PAD 3:								
Petroleum and coke	2,430	2,430	468 ^r	456 ^r	441	440	2,590	2,590
Natural gas	194	195	22	25	20	20	157	160
Total	2,620	2,620	490 ^r	481 ^r	461	460	2,750	2,750
PAD 4 and 5:								
Petroleum and coke	673	676	111	109	114	112	648	655
Natural gas	279	282	44	43	36	33	269	269
Total	952	959	155	152	150	146	917	924
Grand total	4,340	4,360	777	764 ^r	750	747	4,470	4,470

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

²May include revisions to previously published data.

³Less than ½ unit.

TABLE 7
COMPARATIVE SULFUR AND SULFURIC ACID STATISTICS¹

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

	2015	2016		
		May	June	January– June
Production	8.89	9.17	9.15 ^P	8.99
Shipments	8.92	9.02 ^r	9.11 ^P	8.99
Exports of sulfur	1.82	2.21	2.05	2.11
Imports of sulfur:				
Canada ^e	1.86	1.77	1.71	1.75
Mexico	0.19	0.18	--	0.15
Venezuela ^e	0.02	--	0.04	0.01
Total ^{e, 2}	2.24	1.96	1.74	1.92
Exports of H ₂ SO ₄	0.16	0.19	0.16	0.14
Imports of H ₂ SO ₄ :				
Canada	2.07	2.01	2.01	2.05
Mexico	0.77	0.71	0.71	0.70
Total ²	3.54	3.05	3.10	3.22
Consumption:				
Domestic sources	7.10	6.81 ^r	7.06	6.88
Imports ^e	2.24	1.96	1.74	1.92
Total	9.34	8.77 ^r	8.81	8.80
Sulfur export values ³	153	94	89	108
Sulfur import values: ³				
Canada	47	14	16	28
Mexico	86	19	XX	25
Venezuela	21	XX	81	98
Average ²	61	20	19	32
H ₂ SO ₄ export values ³	191	141	210	196
H ₂ SO ₄ import values: ³				
Canada	60	34	34	41
Mexico	54	39	39	41
Average ²	59	37	37	42

^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.