

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK JULY 2019

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in July was 1.96 million metric tons (Mt), which was the same as that in June and 13% lower than that in July 2018. Total production for January through July was 13.3 Mt, which was 16% lower than that in the same period of 2018 (table 1).

Phosphate rock sold or used in the United States in July was 1.82 Mt, which was 3% higher than that in June and 5% lower than that in July 2018. Total phosphate rock sold or used for January through July was 13.4 Mt, which was the same as that in the same period of 2018. U.S. producer stocks were slightly higher than those at the end of June and 6% lower than those at the end of July 2018 (table 1).

Imports of phosphate rock in July were 267,000 metric tons, which was 2.4 times higher than those in June and 4% higher

than those in July 2018. Imports of phosphate rock during January through July were 14% lower than those in the same period of 2018 (table 2). 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, based on annualized data, for 2019, was 25.7 Mt, compared with 26.4 Mt in 2018 (table 3).

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TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

| Period | Marketable production | Sold or Used | Stocks, end of period ² |
|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2018: | | | |
| January–July | 15,900 ^r | 13,400 ^r | 10,600 ^r |
| July | 2,260 | 1,910 | 10,600 |
| August | 2,510 | 2,010 | 11,100 |
| September | 1,850 | 2,000 | 10,900 |
| October | 1,950 | 2,150 | 10,700 |
| November | 1,740 | 2,070 | 10,300 |
| December | 1,770 | 1,970 | 10,100 |
| January–December | 25,700 | 23,600 | 10,100 |
| 2019: | | | |
| January | 1,710 | 2,130 | 9,610 |
| February | 1,800 | 1,910 | 9,500 |
| March | 1,830 | 1,900 | 9,430 |
| April | 1,900 | 1,870 | 9,460 |
| May | 2,150 | 2,020 | 9,590 |
| June | 1,960 | 1,770 | 9,790 |
| July | 1,960 | 1,820 | 9,930 |
| January–July | 13,300 | 13,400 | 9,930 |

^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 |
|------------------|----------|----------------------|
| 2018: | | |
| January–July | 1,680 | 122,000 ^r |
| July | 257 | 17,800 |
| August | 350 | 30,800 |
| September | 206 | 15,600 |
| October | 220 | 14,100 |
| November | 108 | 6,950 |
| December | 209 | 16,000 |
| January–December | 2,770 | 205,000 |
| 2019: | | |
| January | 288 | 20,100 |
| February | 160 | 11,200 |
| March | 235 | 16,600 |
| April | 168 | 12,500 |
| May | 221 | 16,000 |
| June | 111 | 8,130 |
| July | 267 | 20,700 |
| January–July | 1,450 | 105,000 |

^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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 ^{c,1} |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------------------|
| Marketable production | 27.9 | 25.7 | 22.9 |
| Sold or used by producers | 26.3 | 23.6 | 23.2 |
| Yearend stocks | 8.4 | 10.1 | 9.9 |
| Imports for consumption | 2.5 | 2.8 | 2.5 |
| Average value per ton | \$83.75 | \$74.06 | NA |
| Apparent consumption ^{2,3} | 28.8 | 26.4 | 25.7 |

^cEstimated. NA Not Available.

¹Annualized data.

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

³Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.