

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK JULY 2020

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in July was 2.0 million metric tons (Mt), which was slightly higher than that in June and 11% higher than that in July 2019 (table 1). Total phosphate rock production for January through July was 13.9 Mt, which was 6% higher than that in same period of 2019.

Phosphate rock sold or used in the United States in July was 1.92 Mt, which was slightly lower than that in June and about the same as that in July 2019. Total phosphate rock sold or used for January through July was 14.0 Mt, which was 7% higher than that in same period of 2019. U.S. producer stocks were slightly higher than those at the end of June and slightly lower than those at the end of July 2019 (table 1).

Imports of phosphate rock were 220,000 metric tons in July, which were slightly lower than those in June and 18% lower

than those in July 2019 (table 2). Total imports for January through July were 1.29 Mt, which were 11% lower than those in the same period of 2019. 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 2020, was 26.2 Mt compared with 26.0 Mt in 2019 (table 3).

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

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Sold or Used	Stocks, end of period <sup>2</sup>
<b>2019:</b>			
January–July	13,100 <sup>r</sup>	13,100 <sup>r</sup>	9,500 <sup>r</sup>
July	1,810	1,930	9,500
August	2,120	2,040	9,580
September	2,030	1,940	9,670
October	2,080	2,130	9,620
November	1,990	2,050	9,560
December	1,900	2,090	9,380
January–December	23,300	23,900	9,380
<b>2020:</b>			
January	1,880	2,190	9,070
February	1,780	1,880	8,970
March	2,000	2,020	8,950
April	2,090	2,000	9,050
May	2,220	2,010	9,260
June	1,960	1,950	9,270
July	2,010	1,920	9,350
January–July	13,900	14,000	9,350

<sup>r</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>
2019:		
January–July	1,450	105,000
July	267	20,700
August	100	7,080
September	157	11,400
October	157	11,700
November	162	12,200
December	120	8,790
January–December	2,150	156,000
2020:		
January	160	11,500
February	163	11,700
March	259	19,300
April	--	--
May	262	20,200
June	225	16,600
July	220	16,200
January–July	1,290	95,400

-- Zero.

<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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3  
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2018	2019	2020 <sup>a, 1</sup>
Marketable production	25.8	23.3	24.0
Sold or used by producers	23.3	23.9	24.0
Yearend stocks	10.6	9.4	9.3
Imports for consumption	2.8	2.1	2.2
Average value per ton	\$72.39	\$72.88	NA
Apparent consumption <sup>2, 3</sup>	26.0	26.0	26.2

<sup>a</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.