

Mineral Industry Surveys

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SULFUR IN JUNE 2022

During June 2022, production of recovered elemental sulfur was 676,000 metric tons (t), which was essentially unchanged from the revised amount of May 2022 and 4% higher than that of June 2021. Total production for January through June was 3.91 million metric tons (Mt), which was 11% higher than that in the same period of 2021. Shipments in June 2022 were 683,000 t, which was 3% higher than the revised amount of May 2022 and 4% higher than that of June 2021. Total shipments for January through June were 3.91 Mt, which were 12% higher than those in the same period of 2021. Producers' ending stocks for June 2022 were 114,000 t (table 1).

Imports of recovered sulfur for June 2022 were estimated to be 131,000 t; exports were 132,000 t. Total imports of recovered sulfur for January through June were estimated to be 957,000 t, which were 26% lower than those in the same period of 2021. Total exports of recovered sulfur for January through June were 729,000 t, which were 21% lower than those in the same period of 2021 (tables 2, 4).

Imports of sulfuric acid for June 2022 were 254,000 t; exports were 16,000 t. Total imports for January through June were 1.66

Mt, which were unchanged from those in the same period of 2021. Total exports of sulfuric acid for January through June were 125,000 t, which were 45% lower than those in the same period of 2021 (tables 3, 4).

U.S. sulfur consumption, calculated as shipments minus exports plus imports, was estimated to be 682,000 t in June 2022. This was unchanged from the revised amount of May 2022 and 8% lower than that of June 2021. Total consumption for January through June was estimated to be 4.14 Mt, which was 7% higher than that in the same period of 2021 (table 5).

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TABLE 1
SALIENT SULFUR STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Production			Shipments, all sources	Stocks, end of period ³
	Petroleum ²	Natural gas	Total		
2021:					
January–December	6,920	550	7,470	7,460	113
January–June	3,260	262 ^r	3,520	3,500	127 ^r
June	609	45	653	654	127
July	623	52	675	681	121
August	620	47	667	654	134
September	566	48	614	632	117
October	578	48	626	620	123
November	603	46	650	647	125
December	666	47	712	724	113
2022:					
January	602	42	644	627	129
February	566	39	605	622	112
March	623	44 ^r	668	665 ^r	115 ^r
April	611	40	651	649	116
May	633	33 ^r	666 ^r	662 ^r	121 ^r
June ^p	642	34	676	683	114
January–June	3,680	233	3,910	3,910	114

^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		Total, all countries ²	
	Quantity	Value ³	Quantity	Value ³
2021:				
January–December	1,680	167,000	2,370	272,000
January–June	882 ^r	74,400	1,290 ^r	124,000
June	137	16,300	191	25,700
July	128	14,600	217	30,500
August	136	13,500	169	18,900
September	133	11,700	134	12,700
October	133	16,500	188	30,400
November	158	18,100	265	37,500
December	111	17,600	112	18,600
2022:				
January	140 ^e	22,400	248 ^e	51,000
February	120 ^e	17,600	123 ^e	18,700
March	140 ^e	26,900	193 ^e	43,700
April	130 ^e	23,300	131 ^e	24,400
May	130 ^e	32,800	131 ^e	33,800
June	130 ^e	37,300	131 ^e	38,500
January–June	790 ^e	160,000	957 ^e	210,000

^eEstimated. ^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.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau as adjusted by U.S. Geological Survey and Acuity Commodities.

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
2021:									
January–December	1,880	614	95,200	748	245	53,300	3,260	1,070	225,000
January–June	1,020	334	55,200	337	110	23,800	1,660	543	109,000
June	151	49	7,810	23	7	1,520	215	70	14,700
July	146	48	8,110	71	23	5,210	299	98	21,000
August	140	46	8,470	59	19	4,650	270	88	23,000
September	131	43	7,770	87	28	5,010	247	81	16,500
October	144	47	4,710	63	21	5,480	268	88	16,900
November	147	48	4,290	55	18	4,700	275	90	21,100
December	147	48	6,590	76	25	4,470	245	80	18,100
2022:									
January	153	50	8,410	49	16	8,390	267	87	30,600
February	127	42	7,740	56	18	10,800	199	65	23,800
March	168	55	10,100	104	34	22,100	328	107	45,200
April	153	50	13,300	67	22	13,600	360	118	54,700
May	163	53	14,500	55	18	11,800	249	81	36,400
June	153	50	14,500	69	23	14,200	254	83	39,600
January–June	917	300	68,400	402	131	80,900	1,660	542	230,000

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
2021:					
January–December	1,900	215,000	394	129	26,700
January–June	927	71,600 ^r	226 ^r	74	12,100 ^r
June	102	17,000	11	3	1,520
July	256	10,900	26	9	2,490
August	63	13,300	68	22	4,340
September	164	40,200	20	6	1,800
October	133	22,100	27	9	2,490
November	163	28,300	12	4	1,680
December	193	28,800	16	5	1,810
2022:					
January	46	7,030	11	3	997
February	199	45,700	12	4	1,360
March	68	22,000	22	7	2,660
April	170	67,900	36	12	5,200
May	113	43,500	29	9	3,840
June	132	63,800	16	5	2,230
January–June	729	250,000	125	41	16,300

^rRevised.

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	Consumption
2021:			
January–December	5,560	2,370	7,940
January–June	2,580	1,290 ^r	3,870 ^r
June	553	191	744
July	425	217	642
August	591	169	760
September	468	134	602
October	488	188	676
November	484	265	749
December	531	112	643
2022:			
January	581	248 ^e	829 ^e
February	423	123 ^e	545 ^e
March	597 ^r	193 ^e	791 ^{r, e}
April	478	131 ^e	610 ^e
May	549 ^r	131 ^e	680 ^{r, e}
June ^p	551	131 ^e	682 ^e
January–June	3,180	957 ^e	4,140 ^e

^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 2021 ²		May 2022		June 2022 ^p		January–June 2022 ^p	
	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments
PAD 1:								
Petroleum and coke	84	84	16	16	17	17	90	91
Natural gas	7	7	1	1	1	1	7	7
Total	91	91	17	17	18	18	97	98
PAD 2:								
Petroleum and coke	616	614	111	111	116	113	695	694
Natural gas	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total	616	614	111	111	116	113	695	694
PAD 3:								
Petroleum and coke	1,940	1,920	385	382	396	399	2,200	2,200
Natural gas	50	50	6 ^r	6 ^r	8	8	33	33
Total	1,990	1,970	391 ^r	388 ^r	403	408	2,240	2,230
PAD 4 and 5:								
Petroleum and coke	625	629	121	120	113	114	687	691
Natural gas	205	199	26	27	25	29	193	197
Total	830	829	147	147	138	144	881	887
Grand total	3,520	3,500	666 ^r	662 ^r	676	683	3,910	3,910

^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.

TABLE 7
COMPARATIVE SULFUR AND SULFURIC ACID STATISTICS¹

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

	2021	2022		
		May	June	January– June
Production	7.47	7.85 ^r	8.23 ^p	7.88
Shipments	7.46	7.79 ^r	8.31 ^p	7.88
Exports of sulfur	1.90	1.33	1.61	1.47
Imports of sulfur:				
Canada	1.68	1.53	1.58	1.59
Total ²	2.37	1.54	1.60	1.93
Exports of H ₂ SO ₄	0.39	0.34	0.20	0.25
Imports of H ₂ SO ₄ :				
Canada	1.88	1.92	1.87	1.85
Mexico	0.75	0.65	0.84	0.81
Total ²	3.26	2.93	3.09	3.34
Consumption:				
Domestic sources	5.56	6.46 ^r	6.70	6.41
Imports	2.37	1.54	1.60	1.93
Total	7.94	8 ^r	8.30	8.34
Sulfur export values ³	113	385	482	343
Sulfur import values: ³				
Canada	99	253	287	203
Average ³	115	258	293	220
H ₂ SO ₄ export values ³	68	134	137	130
H ₂ SO ₄ import values: ³				
Canada	51	89	95	75
Mexico	71	213	206	201
Average ²	69	146	156	139

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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.