

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Stephen M. Jasinski, Phosphate Rock Commodity Specialist
National Minerals Information Center
Telephone: (703) 648-7711
Email: sjasinsk@usgs.gov

Joseph J. Kohler (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7954
Email: jkohler@usgs.gov
Internet: <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/mineral-industry-surveys>

MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK JULY 2023

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in July 2023 was estimated to be 1.94 million metric tons (Mt), which was 14% higher than the revised amount in June 2023 and 4% lower than that in July 2022 (table 1). Total phosphate rock production in January through July 2023 was estimated to be 11.7 Mt, which was essentially unchanged from that in the same period of 2022.

Phosphate rock sold or used in the United States in July 2023 was estimated to be 1.67 Mt, which was 4% higher than that in June 2023 and essentially unchanged from that in July 2022. Total phosphate rock sold or used in January through July 2023 was estimated to be 12.2 Mt, which was 4% higher than the revised amount in the same period of 2022. U.S. producer stocks were estimated to be 3% higher than those in June 2023 and 6% lower than the revised amount in July 2022 (table 1).

Imports of phosphate rock in July 2023 were 274,000 metric tons, which was 50% higher than those in June 2023 and 10%

higher than those in July 2022. Total imports for January through July 2023 were 1.58 Mt, which was 22% higher than those in same period in 2022 (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 for 2023, based on annualized data, was 23.8 Mt compared with 21.9 Mt in 2022 (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
2022:			
January–July	11,900	11,700 ^r	9,170 ^r
July	2,010	1,650	9,170
August	2,070	1,670	9,590
September	1,440	1,340	9,690
October	1,260	1,530	9,420
November	1,430	1,590	9,240
December	1,530	1,550	9,240
January–December ^e	19,600	19,400	9,240
2023: ^e			
January	1,680	1,800	9,060
February	1,460	1,890	8,620
March	1,550	1,820	8,360
April	1,500 ^r	1,730	8,130 ^r
May	1,860	1,710 ^r	8,280 ^r
June	1,700 ^r	1,600 ^r	8,380 ^r
July	1,940	1,670	8,650
January–July	11,700	12,200	8,650

^eEstimated. ^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
2022:		
January–July	1,300	149,000
July	249	32,600
August	314	43,700
September	198	30,700
October	149	24,300
November	295	49,900
December	243	41,800
January–December	2,500	339,000
2023:		
January	263	49,200
February	210	37,700
March	240	41,000
April	208	35,000
May	203	31,900
June	183	31,400
July	274	30,300
January–July	1,580	256,000

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)

	2021	2022	2023 ^{e, 1}
Marketable production	21.6	19.6 ^e	20.1
Sold or used by producers	21.9	19.4 ^e	21.1
Yearend stocks	10.7	9.2 ^e	8.6
Imports for consumption	2.5	2.5	2.7
Average value per ton	\$84.80	\$136.00	NA
Apparent consumption ^{2, 3}	24.4	21.9 ^e	23.8

^eEstimated. NA Not Available.

¹Annualized data.

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

³Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.