

Mineral Industry Surveys

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SODA ASH IN FEBRUARY 2024

In February, soda ash production was 966,000 metric tons (t), a 3% decrease compared with the previous month's production, but a 16% increase compared with that of February 2023. For the first two months of 2024, soda ash production was 1.96 million metric tons (Mt), 14% more than the total for the first two months 2023 (tables 1 and 4). Ending stocks in February were 301,000 t, 3% more than the ending stocks from the preceding month (table 1).

Wyoming trona production in February 2024 was 1.53 Mt, a 6% decrease compared with the trona production in January 2024, but 14% more than that in February 2023. For the first two months of 2024, trona production was 3.16 Mt, 22% more than the amount (revised) for same period of 2023 (table 1).

Exports of soda ash increased 18% in February 2024 to 678,000 t, compared with those in January 2024 and 18% more than those in February 2023. For the first two months of 2024, exports were 1.25 Mt, 9% more than the same period of 2023 (tables 2, 4). Imports of soda ash in February 2024 were 756 t compared with 746 t in January 2024. Soda ash import tonnages

can differ significantly from month to month, but generally are much smaller than soda ash export tonnages (tables 3, 4).

Apparent consumption in February 2024 was 281,000 t, 27% less than the total in January 2024 but 11% more than the total in February 2023. For the first two months of 2024, apparent consumption was 663,000 t, 7% more than the total (revised) for the same period in 2023 (table 4). Apparent consumption can change significantly from month to month mostly owing to variation in the quantity of exports but usually stabilizes over the course of the year (table 4).

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TABLE 1. Salient soda ash statistics.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons. Revised data are marked with a superscript "r."]

Soda Ash			
Period	Production	Stocks, end of period	Wyoming trona production
2023			
January–February	1,720	309 ^r	2,580 ^r
February	831	309	1,340
March	868	231	1,520
April	906	250	1,470
May	991	297	1,650
June	934	328	1,490
July	942	368	1,520
August	869	312	1,340
September	874	254	1,390
October	847	263	1,470
November	965	319	1,570
December	952	251	1,660
January–December	10,900	251	17,700
2024			
January	996	292	1,630
February	966	301	1,530
January–February	1,960	301	3,160

¹Production data include soda ash equivalent from soda liquors only. Soda ash equivalent from mine water is not included. Soda liquors are withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

TABLE 2. U.S. exports of soda ash by country or locality, in 2024.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals. Data are in metric tons unless otherwise specified. Revised data are marked with a superscript "r." Source: U. S. Census Bureau.]

Country or locality	January	February			January–February		
		Quantity	Value ¹ (thousand dollars)	Unit value	Quantity	Percent of total quantity	Value ¹ (thousand dollars)
Australia	0	33,000	8,450	256	33,000	2	8,450
Brazil	43,300	80,800	17,100	211	124,000	9	24,900
Canada	13,600	14,000	4,310	307	27,600	2	8,740
Chile	30,200	78,000	26,000	334	108,000	8	31,600
China	160,000	136,000	28,000	205	297,000	21	57,600
Colombia	12,600	23,500	4,650	198	36,100	3	8,750
India	22,500	0	0	0	22,500	2	3,640
Indonesia	31,800	35,500	7,560	213	67,300	5	14,300
Japan	13,500	123	37	301	13,600	1	4,550
Korea, Republic of	30,200	17,500	3,420	195	47,700	3	10,700
Malaysia	50,600	36,400	6,920	190	87,000	6	17,300
Mexico	109,000	92,600	24,300	262	201,000	15	53,400
Peru	16,100	10,900	2,760	254	27,000	2	6,420
Philippines	0	10,500	1,930	184	10,500	1	1,930
Taiwan	225	14,800	3,600	244	15,000	1	3,650
Thailand	1,480	21,400	5,190	243	22,800	2	5,520
United Kingdom	30,000	130	39	300	30,200	2	5,290
Vietnam	1,000	58,800	12,800	218	59,800	4	13,200
Other	7,240 ^r	13,500	6,210	461	20,700	11	7,850
Total	573,000	678,000	163,000	241	1,250,000	100	288,000

¹Free alongside ship values at U.S. ports.

TABLE 3. U.S. imports of soda ash by country or locality, in 2024.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons unless otherwise specified. Sources: U.S. Census Bureau as adjusted by the U.S. Geological Survey.]

Country or locality	January	February			January–February		
		Quantity	Value ¹ (thousand dollars)	Unit value	Quantity	Percent of total quantity	Value ¹ (thousand dollars)
Austria	38	0	0	0	38	3	95
Canada	267	225	23	100	492	33	49
China	43	58	49	839	101	7	72
France	39	140	223	1,590	179	12	290
India	47	31	51	1,670	78	5	92
Italy	36	114	61	532	150	10	93
Mexico	237	109	48	441	347	23	140
Sweden	19	21	108	5,100	40	3	187
United Kingdom	20	54	38	700	74	5	54
Other	1	2	21	8,510	4	0	47
Total	746	756	622	823	1,500	100	1,120

¹Free alongside ship values at U.S. ports.

TABLE 4. U.S. Apparent Consumption of Soda Ash.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in metric tons.

Revised data are marked with a superscript "r."]

Period	Production	Exports	Imports	Net stock		Apparent consumption ¹
				Increase	Decrease	
2023						
January–December	10,900,000	6,650,000	44,700	0	113,000	4,380,000
January–February	1,720,000	1,150,000	1,450 ^r	0	54,200 ^r	621,000 ^r
February	831,000	573,000	845	6,050	0	253,000
March	868,000	523,000	785	0	77,900	424,000
April	906,000	448,000	538	18,600	0	439,000
May	991,000	616,000	756	47,300	0	329,000
June	934,000	541,000	37,400	31,100	0	400,000
July	942,000	583,000	836	39,100	0	321,000
August	869,000	527,000	731	0	55,600	399,000
September	874,000	583,000	696	0	58,400	351,000
October	847,000	494,000	587	9,720	0	343,000
November	965,000	560,000	568	55,800	0	350,000
December	952,000	621,000	421	0	68,400	400,000
2024						
January–February	1,960,000	1,250,000	1,500	50,200	0	663,000
January	996,000	573,000	746	41,600	0	382,000
February	966,000	678,000	756	8,560	0	281,000

¹Production plus imports minus exports plus or minus stock changes.