

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN DECEMBER 2007

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in December was 2.59 million metric tons (Mt), which was slightly lower than that in November, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Phosphate rock production in 2007 was slightly lower than in 2006.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in December was 2.71 Mt, which was the same as in November. Total phosphate rock used in 2007 was 4% higher than that in 2006. U.S. yearend producer stocks were 2% lower than those at the end of November and 36% lower than those at the end of December 2006.

Imports of phosphate rock in November were estimated based on U.S. Census Bureau figures and export data from the Moroccan producer. Morocco supplies more than 99% of the phosphate rock imported into the United States; however, the U.S. Census Bureau suppresses much of the phosphate rock data from Morocco. In addition, Census trade data were not available for the current month. Table 4 shows exports of phosphate rock from Morocco in 2007. Shipments of phosphate rock from Morocco to the United States were 2.67 million tons compared with 2.42 million tons in 2006.

Apparent consumption of phosphate rock in 2007 was estimated to be 34.1 Mt, compared with 32.6 Mt in 2006.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks ²
2006:			
December	2,470	2,570	7,070 ¹
January-December	30,100	30,200	XX
2007:			
January	2,340	2,590	5,880
February	2,200	2,320	5,750
March	2,510	2,590	5,680
April	2,450	2,590	5,540
May	2,710	2,650	5,590
June	2,510	2,330	5,770
July	2,580	2,640	5,660
August	2,480	2,890	5,170
September	2,370	2,600	4,940
October	2,520	2,740	4,730
November	2,610	2,710	4,630
December	2,590	2,710	4,520
Total	29,900	31,400	XX

¹Revised. XX Not applicable.

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
2006:		
January-November	1,530	77,400
November	55	2,240
December	398	18,700
January-December	1,930	96,100
Total year ³	2,400	115,000
2007: ⁴		
January	62	3,800
February	57	2,360
March	180	13,800
April	212	11,800
May	132	7,070
June	224	12,300
July	181	11,300
August	214	12,100
September	129	7,090
October	145	8,560
November	49	1,680
Total	1,590	91,900

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.

³Includes an estimate for data suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

⁴Data for current month were not available at time of publication.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2005	2006	2007
Marketable production	36.2	30.1	29.9
Sold or used by producers	35.2	30.2	31.4
Yearend stocks	6.8	6.1	4.5
Imports for consumption ^e	2.6	2.4	2.7
Average value per ton	\$40.87	\$48.05	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e, 1, 2}	37.8	32.6	34.1

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

²Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.

TABLE 4
MOROCCAN
PHOSPHATE ROCK EXPORTS¹
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2007

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination	Quantity
Argentina	203
Australia	400
Austria	81
Bangladesh	31
Belgium	423
Brazil	1,070
Bulgaria	193
Canada	128
Colombia	94
Croatia	319
El Salvador	9
France	290
Germany	100
India	1,110
Indonesia	391
Iran	42
Italy	105
Japan	159
Korea, Republic of	394
Lithuania	359
Mexico	899
New Zealand	793
Norway	106
Pakistan	303
Peru	118
Poland	943
Portugal	88
Romania	190
Spain	1,740
Turkey	244
United States	2,670
Venezuela	127
Total	14,100

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to total shown.

Source: Office Cherifien des Phosphates - Casablanca, Morocco.