

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Stephen M. Jasinski, Phosphate Rock Commodity Specialist
U.S. Geological Survey
983 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-7711, Fax: (703) 648-7757
E-mail: sjasinsk@usgs.gov

Jackie Arbour (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-4792
Fax: (703) 648-7975
E-mail: jarbour@usgs.gov

Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN JUNE 2008

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in May was 2.28 million metric tons (Mt), which was 19% lower than that in May, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Phosphate rock production for the period January through June 2008 was 4% higher than that in the same period of 2007.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in June was 2.30 Mt, which was 12% lower than that in May. Phosphate rock used in January through June 2008 was 2% higher than that in the same period of 2007. There have been no reported sales of phosphate rock by domestic producers since late 2006 because all phosphate rock is used internally by domestic producers to manufacture phosphoric acid or elemental phosphorus. U.S. producer stocks were slightly lower than those in May and 23% lower than those in June 2007.

Imports of phosphate rock 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 some of the phosphate rock data from Morocco. Table 4 shows exports of phosphate rock from Morocco. Exports of phosphate rock from Morocco to the United States for the first half of 2008 were 8% higher than that in the same period of 2007.

Apparent consumption of phosphate rock in 2008 was projected to be 34.0 Mt, based on annualized data. Apparent consumption of phosphate rock was 34.1 Mt in 2007.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks ²
2007:			
January-June	14,700	15,100	XX
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
January-December	29,900	31,400	XX
2008:			
January	2,550	2,690	4,380
February	2,510	2,480	4,410
March	2,740	2,640	4,500
April	2,450	2,670	4,280
May	2,820	2,610	4,480
June	2,280	2,300	4,460
Total	15,400	15,400	XX

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
2007:		
January-June	867	51,200
June	224	12,300
July	181	11,300
August	214	12,100
September	129	7,090
October	145	8,560
November	49	1,680
December	205	11,000
January-December	1,790	64,000
Total year ³	2,670	154,000
2008:		
January	197	11,400
February	163	17,900
March	119	7,030
April	213	22,000
May	181	19,900
June	157	18,900
Total	1,030	97,100

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.

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)

	2006	2007	2008 ^{e, 1}
Marketable production	30.1	29.9	30.9
Sold or used by producers	30.2	31.4	31.0
Yearend stocks	6.1	4.5	4.5
Imports for consumption ^e	2.4	2.7	3.0
Average value per ton	\$48.05	\$57.54	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e, 2, 3}	32.6	34.1	34.0

^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.

TABLE 4
MOROCCAN
PHOSPHATE ROCK EXPORTS¹
JANUARY - JUNE

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination	Quantity
Argentina	73
Australia	152
Austria	87
Belgium	325
Brazil	428
Bulgaria	45
Colombia	41
Croatia	183
Finland	19
France	150
India	354
Indonesia	41
Italy	43
Japan	83
Korea, Republic of	329
Lithuania	220
Mexico	460
New Zealand	351
Norway	113
Pakistan	159
Peru	111
Poland	393
Portugal	45
Romania	113
Spain	726
Taiwan	26
Turkey	132
United States	1,540
Venezuela	68
Total	6,810

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

Source: Office Cherifien des Phosphates - Casablanca, Morocco.