



Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN JANUARY 2019

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in January was 1.67 million metric tons (Mt), which was 6% lower than that in December 2018 and 24% lower than that in January 2018.

Phosphate rock sold or used in the United States in January was 2.19 Mt, which was 11% higher than that in December 2018 and 21% higher than that in January 2018. U.S. producer stocks were 6% lower those at the end of December 2018 and 7% higher than those at the end of January 2018.

Imports of phosphate rock in January were 288,000 metric tons, which was 38% higher than those in December 2018 and 24% higher than those in in January 2018. 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 2019, using annualized data, was 27.7 Mt, compared with 26.4 Mt in 2018.

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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
2018:			
January	2,200	1,810	8,880
February	2,080	1,950	9,020
March	2,230	2,070	9,070
April	2,300	2,030	9,200
May	2,550	1,870	9,770
June	2,280	1,780	10,300
July	2,260	1,910	10,600
August	2,510	2,010	11,100
September	1,850	2,000	10,900
October	1,950	2,150	10,700
November	1,740	2,070	10,300
December	1,770	1,970	10,100
January–December	25,700	23,600	10,100
2019, January	1,670	2,190	9,490

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
2018:		
January	232	16,900
February	178	11,000
March	167	10,400
April	280	23,000
May	319	21,800
June	246	21,000
July	257	17,800
August	350	30,800
September	206	15,600
October	220	14,100
November	108	6,950
December	209	16,000
January–December	2,770	205,000
2019, January	288	20,100

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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2017	2018	2019 ^{c,1}
Marketable production	27.9	25.7	24.1
Sold or used by producers	26.3	23.6	24.7
Yearend stocks	8.4	10.1	8.8
Imports for consumption	2.5	2.8	3.0
Average value per ton	\$83.75	\$74.06	NA
Apparent consumption ^{1,2,3}	28.8	26.4	27.7

^cEstimated. NA Not Available.

¹Annualized data.

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

³Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.