



Mineral Industry Surveys

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U.S. PRODUCTION OF SELECTED MINERAL COMMODITIES IN THE THIRD QUARTER 2013

U.S. mine and plant production data for selected mineral commodities are provided monthly (or quarterly) by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System (FRS), for use in preparing its index of industrial production and the related capacity indexes and capacity utilization rates. These measures cover manufacturing, mining, and electric and gas utilities, and they are among the key economic indicators monitored by the FRS for guidance in determining national monetary policy. The data in this report

include current and prior months' data provided to the FRS, some of which may have been revised.

Domestic production levels for construction materials (cement, construction sand and gravel, and crushed stone) in the third quarter of 2013 increased from those of the second quarter of 2013 (table 1), reflecting seasonal fluctuations that are influenced by weather conditions. When comparing production through the third quarter of 2013 to that of the same period of 2012, production for these mineral commodities averaged slightly higher.

TABLE 1
PRODUCTION TRENDS FOR SELECTED MINERAL COMMODITIES

Mineral commodity	Percentage change, 3d quarter 2013 vs. 2d quarter 2013 ¹	Percentage change, YTD 2013 vs. YTD 2012 ¹
Aluminum (secondary)	4	-2
Cement	13	4
Copper	6	9
Gold	5	-2
Gypsum	4	5
Iron ore	18	-1
Lead	2	1
Molybdenum	-1	7
Phosphate rock	-4	8
Sand and gravel, construction	16	2
Silver	4	5
Soda ash	1	4
Stone, crushed	12	2
Zinc	4	8

¹Percentage change based on unrounded data.

TABLE 2
U.S. PRODUCTION OF SELECTED MINERAL COMMODITIES, BY QUARTER^{1,2}

Mineral commodity		2012					1st quarter- 4th quarter	2013			1st quarter- 3d quarter	
		1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter		2d quarter	3d quarter	2012	2013	
Aluminum ³	thousand metric tons	210	213	197	195 ^r	814	196	202	210 ^e	620	608 ^e	
Cement ⁴	million metric tons	14.2	20.0	20.5	17.8	72.6	14.0 ^r	20.1 ^p	22.7 ^{p,e}	54.7	56.9 ^{p,e}	
Copper ⁵	thousand metric tons	277	277	290	323	1,170	303	299 ^r	317	844	918	
Gold ⁵	metric tons	57.0	57.2	59.0	61.5	235	54.6 ^r	56.4	59.0	173	170	
Gypsum ⁶	million metric tons	3.0	3.1	3.4	3.3	12.8	2.9	3.4	3.6 ^e	9.4	9.9 ^e	
Iron ore ⁷	do.	12.7	12.6	12.9	14.0	52.2	12.5	11.7	13.8 ^e	38.3	38.0 ^e	
Lead ⁵	thousand metric tons	83.6	83.0	84.7	84.6	336	78.4	86.1 ^r	88.2	251	253	
Molybdenum ⁵	do.	15.0	13.9	13.8	13.7	60.1 ⁸	15.5	15.2 ^r	15.1	42.8	45.9	
Phosphate rock ⁹	million metric tons	6.5	7.9	8.3	7.4	30.1 ⁸	7.9	8.4 ^r	8.1	22.6	24.4	
Sand and gravel, construction ¹⁰	do.	142	236	254	206	839	141	234 ^r	272 ^e	632	647 ^e	
Silver ⁵	metric tons	254	260	261	281	1,060	261 ^r	271 ^r	281	775	814	
Soda ash ⁷	million metric tons	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.9	11.1	2.8	2.8	2.9	8.2	8.5	
Stone, crushed ¹⁰	do.	220	320	337 ^r	281	1,160	212 ^r	321 ^r	361 ^e	877	894 ^e	
Zinc ⁵	thousand metric tons	174	175	176	189 ^r	713	174	191 ^r	199	525	564	

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. do. Ditto.

¹Based on data available as of November 18, 2013.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Aluminum alloys produced at secondary smelters in the United States, less primary aluminum consumed, primary silicon consumed, and other alloying ingredients consumed.

⁴Data are shipments of domestically produced portland and blended cement, including cement made from imported clinker, as a proxy for actual domestic cement production.

⁵Recoverable mine production.

⁶Calcined production.

⁷Mine production.

⁸Total may not equal sum of year's quarterly data owing to adjustments to annual data that are not broken out by quarter.

⁹Marketable mine production.

¹⁰Sold or used; quarterly survey based on sample survey.