

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## SODA ASH IN OCTOBER 2022

In October, soda ash production was 1.03 million metric tons (Mt), a 28% increase compared with the revised previous month's production and 10% more than that of October 2021. For the first ten months of 2022, soda ash production was 9.29 Mt, unchanged from the revised production for the first ten months of 2021 (table 4). Ending stocks in October were 298,000 metric tons (t), 26% more than the ending stocks from the preceding month (table 1).

Wyoming trona production in October 2022 was 1.53 Mt, a 21% increase compared with the revised trona production in September 2022 and 3% more than the revised total in October 2021. For the first ten months of 2022, trona production was 14.5 Mt, unchanged compared with the revised total for the first ten months of 2021 (table 1).

Exports of soda ash increased in October 2022 to 569,000 t, 15% more than those in September 2022 and 6% more than those in October 2021. For the first ten months of 2022, exports were 5.37 Mt, 5% less than the first ten months of 2021 (tables 2, 4). Imports of soda ash in October 2022 were 686 t compared with 458 t in September 2022. 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 for October 2022 was 402,000 t, 29% more than the revised total for September 2022 and 17% more than the total for October 2021. For the first ten months of 2022, apparent consumption was an estimated 3.92 Mt, 3% more than the revised estimated apparent consumption for the first ten months of 2021. 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).

All percentages in this report were calculated using unrounded data.

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TABLE 1  
SALIENT SODA ASH STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Soda ash		Wyoming trona production
	Production <sup>2</sup>	Stocks, end of period	
2021:			
January–October	9,330 <sup>r</sup>	274 <sup>r</sup>	14,600 <sup>r</sup>
October	942	274	1,490 <sup>r</sup>
November	950	285	1,490
December	972	278	1,540 <sup>r</sup>
January–December	11,300	278	17,600
2022:			
January	980	286	1,610 <sup>r</sup>
February	855	256	1,400
March	983	285	1,570
April	851	236	1,170
May	944	260	1,470
June	895	227	1,500
July	992	308	1,490 <sup>r</sup>
August	947	237	1,540
September	805 <sup>r</sup>	236	1,260 <sup>r</sup>
October	1,030	298	1,530
January–October	9,290	298	14,500

<sup>r</sup>Revised.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Production 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 2022<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Country or locality	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Quantity	October		Quantity	January–October	
											Value <sup>2</sup> (thousand dollars)	Unit value		Percent of total quantity	Value <sup>2</sup> (thousand dollars)
Argentina	5,000	27,800	--	25,300	5,560	17,300	--	40	1,500	32,200	9,640	\$299	115,000	2	29,300
Australia	--	35,000	23,000	--	35,000	--	28,000	23,300	48	35,000	11,500	329	179,000	3	52,600
Brazil	84,800	15,200	51,200	31,800	102,000	74,100	8,110	51,500	431	56,700	13,100	231	476,000	9	105,000
Canada	13,400	15,800	22,200	19,600	15,500	17,500	15,000	18,100	16,600	12,500	2,990	239	166,000	3	38,700
Chile	10,200	36,700	53,400	109,000	54,100	31,300	47,600	98,700	41,800	55,700	13,500	242	539,000	10	131,000
Colombia	1,500	19,300	9,730	27,900	12,300	23,000	11,500	17,700	18,300	--	--	--	141,000	3	30,800
Indonesia	68,300	25,700	61,800	54,100	84,300	43,600	42,200	49,200	41,600	58,400	18,500	316	529,000	10	152,000
Japan	31,000	225	438	41,800	277	20,200	40,200	4,080	22,500	28,400	6,980	246	189,000	4	47,700
Korea, Republic of	21,500	39,900	28,500	16,600	14,600	45,700	32,100	28,100	30,700	29,000	7,630	263	287,000	5	79,000
Malaysia	31,500	28,700	11,600	38,000	42,400	35,600	35,500	31,100	37,300	18,800	6,160	328	310,000	6	86,100
Mexico	128,000	111,000	161,000	143,000	121,000	138,000	145,000	121,000	126,000	119,000	28,900	243	1,310,000	24	315,000
Peru	128	13,900	--	3,130	15,800	450	322	14,800	13,400	36	11	300	61,900	1	15,700
Saudi Arabia	34,200	--	34,500	--	--	--	34,400	--	3,980	35,000	8,550	244	142,000	3	35,300
Taiwan	15,000	31,300	7,800	21,500	11,000	20,000	--	31,000	21,800	8,700	3,410	392	168,000	3	60,000
Thailand	12,400	60,400	2,430	27,200	4,930	31,500	14,100	15,900	39,300	31,800	7,910	248	240,000	4	66,500
Vietnam	13,200	53,200	21,400	24,400	33,000	20,400	15,600	1,420	54,000	23,000	7,270	315	260,000	5	81,900
Other	11,500	21,700	28,200	32,200	16,700	41,000	10,800	41,900	26,000	24,400	9,630	394	254,000	5	79,500
Total	482,000	536,000	517,000	615,000	569,000	560,000	480,000	547,000	496,000	569,000	156,000	274	5,370,000	100	1,410,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Free alongside ship values at U.S. ports.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3  
U.S. IMPORTS OF SODA ASH BY COUNTRY OR LOCALITY, IN 2022<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Country or locality	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Quantity	October		January–October		
											Value <sup>2</sup> (thousand dollars)	Unit Value	Quantity	Percent of total quantity	Value <sup>2</sup> (thousand dollars)
France	109	60	180	19	20	100	76	60	100	179	199	\$1,110	903	3	1,270
Italy	--	87	--	162	36	--	18	--	--	152	126	832	455	1	421
Mexico	118	213	21	156	59	77	59	59	20	160	80	499	942	3	475
Turkey	--	26,500 <sup>e</sup>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	26,500 <sup>e</sup>	86 <sup>e</sup>	5,040 <sup>e</sup>
United Kingdom	107	35	35	144	193	55	54	283	123	70	66	950	1,100	4	913
Other	55	13	36	10	90	36	77	204	215	125	117	934	860	3	1,030
Total	388	26,900 <sup>e</sup>	272	491	397	267	283	605	458	686	589	858	30,800 <sup>e</sup>	100 <sup>e</sup>	9,140 <sup>e</sup>

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. -- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4  
U.S. APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF SODA ASH<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Period	Production	Exports	Imports	Net stock		Apparent consumption <sup>2</sup>
				Increase	Decrease	
2021:						
January–December	11,300,000	6,900,000	118,000 <sup>e</sup>	--	27,600 <sup>r</sup>	4,490,000 <sup>r, e</sup>
January–October	9,330,000 <sup>r</sup>	5,650,000	81,200 <sup>r, e</sup>	--	31,700 <sup>r</sup>	3,790,000 <sup>r, e</sup>
October	942,000	538,000	585	59,800	--	345,000
November	950,000	593,000	491	11,000	--	346,000
December	972,000	660,000	36,400 <sup>e</sup>	--	6,920	355,000 <sup>e</sup>
2022:						
January–October	9,290,000	5,370,000	30,800 <sup>e</sup>	20,600	--	3,920,000 <sup>e</sup>
January	980,000	482,000	388	8,110	--	491,000
February	855,000	536,000	26,900 <sup>e</sup>	--	29,300	376,000 <sup>e</sup>
March	983,000	517,000	272	28,900	--	438,000
April	851,000	615,000	491	--	49,800	286,000
May	944,000	569,000	397	24,400	--	352,000
June	895,000	560,000	267	--	32,800	368,000
July	992,000	480,000	283	80,900	--	431,000
August	947,000	547,000	605	--	70,900	471,000
September	805,000 <sup>r</sup>	496,000	458	--	1,200	311,000 <sup>r</sup>
October	1,030,000	569,000	686	62,300	--	402,000

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. <sup>r</sup>Revised. -- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Production plus imports minus exports plus or minus stock changes.