

Mineral Industry Surveys

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SODA ASH IN JULY 2022

In July, soda ash production was 992,000 metric tons (t), an 11% increase compared with the previous month's revised production and essentially unchanged from that of July 2021. For the first seven months of 2022, soda ash production was 6.5 million metric tons (Mt), essentially unchanged from the revised production for the first seven months of 2021 (table 4). Ending stocks in July increased to 308,000 t, 36% more than the revised ending stock from the preceding month (table 1).

Wyoming trona production in July 2022 was 1.47 Mt, a 3% decrease compared with the trona production in June 2022 and 11% less than the total in July 2021. For the first seven months of 2022, trona production was 10.2 Mt, a slight increase compared with than the revised total for the first seven months of 2021 (table 1).

Exports of soda ash decreased in July 2022 to 480,000 t, 14% less than those in June 2022 and 5% less than those in July 2021. For the first seven months of 2022, exports were 3.76 Mt, 7% less than the first seven months of 2021 (tables 2, 4). Imports of soda ash in July 2022 were 283 t compared with 267 t in June 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 July 2022 was 431,000 t, 17% more than the revised total for June 2022 and essentially unchanged from the total for July 2021. For the first seven months of 2022, apparent consumption was an estimated 2.74 Mt, 4% more than the revised estimated apparent consumption for the first seven 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 STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

	Soda ash		Wyoming trona production
Period	Production ²	Stocks, end of period	
2021:			
January–July	6,570 ^r	269 ^r	10,000 ^r
July	980	269	1,660
August	882	242	1,540
September	936	214	1,520
October	942	274	1,480
November	950	285	1,490
December	972	278	1,530
January–December	11,300	278	17,600
2022:			
January	980	286	1,600
February	855	256	1,400
March	983	285	1,570
April	851	236	1,170
May	944 ^r	260 ^r	1,470
June	895 ^r	227 ^r	1,520
July	992	308	1,470
January–July	6,500	308	10,200

^rRevised.

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

²Production 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 2022¹

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Country or locality	January	February	March	April	May	June	July			January–July		
							Quantity	Value ² (thousand dollars)	Unit value	Quantity	Percent of total quantity	Value ² (thousand dollars)
Argentina	5,000	27,800	--	25,300	5,560	17,300	--	--	--	81,000	2	19,000
Australia	--	35,000	23,000	--	35,000	--	28,000	8,070	\$288	121,000	3	34,100
Brazil	84,800	15,200	51,200	31,800	102,000	74,100	8,110	2,470	305	367,000	10	80,600
Canada	13,400	15,800	22,200	19,600	15,500	17,500	15,000	3,450	231	119,000	3	27,400
Chile	10,200	36,700	53,400	109,000	54,100	31,300	47,600	11,100	234	342,000	9	81,400
Colombia	1,500	19,300	9,730	27,900	12,300	23,000	11,500	2,180	190	105,000	3	23,000
Indonesia	68,300	25,700	61,800	54,100	84,300	43,600	42,200	12,900	306	380,000	10	103,000
Japan	31,000	225	438	41,800	277	20,200	40,200	10,100	251	134,000	4	31,800
Korea, Republic of	21,500	39,900	28,500	16,600	14,600	45,700	32,100	8,090	252	199,000	5	52,700
Malaysia	31,500	28,700	11,600	38,000	42,400	35,600	35,500	11,000	311	223,000	6	59,800
Mexico	128,000	111,000	161,000	143,000	121,000	138,000	145,000	37,300	257	947,000	25	224,000
Saudi Arabia	34,200	--	34,500	--	--	--	34,400	8,390	244	103,000	3	25,200
Taiwan	15,000	31,300	7,800	21,500	11,000	20,000	--	--	--	107,000	3	36,100
Thailand	12,400	60,400	2,430	27,200	4,930	31,500	14,100	3,340	236	153,000	4	40,000
Vietnam	13,200	53,200	21,400	24,400	33,000	20,400	15,600	6,490	416	181,000	5	56,300
Other	11,600	35,600 ^r	28,200 ^r	35,400 ^r	32,400	41,500 ^r	11,100	6,040	545	196,000	5	56,800
Total	482,000	536,000	517,000 ^r	615,000 ^r	569,000	560,000	480,000	131,000	273	3,760,000	100	952,000

^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

²Free 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 2022¹

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Country or locality	January	February	March	April	May	June	Quantity	July		Quantity	January–July	
								Value ² (thousand dollars)	Unit Value		Percent of total quantity	Value ² (thousand dollars)
France	109	60	180	19	20	100	76	202	\$202	564	2	784
Italy	--	87	--	162	36	--	18	17	--	303	1	295
Mexico	118	213	21	156	59	77	59	30	39	703	2	333
Turkey	--	26,500 ^e	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	26,500 ^e	91	5,040 ^e
United Kingdom	107	35	35	144	193	55	54	33	61	622	2	505
Other	55	13	36	10	90	36	77	234	658	316	1	776
Total	388	26,900 ^e	272	491	397	267	283	517	193	29,000 ^e	100	7,730 ^e

^eEstimated. -- Zero.

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 4
U.S. APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF SODA ASH¹

(Metric tons)

Period	Production	Exports	Imports	Net stock		Apparent consumption ²
				Increase	Decrease	
2021:						
January–December	11,300,000	6,900,000	118,000 ^e	--	65,400 ^r	4,530,000 ^{r, e}
January–July	6,570,000 ^r	4,050,000	42,200 ^{r, e}	--	73,800 ^r	2,640,000 ^{r, e}
July	980,000	507,000	373	37,800	--	436,000
August	882,000	452,000	792	--	26,900	458,000
September	936,000	613,000	37,600 ^e	--	28,600	389,000 ^e
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 ^e	--	6,920	355,000 ^e
2022:						
January–July	6,500,000	3,760,000	29,000 ^e	30,400	--	2,740,000 ^e
January	980,000	482,000	388	8,110	--	490,000 ^r
February	855,000	536,000	26,900 ^e	--	29,300	376,000 ^{r, e}
March	983,000	517,000 ^r	272	28,900	--	438,000 ^r
April	851,000	615,000 ^r	491	--	49,800 ^r	286,000 ^r
May	944,000 ^r	569,000	397	24,400 ^r	--	352,000 ^r
June	895,000 ^r	560,000	267	--	32,800 ^r	368,000 ^r
July	992,000	480,000	283	80,900	--	431,000

^eEstimated. ^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

²Production plus imports minus exports plus or minus stock changes.