

# Mineral Industry Surveys

---

**For information, contact:**

Lori E. Apodaca, Sulfur Commodity Specialist  
National Minerals Information Center  
Telephone: (703) 648-7724  
Email: lapodaca@usgs.gov

Mana Saedi (Data)  
Telephone: (703) 648-7971  
Email: msaedi@usgs.gov

**Internet:** <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/mineral-industry-surveys>

## SULFUR IN JANUARY 2024

During January 2024, production of recovered elemental sulfur was 633,000 metric tons (t), which was 10% lower than in December 2023 and 5% lower than in January 2023. Shipments in January 2024 were 641,000 t, which were 8% lower than in December 2023 and 5% lower than that in January 2023. Producers' ending stocks for January 2024 were 113,000 t (table 1).

Imports of recovered sulfur for January 2024 were estimated to be 121,000 t; exports were 198,000 t. Imports of sulfuric acid for January 2024 were 262,000 t; exports were 11,000 t (tables 2-4).

U.S. sulfur consumption, calculated as shipments minus exports plus imports, was estimated to be 564,000 t in January

2024. This was 21% lower than in December 2023 and 6% lower than in January 2023 (table 5).

*List services and web feed subscribers are the first to receive notification of USGS minerals information publications and data releases. For information on how to subscribe, go to <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/minerals-information-publication-list-services>.*

**Table 1.** Salient sulfur statistics.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons. Preliminary data are marked with a superscript "p"; revised data are marked with a superscript "r"].

Period	Production			Shipments, all sources	Stocks, end of period <sup>1</sup>
	Petroleum <sup>2</sup>	Natural gas	Total		
2023					
January	620	45	664	673	116
February	586	42	628	630	114
March	636	45	680	691	103
April	616	33	648	640	111
May	655	36	691	700	103
June	644	32	676	676	103
July	670 <sup>r</sup>	36	706 <sup>r</sup>	703 <sup>r</sup>	105
August	637	20	658	663	99
September	627	23	650	653	96
October	620	27	647	639	104
November	627	43	671	663	112
December	663	40	703	694	121
<b>January–December</b>	7,600	422	8,020	8,030 <sup>r</sup>	121
2024 <sup>p</sup>					
January	592	41	633	641	113

<sup>1</sup>Subject to inventory adjustments.

<sup>2</sup>Includes a small quantity from coking operations.

**Table 2.** U.S. imports of sulfur.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars. Estimated data are marked with a superscript "e." Sources: U.S. Census Bureau as adjusted by U.S. Geological Survey and Acuity Commodities.]

Period	Canada		Total, all countries <sup>1</sup>	
	Quantity	Value <sup>2</sup>	Quantity	Value <sup>2</sup>
2023				
January	101	9,850	103	10,600
February	117	10,900	171	20,800
March	117	10,300	119	11,300
April	90	16,400	91	18,000
May	78	9,660	79	11,200
June	117	7,800	118	8,830
July	123	8,900	177	14,900
August	125	6,770	127	8,060
September	111	6,310	112	7,370
October	120 <sup>e</sup>	7,130	122 <sup>e</sup>	8,720
November	120 <sup>e</sup>	7,870	121 <sup>e</sup>	8,880
December	120 <sup>e</sup>	8,690	121 <sup>e</sup>	9,650
<b>January–December</b>	<b>1,340<sup>e</sup></b>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>1,460<sup>e</sup></b>	<b>138,000</b>
2024				
January	120 <sup>e</sup>	7,820	121 <sup>e</sup>	8,840

<sup>1</sup>May include other countries not listed.

<sup>2</sup>Declared customs valuation.

**Table 3.** U.S. imports of sulfuric acid.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars. Source: U.S. Census Bureau.]

Period	Canada			Mexico			Total, all countries <sup>1</sup>		
	Sulfur			Sulfur			Sulfur		
	Quantity	content	Value <sup>2</sup>	Quantity	content	Value <sup>2</sup>	Quantity	content	Value <sup>2</sup>
2023									
January	147	48	23,200	59	19	9,950	273	89	45,100
February	157	51	26,800	47	15	7,310	237	77	36,700
March	144	47	24,800	70	23	8,340	236	77	36,100
April	146	48	18,000	51	17	6,380	269	88	33,700
May	154	50	21,400	24	8	3,240	265	87	29,100
June	176	58	22,100	57	19	7,380	308	101	35,200
July	157	51	20,300	62	20	8,030	318	104	37,100
August	164	54	20,200	53	17	7,510	322	105	34,700
September	151	49	19,100	57	19	7,990	288	94	35,200
October	134	44	15,500	26	9	6,030	235	77	27,500
November	127	42	14,700	50	16	6,960	239	78	27,700
December	144	47	16,500	61	20	8,350	325	106	34,600
<b>January–December</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>243,000</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>87,500</b>	<b>3,320</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>413,000</b>
2024									
January	160	52	19,400	67	22	8,670	262	86	33,200

<sup>1</sup>May include other countries not listed.

<sup>2</sup>Declared customs valuation.

**Table 4.** U.S. exports of sulfur and sulfuric acid.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons and thousand dollars. Sources: U.S. Census Bureau as adjusted by U.S. Geological Survey.]

Period	Sulfur		Sulfuric acid		
	Quantity	Value <sup>1</sup>	Quantity	Sulfur Content	Value <sup>1</sup>
2023					
January	176	23,100	32	10	3,650
February	185	27,300	13	4	3,620
March	177	30,900	19	6	2,920
April	155	21,500	10	3	2,210
May	55	7,120	17	6	4,350
June	83	8,630	16	5	4,550
July	146	17,600	12	4	1,880
August	271	36,600	13	4	2,210
September	125	8,990	29	9	6,490
October	236	23,400	11	4	1,990
November	197	23,300	15	5	2,510
December	102	12,400	12	4	1,810
<b>January–December</b>	<b>1,910</b>	<b>241,000</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>38,200</b>
2024					
January	198	13,500	11	4	2,150

<sup>1</sup>Declared f.a.s. (free alongside ship) valuation.

**Table 5.** U.S. consumption of sulfur.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons. Estimated data are marked with a superscript "e"; preliminary data are marked with a superscript "p"; revised data are marked with a superscript "r"].

<b>Period</b>	<b>Domestic sources<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Imports</b>	<b>Consumption</b>
2023			
January	498	103	600
February	445	171	616
March	515	119	633
April	485	91	576
May	645	79	724
June	594	118	712
July	557 <sup>r</sup>	177	734 <sup>r</sup>
August	393	127	520
September	528	112	640
October	403	122 <sup>e</sup>	525 <sup>e</sup>
November	466	121 <sup>e</sup>	587 <sup>e</sup>
December <sup>p</sup>	592	121 <sup>e</sup>	712
<b>January–December</b>	<b>6,120<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>1,460<sup>e</sup></b>	<b>7,580<sup>r,e</sup></b>
2024 <sup>p</sup>			
January	443	121 <sup>e</sup>	564 <sup>e</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Calculated as shipments minus exports.

**Table 6.** Recovered sulfur produced and shipped in the United States, by PAD (Petroleum Administration for Defense)  
 [Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in thousand metric tons.  
 Preliminary data are marked with a superscript "p"].

District and source	January 2023 <sup>1</sup>		December 2023		January 2024 <sup>p</sup>	
	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments
PAD 1						
Petroleum and coke	15	15	15	14	15	15
Natural gas	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	16	16	16	15	16	16
PAD 2						
Petroleum and coke	118	118	122	121	119	120
Natural gas	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	118	118	122	121	119	120
PAD 3						
Petroleum and coke	372	380	411	408	349	352
Natural gas	7	8	6	6	5	5
<b>Total</b>	379	388	416	414	354	357
PAD 4 and 5						
Petroleum and coke	115	118	114	111	110	112
Natural gas	36	34	33	33	34	36
<b>Total</b>	151	152	148	144	144	148
<b>Grand total</b>	664	674	703	694	633	641

<sup>1</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

**Table 7.** Comparative sulfur and sulfuric acid statistics.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in million metric tons per year (annualized basis) and dollars per metric ton for period shown. Preliminary data are marked with a superscript "p"; revised data are marked with a superscript "r"].

Category	2023		2024
	December	January– December	January
Production	8.28	8.02	7.45 <sup>p</sup>
Shipments	8.17	8.03 <sup>r</sup>	7.55 <sup>p</sup>
Exports of sulfur	1.20	1.91	2.33
Imports of sulfur			
Canada	1.41	1.34	1.41
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	1.42	1.46	1.42
Exports of H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0.14	0.20	0.13
Imports of H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>			
Canada	1.70	1.80	1.88
Mexico	0.72	0.62	0.79
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	3.82	3.32	3.09
Consumption			
Domestic sources	6.97	6.12 <sup>r</sup>	5.22
Imports	1.42	1.46	1.42
<b>Total</b>	8.39	7.58 <sup>r</sup>	6.64
Sulfur export values <sup>2</sup>	121	126	68
Sulfur import values <sup>2</sup>			
Canada	72	82	65
Average <sup>2</sup>	80	95	73
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> export values <sup>2</sup>	155	194	195
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> import values <sup>2</sup>			
Canada	115	135	121
Mexico	136	142	130
Average <sup>1</sup>	107	124	127

<sup>1</sup>Includes other countries not listed.

<sup>2</sup>Average value per ton.