SALT

(Data in thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Domestic Production and Use: Domestic production of salt was an estimated 40 million tons in 2025. The quantity of salt sold or used in 2025 was an estimated 39 million tons with a total estimated value of $2.6 billion. Salt was produced by 25 companies that operated 60 plants in 15 States. The top producing States were Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Texas, and Utah. These seven States produced about 95% of the salt in the United States in 2025. The estimated percentage of salt sold or used was, by type, salt in brine, 44%; rock salt, 38%; solar salt, 9%; and vacuum pan salt, 9%.

The chemical industry accounted for about 42% of total salt sales, with salt in brine accounting for approximately 90% of the salt used for chemical feedstock. Chlorine and caustic soda manufacturers were the main consumers within the chemical industry. Highway deicing accounted for about 37% of total salt consumed. Other applications for salt included agricultural use, distributors, food processing, general industrial, miscellaneous uses, and primary water treatment.

Salient Statistics—United States:[1]	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**[e]
Production	39,300	39,400	40,000	40,400	40,000
Sold or used by producers	39,800	40,600	39,800	39,400	39,000
Imports for consumption	24,600	22,500	15,700	13,900	19,000
Exports	1,010	886	2,260	2,060	1,500
Consumption:					
Apparent[2]	63,400	62,300	53,200	51,300	57,000
Reported	47,100	45,300	44,100	42,300	43,000
Price, average unit value of bulk, pellets and packaged salt, free on board (f.o.b.) mine and plant, dollars per metric ton:					
Vacuum and open pan salt	203.72	217.58	238.51	259.69	260
Solar salt	153.52	128.87	142.80	152.87	150
Rock salt	59.88	56.86	52.28	52.95	54
Salt in brine	8.14	9.11	10.20	10.56	11
Employment, mine and plant, number[e]	4,000	4,100	4,100	4,100	4,000
Net import reliance[3] as a percentage of apparent consumption	37	35	25	23	31

Recycling: None.

Import Sources (2021–24): Mexico, 26%; Chile, 23%; Canada, 21%; Egypt, 6%; and other, 24%.

Tariff: **Item**	**Number**	**Normal Trade Relations 12–31–25**
Salt (sodium chloride)	2501.00.0000	Free.

Depletion Allowance: 10% (domestic and foreign).

Government Stockpile: None.

Events, Trends, and Issues: Salt consumption in 2025 increased relative to recent years, primarily owing to demand for road salt and the chloralkali markets. For much of the 2024–25 winter season, temperatures fluctuated around average, with January and February marked by widespread cold outbreaks throughout the continental United States. Precipitation was generally below average across many regions, yielding below-average snowfall totals in the traditional U.S. snowbelt. However, in mid-January, an arctic outbreak drove freezing precipitation deep into the south, with record snow in parts of Florida and Louisiana. Additionally, more frequent, smaller storms took place. The number of winter weather events including freezing rain, sleet, and snow is a better predictor of demand for rock salt than total snowfall. Several low snowfall or icing events usually require more salt for highway deicing than a single large event. A regional rock salt shortage affected New York in early 2025, owing to surging demand from severe weather and limited supply. Rock salt imports in 2025 were estimated to have increased compared with those in 2024 because consumption by many local and State transportation departments increased from that in 2024.

Prepared by **JohnRyan MacGregor [(703) 648–7743, jmacgregor@usgs.gov]**

SALT

For the 2025–26 winter, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicted a weak La Niña weather pattern. This historically favors storm tracks along the northern United States and a warmer-than-average temperature pattern in the southern tier of the continental United States. NOAA forecasted drier-than-average conditions for the Gulf Coast, the Southeast, and the Southwest but wetter-than-average conditions across the Great Lakes and Northwest regions of the United States. Much of the Great Plains, the Middle Atlantic, and the Northeast are expected to experience average precipitation amounts with a slight chance of warmer-than-average conditions. These forecasts indicate that demand for rock salt could increase slightly compared with that in previous season in some locales in the United States.

Demand for salt brine used in the chloralkali industry globally was expected to increase in 2026 as demand for caustic soda and polyvinyl chloride increases globally, especially in Asia. However, domestic demand was anticipated to remain largely flat. Salt exports from Australia and India have increased in recent years to meet the increasing demand. However, demand for salt in the European market was expected to decline owing to closures of chloralkali capacity driven by high energy costs and weakening demand across the European chemical industry.

World Production and Reserves: Significant revisions were made to the 2024 production for Chile, India, Iran, Italy, Mexico, and Poland based on company and Government reports.

	Mine production[e]		Reserves[4]
	2024	2025	
United States[1]	[5]40,400	40,000	Large. Economic and subeconomic deposits of salt are substantial in principal salt-producing countries. The oceans contain a virtually inexhaustible supply of salt.
Australia	12,000	12,000	
Belarus	2,000	2,000	
Brazil	6,600	6,600	
Bulgaria	2,600	2,700	
Canada	[5]10,600	13,000	
Chile	8,900	9,000	
China	56,000	56,000	
Egypt	2,300	2,300	
France	4,500	4,500	
Germany	15,000	15,000	
India	34,000	30,000	
Iran	4,200	4,200	
Italy	3,000	1,900	
Mexico	7,000	7,000	
Netherlands	5,800	5,400	
Pakistan	3,100	3,100	
Poland	3,400	4,100	
Russia	6,900	7,000	
Saudi Arabia	2,400	2,400	
Spain	4,000	4,000	
Turkey	8,400	8,300	
United Kingdom	2,600	2,600	
Other countries	29,000	28,000	
World total (rounded)	275,000	270,000	

World Resources:[4] World continental resources of salt are vast, and the salt content in the oceans is nearly unlimited. Domestic resources of rock salt and salt from brine are primarily in Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, New York, Ohio, and Texas. Saline lakes and solar evaporation salt facilities are in Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Utah. Almost every country in the world has salt deposits or solar evaporation operations of various sizes.

Substitutes: For most applications, no economic substitutes or alternatives exist for salt. Calcium chloride and calcium magnesium acetate, hydrochloric acid, and potassium chloride can be substituted for salt in deicing, certain chemical processes, and food flavoring, but at a higher cost.

[e]Estimated.

[1]Excludes production from Puerto Rico.

[2]Defined as sold or used by producers + imports – exports.

[3]Defined as imports – exports.

[4]See Appendix C for resource and reserve definitions and information concerning data sources.

[5]Reported.