

Mineral Industry Surveys

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PLATINUM-GROUP METALS IN JUNE 2006

According to Platts Metals Week, the average June price of platinum was 6% lower than the May average. In early June, the price of rhodium began to fall and averaged \$4,907.95 per troy ounce, a 12% drop compared with the May average price. The price of palladium averaged \$319.36 per troy ounce in June,

down 14% compared with the May average price. The June average iridium price increased 3% and the June average ruthenium price increased 2% compared with their respective May prices.

TABLE 1
PLATINUM-GROUP METALS PRICES¹

(Dollars per troy ounce)

	Platinum	Palladium	Rhodium	Iridium	Ruthenium
2005:					
Low/date	847.00 Jan. 4	174.00 Jul. 5	1,330.00 Jan. ²	145.00 Feb., Mar., Apr. ²	55.00 Feb. and Mar. ²
High/date	1,019.00 Dec. 12	297.00 Dec. 9	3,110.00 Nov. 17 and 18	195.00 Dec. ²	87.00 Dec. ²
Average	899.51	203.54	2,059.73	169.51	74.41
2006:					
April:					
Low/date	1,073.00/5	338.00/4	4,000.00/3	310.00 ²	165.00 ²
High/date	1,149.00/28	373.00/19	4,800.00 ²	350.00 ²	170.00 ²
Average	1,105.05	355.74	4,484.47	334.21	166.32
May:					
Low/date	1,172.00/1	340.00/22	4,800.00 ²	350.00/1 and 2	170.00 ²
High/date	1,335.00/17	407.00/12	6,300.00/23	400.00 ²	180.00 ²
Average	1,264.05	372.82	5,549.55	387.50	175.23
June:					
Low/date	1,132.00/14	286.00/13	4,175.00/14 and 15	400.00 ²	170.00 ²
High/date	1,258.00/5	363.00/5	5,675.00/1	400.00 ²	180.00 ²
Average	1,192.73	319.36	4,907.95	400.00	178.18
Year to date:					
Low/date	985.00 Jan. 3	263.00 Jan. 5	3,000.00 Jan. ²	195.00 Jan. ²	87.00 Jan. ²
High/date	1,258.00 Jun. 5	407.00 May 12	6,300.00 May 23	400.00 May ² and Jun. ²	180.00 May ² and Jun. ²
Average	1,113.98	321.36	4,240.63	298.91	142.57

¹Quotes from Engelhard Industries.

²Occured multiple days in month listed.

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PLATINUM METAL, BY COUNTRY¹

(Kilograms metal content, unless otherwise specified)

Period and country	Platinum grain and nuggets		Platinum sponge		Other unwrought platinum		Platinum, other		Platinum waste and scrap		Platinum coins	
	Value		Value		Value		Value		Value		Value	
	Quantity	(thousands)	Quantity	(thousands)	Quantity	(thousands)	Quantity	(thousands)	Quantity	(thousands)	Quantity	(thousands)
2005	358	\$10,000	68,100	\$1,940,000	1,740	\$48,000	7,020	\$144,000	184,000	\$157,000	23	\$574
2006:												
March	80	2,810	4,950	163,000	173	4,930	636	15,200	31,100	13,700	1	37
April	1	38	5,920	195,000	99	2,790	607	12,700	5,270	25,300	(2)	16
May:												
Australia	1 ³	27	--	--	--	--	44	1,990	--	--	--	--
Austria	--	--	--	--	--	--	9 ³	178	--	--	--	--
Belgium	--	--	211	7,550	--	--	2	61	--	--	--	--
Brazil	--	--	--	--	--	--	1 ³	9	750 ³	41	--	--
Canada	1	19	--	--	--	--	38	1,350	2,650	1,480	16 ³	241
Colombia	12	374	--	--	23	914	--	--	39	1,030	--	--
France	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	10	563	--	--
Germany	--	--	152	5,910	10	367	600 ³	14,100	1 ³	5	--	--
Ireland	--	--	--	--	--	--	4 ³	25	--	--	--	--
Italy	--	--	--	--	--	--	113	4,350	--	--	--	--
Japan	--	--	--	--	(2)	12	(2)	13	1	33	--	--
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	21	--	--	--	--
Mexico	--	--	--	--	(2)	9	--	--	--	--	--	--
Norway	--	--	124	4,300	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Philippines	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	16	356	--	--
Russia	--	--	125	4,890	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
South Africa	--	--	2,820	98,800	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Switzerland	--	--	--	--	2 ³	43	13 ³	254	--	--	--	--
United Kingdom	35	917	1,020	40,000	--	--	112 ³	2,300	86	3,860	--	--
Total	49	1,340	4,450	161,000	36	1,350	936	24,600	3,550	7,360	16	241
Year to date	178	5,460	25,300	838,000	570	15,100	3,220	73,200	48,800	92,300	56	706

-- Zero.

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

²Less than ½ unit.

³All or part of these data have been referred to the U.S. Census Bureau for verification.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PLATINUM-GROUP METALS, BY COUNTRY¹

(Kilograms metal content, unless otherwise specified)

Period and country	Unwrought palladium		Palladium, other		Iridium ²		Unwrought osmium		Unwrought ruthenium		Rhodium ³	
	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)
2005	124,000	\$776,000	15,200	\$79,700	3,010	\$16,700	39	\$362	23,200	\$49,800	13,600	\$821,000
2006:												
March	6,150	56,700	2,890	9,840	351	2,380	--	--	1,640	6,030	1,660	174,000
April	9,180	97,600	673	2,150	271	2,550	--	--	1,900	8,540	1,240	133,000
May:												
Belgium	139	1,610	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	41	5,780
France	--	--	1 ⁴	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Germany	48	562	11 ⁴	43	14 ⁴	179	--	--	850 ⁴	5,210	30 ⁴	4,600
Italy	109	1,320	1 ⁴	9	--	--	--	--	--	--	10 ⁴	1,420
Japan	460 ⁴	1,950	144 ⁴	153	--	--	--	--	4 ⁴	4	--	--
Norway	216	2,330	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	595
Russia	1,260	15,600	2,500 ⁴	15,700	--	--	--	--	--	--	75	10,700
Singapore	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	43	292	--	--
South Africa	1,410	15,100	311	3,500	60	624	--	--	3,260	13,000	604 ⁴	61,000
Switzerland	61	740	134 ⁴	612	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Thailand	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2 ⁴	116
United Kingdom	2,260	27,600	80 ⁴	296	154	1,830	--	--	--	--	319 ⁴	51,500
Total	5,970	66,900	3,180	20,400	228	2,640	--	--	4,160	18,500	1,090	136,000
Year to date	48,600	459,000	9,380	50,900	1,120	9,230	40	330	13,200	47,700	6,930	717,000

-- Zero.

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

²Unwrought and other forms of iridium.

³Unwrought and other forms of rhodium.

⁴All or part of these data have been referred to the U.S. Census Bureau for verification.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
U.S. EXPORTS OF PLATINUM-GROUP METALS, BY COUNTRY¹

(Kilograms of metal content, unless otherwise specified)

Period and country	Platinum ²		Platinum waste and scrap		Palladium ²		Iridium, osmium, and ruthenium ^{2,3}		Rhodium ²	
	Value		Value		Value		Value		Value	
	Quantity	(thousands)	Quantity	(thousands)	Quantity	(thousands)	Quantity	(thousands)	Quantity	(thousands)
2005	20,700	\$448,000	24,900	\$482,000	27,000	\$122,000	1,080	\$7,200	615	\$28,900
2006:										
March	2,870	71,000	2,120	42,100	3,300	18,700	461	7,800	30	4,230
April	2,560	68,400	2,720	54,200	3,030	15,200	303	2,420	14	2,110
May:										
Australia	7 ⁴	123	--	--	38	399	--	--	--	--
Austria	12 ⁴	248	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Belgium	3	77	--	--	21 ⁴	287	--	--	--	--
Brazil	166 ⁴	2,110	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Canada	69 ⁴	1,490	164 ⁴	1,560	203 ⁴	1,400	60	568	1	115
China	266 ⁴	7,990	--	--	11 ⁴	65	1 ⁴	30	--	--
Denmark	(5)	3	--	--	6	82	--	--	--	--
France	24 ⁴	744	--	--	98 ⁴	679	--	--	--	--
Germany	314 ⁴	7,430	622	6,240	354 ⁴	2,020	1	6	--	--
Hong Kong	106 ⁴	2,740	2	17	41 ⁴	369	21	136	--	--
India	1 ⁴	11	--	--	64 ⁴	282	--	--	(5) ⁴	24
Ireland	27 ⁴	595	--	--	13 ⁴	39	--	--	--	--
Israel	1 ⁴	18	--	--	47 ⁴	249	--	--	--	--
Italy	467 ⁴	18,300	126	2,100	15 ⁴	130	--	--	--	--
Japan	271 ⁴	7,550	666	8,100	109 ⁴	1,200	19 ⁴	211	(5)	11
Korea, Republic of	2 ⁴	37	--	--	12 ⁴	204	--	--	(5)	16
Malaysia	--	--	--	--	1 ⁴	9	4 ⁴	121	--	--
Mexico	18 ⁴	322	--	--	154 ⁴	146	--	--	(5) ⁴	75
Netherlands	28 ⁴	297	--	--	2	20	--	--	--	--
New Zealand	--	--	--	--	4	54	--	--	--	--
Norway	9 ⁴	158	--	--	7	108	--	--	--	--
Saudi Arabia	--	--	--	--	23	258	--	--	--	--
Singapore	--	--	55	523	3	28	25 ⁴	151	--	--
Spain	1 ⁴	17	--	--	7	103	--	--	--	--
Sweden	1	26	--	--	2	36	--	--	--	--
Switzerland	466 ⁴	10,000	--	--	61	727	--	--	--	--
Taiwan	108 ⁴	2,760	--	--	597 ⁴	1,510	--	--	--	--
Thailand	6	145	--	--	106 ⁴	356	--	--	--	--
United Arab Emirates	(5)	5	--	--	1 ⁴	12	--	--	--	--
United Kingdom	1,080 ⁴	32,400	882	38,000	698 ⁴	2,510	5	29	7	1,230
Other	1 ⁴	38	--	--	5	41	(5) ⁴	4	--	--
Total	3,450	95,700	2,520	56,600	2,700	13,300	136	1,260	8	1,470
Year to date	13,700	352,000	10,300	212,000	13,600	74,600	1,190	13,600	184	17,400

-- Zero.

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

²Unwrought and other forms.

³Gross weight.

⁴All or part of these data have been referred to the U.S. Census Bureau for verification.

⁵Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.