

Mineral Industry Surveys

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PLATINUM-GROUP METALS IN SEPTEMBER 2006

According to Platts Metals Week, the average September price of palladium and platinum were 2% and 4% lower than their respective August averages. The prices of rhodium and ruthenium were 4% more than their August average prices.

The September average iridium price was unchanged compared with the August average price.

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:					
July:					
Low/date	1,200.00/24	309.00/24	4,550.00/7 and 10	400.00 ²	168.00 ²
High/date	1,262.00/12	332.00/13	4,700.00/5 and 6	400.00 ²	170.00 ²
Average	1,231.95	320.21	4,621.84	400.00	168.63
August:					
Low/date	1,219.00/29	315.00/14	4,630.00/1	400.00 ²	168.00 ²
High/date	1,253.00/7	348.00/24	4,650.00 ²	400.00 ²	168.00 ²
Average	1,236.74	332.57	4,647.83	400.00	168.00
September:					
Low/date	1,130.00/25 and 26	306.00/18	4,650.00/1	400.00 ²	168.00 ²
High/date	1,271.00/5	351.00/5 and 6	4,940.00 ²	400.00 ²	185.00/29
Average	1,183.30	324.40	4,824.75	400.00	175.50
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	1,271.00 Sep. 5	407.00 May 12	4,940.00 Sep. ²	400.00 May-Sep. ²	185.00 Sep. 29
Average	1,148.43	322.81	4,393.13	332.61	151.95

¹Quotes from Engelhard Industries.

²Occured multiple days in month(s) 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:												
June	32	953	4,160	160,000	252	8,350	598	14,100	536	13,700	--	--
July	(2)	6	3,470	133,000	1,600	62,300	649	20,600	4,050	53,600	(2)	5
August:												
Australia	--	--	--	--	--	--	140	5,640	--	--	(2) ³	9
Belgium	--	--	68	2,590	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Bolivia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2 ³	19	--	--
Brazil	--	--	80	3,190	--	--	--	--	783 ³	954	--	--
Canada	1	53	--	--	(2) ³	13	45 ³	1,560	180	788	--	--
China	--	--	--	--	1 ³	15	--	--	27	814	--	--
Colombia	--	--	--	--	35	1,350	--	--	18 ³	274	--	--
Dominican Republic	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9 ³	53	--	--
El Salvador	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	59	--	--
Germany	--	--	--	--	9	359	363 ³	8,610	13,600	13,900	--	--
Greece	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5	147	--	--
India	--	--	31	1,250	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Ireland	--	--	--	--	--	--	10 ³	20	--	--	--	--
Japan	--	--	--	--	274 ³	10,700	(2) ³	7	332 ³	4,770	--	--
Jordan	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	827	165	--	--
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	98	5,060	760	--	--
Norway	--	--	74	3,050	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Philippines	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	10 ³	230	--	--
Russia	--	--	111	4,400	649	25,800	--	--	--	--	--	--
South Africa	--	--	3,940	150,000	417	16,600	--	--	--	--	--	--
Switzerland	--	--	--	--	275 ³	10,900	8 ³	204	--	--	--	--
Taiwan	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	554 ³	14,600	--	--
United Kingdom	18	658	921	36,500	4 ³	79	49 ³	2,120	151	6,170	--	--
Venezuela	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3 ³	51	--	--
Total	19	711	5,220	201,000	1,660	65,800	618	18,300	21,600	43,800	(2)	9
Year to date	229	7,130	38,200	1,330,000	4,090	152,000	5,080	126,000	75,000	203,000	57	720

-- 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:												
June	8,730	89,800	1,650	15,900	139	1,730	--	--	2,370	13,000	1,480	224,000
July	8,400 ^r	85,100	749	5,690	174	2,220	7	100	1,220	6,350	996	116,000
August:												
Belgium	64	652	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	111	16,200
Canada	86 ⁴	1,710	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
China	(5)	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Germany	39	403	6 ⁴	49	41 ⁴	485	--	--	1,290	6,170	35 ⁴	5,270
Italy	3	29	1 ⁴	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Japan	181 ⁴	741	56 ⁴	72	--	--	--	--	24 ⁴	61	(5) ⁴	2
Norway	339	3,500	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	63	1,010
Russia	2,930	30,500	599	4,720	--	--	--	--	406	2,200	71	10,500
Singapore	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	55	278	--	--
South Africa	2,690	27,000	--	--	39	476	--	--	2,510	12,100	677	84,600
Switzerland	--	--	222 ⁴	2,430	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
United Kingdom	2,680	24,100	--	--	237	3,010	--	--	2	10	258	37,800
Total	9,010	88,600	884	7,280	317	3,970	--	--	4,290	20,800	1,220	155,000
Year to date	74,700	723,000	12,700	79,800	1,750	17,100	47	430	21,100	87,800	10,600	1,210,000

^rRevised. -- 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.

⁵Less than ½ unit.

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:										
May	4,370	130,000	2,870	67,400	5,760	43,700	235	2,250	12	1,800
June	1,630 ^r	48,700	1,210	24,900	8,020	77,400	198	1,830	3	379
July:										
Australia	5 ⁴	76	--	--	29	335	--	--	--	--
Brazil	16 ⁴	361	(5)	4	6	43	--	--	--	--
Canada	115 ⁴	2,820	189 ⁴	1,800	374 ⁴	3,420	--	--	25 ⁴	3,780
China	300 ⁴	9,090	--	--	57 ⁴	145	--	--	--	--
France	1 ⁴	24	--	--	73 ⁴	259	(5) ⁴	7	--	--
Germany	166 ⁴	3,930	90 ⁴	1,270	362 ⁴	1,210	1	11	6 ⁴	748
Hong Kong	11 ⁴	246	--	--	37 ⁴	259	6	68	(5)	15
India	25 ⁴	435	--	--	--	--	--	--	(5)	8
Ireland	23 ⁴	437	--	--	17 ⁴	38	1	7	--	--
Israel	1 ⁴	14	--	--	129 ⁴	367	--	--	--	--
Italy	(5) ⁴	3	--	--	32	378	--	--	--	--
Japan	370 ⁴	9,930	599	7,160	70 ⁴	337	143	1,190	(5) ⁴	3
Korea, Republic of	2 ⁴	47	--	--	51 ⁴	242	--	--	--	--
Malaysia	1 ⁴	32	--	--	(5)	4	5 ⁴	136	--	--
Mexico	27 ⁴	547	--	--	7 ⁴	67	--	--	1 ⁴	112
Netherlands	8 ⁴	154	--	--	2	17	--	--	--	--
New Zealand	(5) ⁴	4	--	--	7 ⁴	112	--	--	--	--
Norway	12 ⁴	185	--	--	7 ⁴	119	--	--	--	--
Singapore	3 ⁴	63	--	--	4	42	68	319	(5)	31
Spain	1 ⁴	20	--	--	17	154	--	--	--	--
Switzerland	91 ⁴	3,090	--	--	3 ⁴	43	--	--	--	--
Taiwan	119 ⁴	3,110	--	--	246 ⁴	486	23 ⁴	139	--	--
Thailand	11 ⁴	158	--	--	3 ⁴	22	--	--	--	--
United Kingdom	1,410 ⁴	44,100	1,980	42,000	433 ⁴	2,610	(5)	5	--	--
Other	20 ⁴	306	--	--	25 ⁴	215	--	--	(5)	12
Total	2,730	79,200	2,860	52,200	1,990	10,900	249	1,880	32	4,700
Year to date	22,400	610,000	17,300	356,000	29,400	207,000	1,870	19,500	231	24,300

^rRevised. -- 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.