

Mineral Industry Surveys

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PLATINUM-GROUP METALS IN JULY 2006

According to Platts Metals Week, the average July price of platinum was 3% higher than the June average. The average price of rhodium decreased for the second month in a row, averaging \$4,621.84 per troy ounce, a 6% drop compared with the June average price. The price of palladium averaged

\$320.21 per troy ounce, slightly more than the June average price. The July average iridium price remained the same and the average July ruthenium price decreased 5% compared with June average 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:					
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
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
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	1,262.00 Jul. 12	407.00 May 12	6,700.00 Jul. 5 and 6	400.00 May ² , Jun. ² and Jul. ²	180.00 May ² and Jun. ²
Average	1,130.83	321.19	4,295.09	313.35	146.29

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	
	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (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:												
April	1	38	5,920	195,000	99	2,790	607	12,700	5,270	25,300	(2)	16
May	49	1,340	4,450	161,000	36	1,350	936	24,600	3,550	7,360	16	241
June:												
Belgium	--	--	183	7,380	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Brazil	--	--	84	3,390	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Canada	1	29	--	--	--	--	62	1,590	188 ³	2,380	--	--
China	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	(2)	100	--	--
Colombia	--	--	--	--	23	784	--	--	10 ³	172	--	--
El Salvador	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	50	--	--
France	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	38 ³	192	--	--
Germany	--	--	257	9,940	15 ³	512	425 ³	8,550	91 ³	6,380	--	--
Greece	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1 ³	111	--	--
Hong Kong	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	19	--	--	--	--
Ireland	--	--	--	--	--	--	2 ³	32	--	--	--	--
Italy	--	--	(2)	6	--	--	74	2,820	--	--	--	--
Japan	--	--	138	5,190	42	1,170	1	21	--	--	--	--
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	17	146	1,600	--	--
Malaysia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	94	--	--
Norway	--	--	78	3,130	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Philippines	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6	130	--	--
Russia	--	--	123	4,780	35	1,270	--	--	--	--	--	--
South Africa	--	--	2,510 ³	95,600	54	1,470	--	--	--	--	--	--
Switzerland	--	--	9	247	84	3,150	4 ³	83	--	--	--	--
Thailand	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	43	--	--
United Kingdom	31	923	780 ³	30,800	--	--	30 ³	989	49 ³	2,400	--	--
Total	32	953	4,160	160,000	252	8,350	598	14,100	536	13,700	--	--
Year to date	210	6,410	29,500	999,000	822	23,400	3,810	87,300	49,300	106,000	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:												
April	9,180	97,600	673	2,150	271	2,550	--	--	1,900	8,540	1,240	133,000
May	5,970	66,900	3,180	20,400	228	2,640	--	--	4,160	18,500	1,080	136,000
June:												
Belgium	20	248	72	782	--	--	--	--	--	--	213 ⁴	21,500
Canada	--	--	100	1,920	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Dominican Republic	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	(5) ⁴	3
France	--	--	1	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Germany	56 ⁴	609	6 ⁴	67	10 ⁴	137	--	--	558	3,340	168 ⁴	29,400
India	799	8,220	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Italy	137	1,540	(5) ⁴	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	5 ⁴	484
Japan	220 ⁴	1,610	109 ⁴	151	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Norway	274	2,880	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	24 ⁴	468
Russia	3,840	37,200	1,120	10,200	--	--	--	--	34	182	80	13,500
South Africa	2,160	24,000	--	--	59	681	--	--	1,770	9,470	713	113,000
Switzerland	187	1,880	239	2,740	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
United Kingdom	1,030	11,600	4 ⁴	74	71	913	--	--	--	--	280 ⁴	45,800
Total	8,730	89,800	1,650	15,900	139	1,730	--	--	2,370	13,000	1,480	224,000
Year to date	57,300	549,000	11,000	66,800	1,260	11,000	40	330	15,500	60,600	8,410	941,000

-- 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.

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:										
April	2,560	68,400	2,720	54,200	3,030	15,200	303	2,420	14	2,110
May	3,460	95,700	2,520	56,600	2,710	13,300	136	1,260	8	1,470
June:										
Australia	2 ⁴	47	--	--	62 ⁴	464	1	13	--	--
Brazil	69	2,450	--	--	2 ⁴	19	--	--	--	--
Canada	88 ⁴	1,890	187	1,780	454 ⁴	4,010	--	--	--	--
Chile	156	4,090	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
China	242 ⁴	8,110	--	--	5 ⁴	21	(5) ⁴	15	--	--
France	5 ⁴	98	--	--	36 ⁴	300	--	--	--	--
Germany	183 ⁴	6,080	946	17,300	337 ⁴	1,660	2 ⁴	10	--	--
Hong Kong	16 ⁴	351	2	16	47 ⁴	249	21	136	--	--
India	(5)	3	--	--	40	349	--	--	--	--
Ireland	22 ⁴	512	--	--	--	--	1 ⁴	4	--	--
Israel	28 ⁴	536	--	--	11 ⁴	102	--	--	--	--
Italy	298 ⁴	11,000	--	--	31 ⁴	318	--	--	6	1,110
Japan	430 ⁴	14,100	527	6,670	61 ⁴	752	20	168	--	--
Korea, Republic of	54 ⁴	1,250	--	--	149 ⁴	1,390	2	39	--	--
Malaysia	1	20	--	--	1 ⁴	9	8 ⁴	233	--	--
Mexico	17 ⁴	343	--	--	10 ⁴	90	--	--	(5) ⁴	101
New Zealand	(5) ⁴	7	--	--	7	101	--	--	--	--
Singapore	17 ⁴	330	--	--	4	42	--	--	--	--
Spain	1	15	--	--	16	105	--	--	--	--
Switzerland	11 ⁴	206	--	--	2,760 ⁴	26,900	--	--	--	--
Taiwan	165 ⁴	4,180	--	--	1,270 ⁴	4,610	162	1,480	--	--
United Kingdom	2,540 ⁴	74,500	1,210	41,600	424 ⁴	1,900	9 ⁴	78	3 ⁴	502
Other	25 ⁴	411	--	--	36 ⁴	354	8 ⁴	77	2 ⁴	86
Total	4,370	130,000	2,870	67,400	5,760	43,700	234	2,250	12	1,800
Year to date	18,100	482,000	13,200	279,000	19,400	118,000	1,420	15,800	196	19,200

-- 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.