

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TUNGSTEN IN JUNE 2013

U.S. net production of intermediate tungsten products, including metal powder and tungsten carbide powder, was 12% less during January through June 2013 than net production during the same period in 2012.

Total U.S. reported consumption of ferrotungsten, tungsten metal powder, tungsten carbide powder, tungsten scrap, and other tungsten materials in January through June 2013 was 9% less than that consumed during the same period in 2012. These materials were used to make alloys, cemented carbides, mill products, and other products, such as catalysts and pigments.

Data for U.S. imports and exports of tungsten for June 2013 are published in this issue.

Prices

Prices for June 2013 were sourced from Platts Metals Daily. The prices listed below in dollars per metric ton unit were converted from short-ton-unit prices and rounded to the nearest dollar.

Ammonium paratungstate, U.S. free market:

Low—\$358/metric ton unit WO_3 (\$325/short ton unit WO_3)
High—\$364/metric ton unit WO_3 (\$330/short ton unit WO_3)

Concentrates:

Low—\$353/metric ton unit WO_3 (\$320/short ton unit WO_3)
High—\$364/metric ton unit WO_3 (\$330/short ton unit WO_3)

TABLE 1
U.S. SALIENT TUNGSTEN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period	Concentrate				Reported scrap consumption ^p	Intermediate products				
	Reported consump- tion ^p	Imports for consumption	Stocks, end of period			Net production ^{p, 4}	Reported consump- tion ^{p, 5}	Stocks, end of period		U.S. Gov- ernment ³
			Industry ^{p, 2}	U.S. Gov- ernment ³				Consumer ^{p, 5}	Producer ^{p, 6}	
2012:										
June	W	269	W	15,800	(7)	501	848	W	742	125
July	W	301	W	15,800	(7)	490	909	W	723	125
August	W	266	W	14,200	(7)	387	813	W	681	125
September	W	239	W	14,200	(7)	585	1,010	W	723	121
October	W	260	W	14,200	679	343	794	W	668 ^r	125
November	W	327	W	14,100	469	485	911	W	679	125
December	W	421	W	14,000	502	494	915	W	653	125
January—December	W	3,650	W	14,000	8,140	6,360	11,300	W	653	125
2013:										
January	W	487	W	13,900	424	544	903	W	615	125
February	W	439	W	13,900	485	530	913	W	660	125
March	W	265	W	13,800	477	494	901	W	651	125
April	W	410	W	13,800	506	542	895	W	692	125
May	W	253	W	13,700	462 ^r	433 ^r	900	W	787 ^r	125
June	W	368	W	13,000	414	617	891	W	755	125
January—June	W	2,220	W	13,000	2,770	3,160	5,400	W	755	125

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

²Reported by consumers.

³Data from the Defense Logistics Agency, DLA Strategic Materials. Data are uncommitted material only.

⁴Net production of tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder.

⁵Data for ferrotungsten, tungsten carbide powder, tungsten chemicals, tungsten metal powder, and tungsten scrap reported by consumers. Includes estimates.

⁶Data for tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder reported by producers. Includes estimates.

⁷Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "January–December 2012."

TABLE 2
U.S. PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF TUNGSTEN PRODUCTS^{p, 1}

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Product ³	Net production ²				Stocks at end of period		
	2012	2013			2012	2013	
		May	June	January—June ⁴		May	June
Metal powder	W	W	W	W	300	419 ^r	328
Tungsten carbide powder	W	W	W	W	353	368 ^r	427
Total	6,360	433	617	3,160	653	787 ^r	755

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

²Receipts plus gross production less quantity used to make other products in table.

³Data for cast and crystalline tungsten carbide powder and tungsten chemicals are withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; not included in "Total."

⁴May include revisions to previously published data.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF TUNGSTEN, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period and country of origin	Ores and concentrates	Ammonium tungstates	Ferro-tungsten	Metal powder	Tungsten carbide powder	Other ²	Total	Total, year to data
2012	3,650	1,500	316	1,230	1,240	2,280	10,200	XX
2013:								
April	410	189	21	107	63	208	998	3,440
May	253	106	15	99	111	183	767	4,210
June:								
Australia	17	--	--	--	--	--	17	80
Austria	--	--	--	--	13	6	19	114
Belgium	--	--	--	--	3	(3)	3	11
Bolivia	146	--	--	--	--	--	146	662
Canada	66	--	--	3	12	(3)	81	880
China	(3)	134	57	31	23	245	489	2,180
Colombia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	28
France	--	--	--	1	2	(3)	3	9
Germany	--	36	--	13	3	5	57	172
Hungary	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	6
India	--	--	--	--	--	3	3	11
Israel	--	--	--	14	3	--	17	87
Japan	--	--	--	1	--	2	3	16
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	41	5	(3)	46	215
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6
Poland	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12
Portugal	72	--	--	--	--	--	72	319
Russia	25	--	--	--	--	1	26	38
Rwanda	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	14
Singapore	--	--	--	--	--	8	8	34
South Africa	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6
Spain	42	--	--	--	--	--	42	245
Thailand	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	38
United Kingdom	--	--	--	--	(3)	1	2	18
Vietnam	--	--	21	6	--	--	27	62
Other	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	2	2	5
Total	368	169	78	109	64	274	1,060	5,270
January—June	2,220	695	156	672	402	1,130	5,270	XX

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²Includes other unwrought tungsten, wrought tungsten, calcium and other tungstates, tungsten oxides, tungsten chlorides, other tungsten compounds, ash and residues containing mainly tungsten, and other mixtures of inorganic compounds containing tungsten. Tungsten content estimated in part.

³Less than 1/2 unit.

Note: Imports of waste and scrap in June 2013 totaled 69 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January—June total of 591 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
U.S. EXPORTS OF TUNGSTEN, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period and country of destination	Ores and concentrates ²	Ammonium tungstates	Metal powder ²	Tungsten carbide powder	Other ³	Total	Total, year to date ⁴
2012	203	833	637	878	1,550	4,100	XX
2013:							
April	4	314	30	37	125	509	1,880
May	101	105	45	70	138	459	2,330
June:							
Australia	--	--	--	4	(5)	4	24
Austria	--	--	--	--	4	4	36
Belgium	--	--	--	(5)	--	(5)	13
Brazil	(5)	--	1	2	1	4	25
Bulgaria	--	--	--	(5)	--	(5)	5
Canada	--	--	2	8	35	45	389
China	--	--	2	(5)	4	6	107
Costa Rica	--	--	--	--	1	1	7
Czech Republic	--	--	--	12	--	12	62
France	--	--	--	1	(5)	1	8
Germany	--	81	4	9	20	114	523
Hong Kong	(5)	--	(5)	--	--	(5)	54
Hungary	--	--	--	--	--	--	40
India	--	--	1	(5)	7	8	45
Israel	--	--	(5)	--	--	(5)	7
Italy	--	--	--	--	--	--	5
Japan	--	--	2	(5)	2	4	24
Korea, Republic of	--	--	(5)	(5)	(5)	1	16
Luxembourg	--	--	--	--	--	--	15
Malaysia ⁶	(5)	--	(5)	--	2	2	9
Mexico	--	--	1	2	3	7	60
Netherlands	--	--	(5)	--	(5)	(5)	17
Panama	--	--	--	--	11	11	24
Saudi Arabia	--	--	--	1	--	1	44
Singapore	--	--	2	(5)	30	32	130
South Africa	--	--	1	--	(5)	1	5
Switzerland	--	181	--	(5)	--	181	905
Taiwan	--	--	2	8	(5)	10	34
Thailand	--	--	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	7
Turkey	--	--	--	--	--	--	4
United Kingdom	--	--	--	1	1	2	64
Venezuela	--	--	--	(5)	(5)	(5)	10
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	(5)	(5)	48
Other	(5)	--	2	2	2	5	25
Total ⁶	(5)	261	22	51	124	460	2,790
January–June ⁶	233	1,240	237	329	755	2,790	XX

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²Tungsten content estimated from reported gross weight.

³Includes unwrought tungsten, including bars and rods obtained simply by sintering, wrought tungsten, ferrotungsten, and other tungstates. Tungsten content estimated in part.

⁴May include revisions to previously published data.

⁵Less than ½ unit.

⁶Adjusted by the U.S. Geological Survey.

Note: Estimated exports of waste and scrap in June 2013 totaled 77 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–June total of 1,180 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.