

# Mineral Industry Surveys

---

**For information, contact:**

Kim B. Shedd, Tungsten Commodity Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
989 National Center  
Reston, VA 20192  
Telephone: (703) 648-4974, Fax: (703) 648-7757  
E-mail: kshedd@usgs.gov

Annie Hwang (Data)  
Telephone: (703) 648-7952  
Fax: (703) 648-7975  
E-mail: ahwang@usgs.gov

**Internet:** <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

## TUNGSTEN IN AUGUST 2013

U.S. net production of intermediate tungsten products, including metal powder and tungsten carbide powder, was 8% less during January through August 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 August 2013 was 6% 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 August 2013 are published in this issue.

### Prices

Prices for August 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  $\text{WO}_3$  (\$325/short ton unit  $\text{WO}_3$ )  
High—\$364/metric ton unit  $\text{WO}_3$  (\$330/short ton unit  $\text{WO}_3$ )

Concentrates:

Low—\$353/metric ton unit  $\text{WO}_3$  (\$320/short ton unit  $\text{WO}_3$ )  
High—\$364/metric ton unit  $\text{WO}_3$  (\$330/short ton unit  $\text{WO}_3$ )

TABLE 1  
U.S. SALIENT TUNGSTEN STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period	Concentrate				Reported scrap consumption <sup>p</sup>	Intermediate products				
	Reported consump- tion <sup>p</sup>	Imports for consumption	Stocks, end of period			Net production <sup>p, 4</sup>	Reported consump- tion <sup>p, 5</sup>	Stocks, end of period		U.S. Gov- ernment <sup>3</sup>
			Industry <sup>p, 2</sup>	U.S. Gov- ernment <sup>3</sup>				Consumer <sup>p, 5</sup>	Producer <sup>p, 6</sup>	
2012:										
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	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	433	900	W	787	125
June	W	368	W	13,000	414	617	891	W	755	125
July	W	249	W	12,300	467	494 <sup>r</sup>	887	W	732 <sup>r</sup>	125
August	W	262	W	12,100	448	452	893	W	715	125
January—August	W	2,730	W	12,100	3,680	4,110	7,180	W	715	125

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

<sup>2</sup>Reported by consumers.

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

<sup>4</sup>Net production of tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder.

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

<sup>6</sup>Data for tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder reported by producers. Includes estimates.

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

TABLE 2  
U.S. PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF TUNGSTEN PRODUCTS<sup>p, 1</sup>

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Product <sup>3</sup>	Net production <sup>2</sup>				Stocks at end of period		
	2012	2013		January—August <sup>4</sup>	2012	2013	
		July	August			July	August
Metal powder	W	W	W	W	300	305 <sup>r</sup>	286
Tungsten carbide powder	W	W	W	W	353	427 <sup>r</sup>	429
Total	6,360	494 <sup>r</sup>	452	4,110	653	732 <sup>r</sup>	715

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

<sup>2</sup>Receipts plus gross production less quantity used to make other products in table.

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

<sup>4</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

TABLE 3  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF TUNGSTEN, BY COUNTRY<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period and country of origin	Ores and concentrates	Ammonium tungstates	Ferro-tungsten	Metal powder	Tungsten carbide powder	Other <sup>2</sup>	Total	Total, year to data
2012	3,650	1,500	316	1,230	1,240	2,280	10,200	XX
2013:								
June	368	169	78	109	64	274	1,060	5,270
July	249	99	60	84	90	199	782	6,050
August:								
Australia	10	--	--	--	--	--	10	127
Austria	--	--	--	--	--	4	4	149
Belgium	--	--	--	--	2	--	2	14
Bolivia	92	--	--	--	--	--	92	794
Brazil	--	--	18	--	--	--	18	37
Canada	61	--	--	11	18	--	90	1,070
China	--	253	55	50	46	144	548	3,020
Colombia	8	--	--	--	--	--	8	50
Czech Republic	--	--	--	1	9	(3)	10	11
France	--	--	--	--	1	(3)	1	11
Germany	--	89	--	18	6	2	116	368
Hong Kong	--	--	15	--	--	(3)	15	16
Hungary	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	7
India	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	13
Ireland	--	--	--	--	--	3	3	4
Israel	--	--	--	7	--	(3)	7	100
Japan	--	--	--	--	1	1	2	21
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	29	--	(3)	29	280
Mexico	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6
Poland	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12
Portugal	47	--	--	--	--	--	47	401
Russia	--	--	--	--	--	20	20	68
Rwanda	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	14
Singapore	--	--	--	1	--	1	2	49
South Africa	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6
Spain	31	--	--	--	--	--	31	297
Thailand	13	--	--	--	--	--	13	63
United Kingdom	--	--	--	--	(3)	5	5	24
Vietnam	--	--	--	(3)	--	--	(3)	79
Other	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	(3)	3
Total	262	342	88	117	85	182	1,070	7,130
January—August	2,730	1,140	303	873	575	1,510	7,130	XX

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes 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.

<sup>3</sup>Less than ½ unit.

Note: Imports of waste and scrap in August 2013 totaled 203 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January—August total of 908 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4  
U.S. EXPORTS OF TUNGSTEN, BY COUNTRY<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period and country of destination	Ores and concentrates <sup>2</sup>	Ammonium tungstates	Metal powder <sup>2</sup>	Tungsten carbide powder	Other <sup>3</sup>	Total	Total, year to date <sup>4,5</sup>
2012	203	833	637	878	1,550	4,100	XX
2013:							
June <sup>5</sup>	(6)	261	23	51	124 <sup>r</sup>	460 <sup>r</sup>	2,790 <sup>r</sup>
July	85	3	50	78	79	294	3,090 <sup>r</sup>
August:							
Australia	--	--	(6)	1	3	4	30
Austria	--	--	--	7	7	13	62
Belgium	--	--	(6)	--	(6)	(6)	15
Brazil	(6)	--	1	(6)	4	5	33
Bulgaria	--	--	--	--	--	--	5
Canada	(6)	--	9	10	48	67	507
China	57	--	1	95	(6)	152	308
Costa Rica	--	--	--	--	2	2	10
Czech Republic	--	--	--	--	--	--	63
France	--	--	(6)	4	--	4	12
Germany	--	18	14	23	15	70	632
Hong Kong	20	--	(6)	(6)	(6)	20	87
Hungary	--	32	--	--	(6)	32	73
India	--	3	1	(6)	3	7	64
Indonesia	--	--	--	--	4	4	15
Israel	--	--	--	--	--	--	12
Italy	--	--	--	--	(6)	(6)	6
Japan	--	--	4	(6)	(6)	4	36
Korea, Republic of	--	--	(6)	1	(6)	1	18
Luxembourg	--	--	--	10	--	10	24
Malaysia <sup>5</sup>	(6)	--	(6)	2	--	2	11
Mexico	--	--	(6)	(6)	4	5	72
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	(6)	(6)	17
Panama	--	--	--	--	--	--	24
Russia	--	--	--	--	9	9	10
Saudi Arabia	--	--	7	(6)	--	7	69
Singapore	--	--	2	(6)	23	25	163
South Africa	--	--	--	--	(6)	(6)	9
Switzerland	--	--	5	--	17	23	929
Taiwan	--	--	1	8	(6)	9	52
Thailand	--	--	--	(6)	3	3	17
United Kingdom	--	--	(6)	2	2	5	71
Venezuela	--	--	--	1	(6)	1	11
Vietnam	49	--	--	--	--	49	124
Other	--	--	(6)	1	2	4	34
Total <sup>5</sup>	126	53	45	166	148	539	3,630
January–August <sup>5</sup>	444	1,300	332	573	982	3,630	XX

<sup>r</sup>Revised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Tungsten content estimated from reported gross weight.

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

<sup>4</sup>May include revisions to previously published data.

<sup>5</sup>Adjusted by the U.S. Geological Survey.

<sup>6</sup>Less than ½ unit.

Note: Estimated exports of waste and scrap in August 2013 totaled 243 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–August total of 1,700 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.