

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TUNGSTEN IN OCTOBER 2014

U.S. net production of intermediate tungsten products, including metal powder and tungsten carbide powder, was slightly less during January through October 2014 than net production during the same period in 2013.

Prices

Prices for October 2014 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—\$353/metric ton unit WO₃ (\$320/short ton unit WO₃)

High—\$364/metric ton unit WO₃ (\$330/short ton unit WO₃)

Concentrates:

Low—\$331/metric ton unit WO₃ (\$300/short ton unit WO₃)

High—\$353/metric ton unit WO₃ (\$320/short ton unit WO₃)

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TABLE 1
U.S. SALIENT TUNGSTEN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

| Period | Concentrate | | | | Intermediate products | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | Reported consumption ^p | Imports for consumption | Stocks, end of period | | Net production ^{p,4} | Stocks, end of period | |
| | | | Industry ^{p,2} | U.S. Government ³ | | Industry Producer ^{p,5} | U.S. Government ³ |
| 2013: | | | | | | | |
| October | W | 222 | W | 12,100 | 523 | 801 | 125 |
| November | W | 176 | W | 12,000 | (6) | 801 | 125 |
| December | W | 286 | W | 11,900 | (6) | 769 | 125 |
| January–December | W | 3,690 | W | 11,900 | 6,150 | 769 | 125 |
| 2014: | | | | | | | |
| January | W | 269 | W | 11,900 | 521 | 776 | 125 |
| February | W | 530 | W | 11,900 | 561 | 858 | 125 |
| March | W | 436 | W | 11,800 | (6) | 832 | 125 |
| April | W | 364 | W | 11,700 | (6) | 812 | 125 |
| May | W | 274 | W | 11,700 | 508 | 762 | 125 |
| June | W | 303 | W | 11,600 | 546 | 752 | 125 |
| July | W | 396 | W | 11,600 ^e | 517 | 755 | 125 ^e |
| August | W | 190 | W | 11,600 ^e | 488 | 741 | 125 ^e |
| September | W | 326 | W | 11,600 | 503 | 708 | 125 |
| October | W | 366 | W | NA | 526 | 726 | 125 ^e |
| January–October | W | 3,450 | W | NA | 5,240 | 726 | 125 ^e |

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary. NA Not available. 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 tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder reported by producers. Includes estimates.

⁶Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in total.

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 | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|---------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|---------|
| | 2013 | 2014 | | | 2013 | 2014 | |
| | | September | October | January–October ⁴ | | September | October |
| Metal powder | W | W | W | W | W | W | W |
| Tungsten carbide powder | W | W | W | W | W | W | W |
| Total | 6,150 | 503 | 526 | 5,240 | 769 | 708 | 726 |

^pPreliminary. 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 date |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------|---------------------|
| 2013 | 3,690 | 2,220 | 470 | 1,410 | 827 | 2,260 | 10,900 | XX |
| 2014: | | | | | | | | |
| August | 190 | 318 | 44 | 136 | 71 | 173 | 932 | 7,800 |
| September | 326 | 37 | 20 | 134 | 72 | 270 | 859 | 8,660 |
| October: | | | | | | | | |
| Australia | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 158 |
| Austria | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 6 | 5 | 12 | 160 |
| Belgium | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 13 |
| Bolivia | 79 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 79 | 832 |
| Brazil | 5 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 5 | 22 |
| Canada | 97 | -- | -- | 18 | 16 | (3) | 132 | 1,270 |
| China | -- | 25 | 20 | 84 | 20 | 142 | 292 | 3,840 |
| Colombia | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 27 |
| Czech Republic | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | (3) | (3) | 20 |
| France | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1 | (3) | 1 | 18 |
| Germany | -- | 121 | -- | 6 | 19 | 4 | 149 | 703 |
| Hungary | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | (3) | (3) | 3 |
| India | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2 | 2 | 32 |
| Ireland | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 4 |
| Israel | -- | -- | -- | 7 | 6 | (3) | 14 | 126 |
| Japan | -- | -- | -- | (3) | -- | 4 | 4 | 97 |
| Korea, Republic of | -- | -- | -- | 47 | 1 | (3) | 47 | 237 |
| Luxembourg | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2 | 2 | 15 |
| Mexico | 2 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2 | 11 |
| Mongolia | 27 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 27 | 75 |
| Peru | 10 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 10 | 41 |
| Portugal | 47 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 47 | 444 |
| Russia | 25 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 25 | 140 |
| Singapore | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | (3) | (3) | 9 |
| South Africa | -- | -- | -- | -- | 3 | -- | 3 | 8 |
| Spain | 60 | -- | -- | -- | -- | (3) | 60 | 649 |
| Taiwan | -- | -- | -- | (3) | -- | (3) | (3) | 18 |
| Thailand | 11 | -- | -- | -- | -- | (3) | 11 | 75 |
| United Kingdom | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 10 |
| Vietnam | -- | -- | 15 | 10 | -- | 12 | 37 | 564 |
| Other | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | (3) | (3) | 9 |
| Total | 366 | 146 | 35 | 173 | 74 | 172 | 966 | 9,620 |
| January–October | 3,450 | 1,520 | 399 | 1,120 | 812 | 2,310 | 9,620 | 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 ½ unit.

Note: Imports of waste and scrap in October 2014 totaled 134 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–October total of 1,290 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 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------|---------------------|
| 2013 | 1,060 | 1,600 | 455 | 901 | 1,460 | 5,470 | XX |
| 2014: | | | | | | | |
| August | 197 | -- | 38 | 63 | 116 | 415 | 3,420 |
| September | 162 | 88 | 34 | 90 | 122 | 496 | 3,910 |
| October: | | | | | | | |
| Australia | -- | -- | (4) | 5 | -- | 6 | 32 |
| Austria | -- | -- | -- | -- | (4) | (4) | 189 |
| Brazil | -- | -- | (4) | 1 | 1 | 3 | 90 |
| Canada | 1 | -- | 5 | 9 | 42 | 57 | 606 |
| Chile | -- | -- | 2 | (4) | -- | 2 | 7 |
| China | 35 | -- | (4) | 2 | 6 | 44 | 179 |
| Costa Rica | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | 11 |
| Czech Republic | -- | -- | -- | 8 | -- | 8 | 85 |
| France | -- | -- | (4) | 1 | (4) | 1 | 13 |
| Germany | -- | 56 | 2 | 10 | 15 | 83 | 687 |
| Hong Kong | -- | -- | (4) | (4) | (4) | 1 | 39 |
| Hungary | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2 | 2 | 71 |
| India | -- | -- | 1 | (4) | 1 | 2 | 212 |
| Indonesia | -- | -- | -- | 2 | -- | 2 | 4 |
| Ireland | (4) | -- | 1 | -- | (4) | 1 | 8 |
| Israel | -- | -- | 1 | -- | 1 | 2 | 26 |
| Italy | -- | -- | -- | (4) | (4) | 1 | 18 |
| Japan | -- | -- | 5 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 87 |
| Korea, Republic of | -- | -- | (4) | 3 | 2 | 4 | 23 |
| Luxembourg | -- | -- | -- | 14 | -- | 14 | 89 |
| Malaysia | -- | -- | (4) | -- | -- | (4) | 6 |
| Mexico | -- | -- | 1 | 2 | 12 | 15 | 101 |
| Netherlands | -- | -- | (4) | (4) | 3 | 4 | 162 |
| Panama | -- | -- | -- | -- | (4) | (4) | 127 |
| Peru | (4) | -- | (4) | 2 | (4) | 2 | 11 |
| Philippines | -- | -- | -- | 1 | (4) | 1 | 3 |
| Russia | -- | -- | -- | -- | 26 | 26 | 568 |
| Saudi Arabia | -- | -- | 16 | (4) | -- | 16 | 78 |
| Singapore | -- | -- | 1 | (4) | 8 | 9 | 146 |
| South Africa | -- | -- | (4) | 1 | (4) | 1 | 17 |
| Sweden | -- | -- | -- | -- | 9 | 9 | 10 |
| Switzerland | -- | -- | (4) | -- | -- | (4) | 11 |
| Taiwan | -- | -- | (4) | 3 | (4) | 3 | 50 |
| Thailand | -- | -- | (4) | 2 | -- | 2 | 11 |
| Turkey | -- | -- | -- | (4) | -- | (4) | 13 |
| United Arab Emirates | -- | -- | 1 | (4) | (4) | 1 | 12 |
| United Kingdom | -- | -- | 1 | 2 | 20 | 23 | 96 |
| Vietnam | 36 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 36 | 384 |
| Other | -- | -- | (4) | 1 | 1 | 2 | 23 |
| Total | 72 | 56 | 40 | 70 | 153 | 392 | 4,310 |
| January–October | 1,170 | 502 | 383 | 862 | 1,390 | 4,310 | 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.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

Note: Estimated exports of waste and scrap in October 2014 totaled 165 metric tons tungsten content, to give a January–October total of 1,660 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.