

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

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

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

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

TUNGSTEN IN DECEMBER 2014

On the basis of preliminary data, in 2014, U.S. net production of intermediate tungsten products, including metal powder and tungsten carbide powder, was slightly more than net production in 2013.

Prices

Prices for December 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—\$342/metric ton unit WO_3 (\$310/short ton unit WO_3)

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

Concentrates:

Low—\$331/metric ton unit WO_3 (\$300/short ton unit WO_3)

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

List services and Web feed subscribers are the first to receive notification of USGS minerals information publications and data releases. For information on how to subscribe, go to <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/>.

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:							
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	523	753	125 ^e
August	W	190	W	11,600 ^e	480	723	125 ^e
September	W	326	W	11,600	501	681	125
October	W	366	W	11,600 ^e	516	679	125 ^e
November	W	314	W	11,600 ^e	(6)	694	125 ^e
December	W	308	W	11,600	(6)	655	125
January–December	W	4,080	W	11,600	6,230	655	125

^eEstimated. ^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.

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		January–December ⁴	2013	2014	
		November	December			November	December
Metal powder	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Tungsten carbide powder	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Total	6,150	W	W	6,230	769	694	655

^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:								
October	366	146	35	173	74	172	966	9,620
November	314	120	--	104	65	109	712	10,300
December:								
Australia	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	158
Austria	--	--	--	--	--	3	3	167
Belgium	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	13
Bolivia	80	--	--	--	--	--	80	991
Brazil	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	22
Canada	79	--	--	8	9	(3)	95	1,470
China	--	93	33	40	32	154	351	4,410
Colombia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	27
Czech Republic	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	20
France	--	--	--	(3)	1	(3)	2	21
Germany	--	52	--	3	20	3	79	888
Hungary	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	3
India	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	32
Ireland	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6
Israel	--	--	--	6	6	(3)	12	144
Japan	--	--	--	(3)	--	1	1	103
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	13	(3)	(3)	14	282
Luxembourg	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	15
Mexico	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	11
Mongolia	13	--	--	--	--	--	13	115
Peru	10	--	--	--	--	--	10	51
Portugal	12	--	--	--	--	--	12	515
Russia	52	--	--	--	--	(3)	52	194
Singapore	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	9
South Africa	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	8
Spain	52	--	--	--	--	(3)	52	742
Taiwan	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	18
Thailand	11	--	--	--	--	--	11	86
Uganda	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	16
United Kingdom	--	--	--	(3)	--	(3)	1	10
Vietnam	--	--	22	--	--	--	22	586
Other	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	(3)	12
Total	308	145	55	70	69	163	809	11,100
January–December	4,080	1,780	454	1,300	946	2,590	11,100	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 December 2014 totaled 240 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–December total of 1,660 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:							
October	72	56	40	70	153	392	4,310
November	(4)	62	27	75	75	239	4,550
December:							
Australia	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	34
Austria	--	--	--	--	2	2	223
Brazil	--	--	1	(4)	(4)	1	92
Canada	--	--	5	11	34	50	702
Chile	--	--	(4)	(4)	--	1	8
China	(4)	--	--	1	1	3	185
Costa Rica	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	13
Czech Republic	--	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	89
Denmark	--	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	4
France	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	14
Germany	--	48	2	15	14	79	843
Hong Kong	10	--	--	(4)	--	10	49
Hungary	--	36	--	--	1	37	108
India	--	6	22	4	1	32	257
Indonesia	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	4
Ireland	--	--	1	(4)	--	1	9
Israel	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	27
Italy	--	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	20
Japan	--	--	(4)	4	4	8	106
Korea, Republic of	--	--	(4)	1	11	12	38
Luxembourg	--	--	--	--	--	--	89
Malaysia	--	--	--	2	--	2	9
Mexico	--	--	1	--	3	3	112
Netherlands	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	1	163
Panama	--	--	--	--	--	--	127
Peru	--	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	12
Philippines	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	3
Russia	--	--	--	--	--	--	568
Saudi Arabia	--	--	1	1	(4)	2	80
Singapore	--	--	1	3	5	9	169
South Africa	--	--	(4)	2	--	3	21
Spain	--	--	(4)	--	--	(4)	7
Sweden	--	--	--	--	--	--	10
Switzerland	--	--	1	(4)	--	1	12
Taiwan	--	--	(4)	6	(4)	7	67
Thailand	--	--	(4)	(4)	1	1	13
Turkey	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	13
United Arab Emirates	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	12
United Kingdom	--	--	2	2	1	4	102
Vietnam	55	--	(4)	--	12	67	452
Other	--	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	1	20
Total	66	90	37	56	91	339	4,880
January–December	1,230	653	448	993	1,560	4,880	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 December 2014 totaled 58 metric tons tungsten content, to give a January–December total of 1,770 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.