

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## TUNGSTEN IN JUNE 2019

U.S. net production of intermediate tungsten products, including metal powder and tungsten carbide powder, was withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

The amount of tungsten contained in U.S. imports of selected materials in January through June 2019 was 3% less than that imported during the same period in 2018 (table 2). The amount of tungsten contained in U.S. exports of selected materials in January through June 2019 was 8% less than that exported during the same period in 2018 (table 3).

### Prices

Weekly average prices for ammonium paratungstate, as reported in Platts Metals Week, remained unchanged in June 2019. The June 2019 monthly average price was 16% lower than that in June 2018. Platt's weekly prices for tungsten concentrates remained unchanged. The June 2019 monthly average price was 19% lower than that in June 2018. The

following prices for June 2019, 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—\$309/metric ton unit WO<sub>3</sub> (\$280/short ton unit WO<sub>3</sub>)  
High—\$320/metric ton unit WO<sub>3</sub> (\$290/short ton unit WO<sub>3</sub>)

Concentrates:

Low—\$265/metric ton unit WO<sub>3</sub> (\$240/short ton unit WO<sub>3</sub>)  
High—\$276/metric ton unit WO<sub>3</sub> (\$250/short ton unit WO<sub>3</sub>)

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

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period	Concentrate				Intermediate products		
	Reported consumption	Imports for consumption	Stocks, end of period		Net production <sup>p,4</sup>	Stocks, end of period	
			Industry <sup>p,2</sup>	U.S. Government <sup>3</sup>		Producer <sup>p,5</sup>	U.S. Government <sup>3</sup>
<b>2018:</b>							
June	W	461	W	9,450	W	W	125
July	W	196	W	9,390	W	W	125
August	W	385	W	9,250	W	W	125
September	W	419	W	9,170	W	W	125
October	W	462	W	9,170	W	W	125
November	W	169	W	9,090	W	W	125
December	W	435	W	8,990	W	W	125
January–December	W	4,050	W	8,990	W	W	125
<b>2019:</b>							
January	W	315	W	8,900	W	W	125
February	W	251	W	8,760	W	W	125
March	W	282	W	8,640	W	W	125
April	W	200	W	8,520	W	W	125
May	W	274	W	8,520	W	W	125
June	W	335	W	8,480	W	W	125
January–June	W	1,660	W	8,480	W	W	125

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. 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; includes estimates.

<sup>3</sup>Data from the Defense Logistics Agency Strategic Materials.

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

<sup>5</sup>Data for tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder reported by producers; includes estimates.

TABLE 2  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF TUNGSTEN, BY COUNTRY OR LOCALITY<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period and country or locality of origin	Ores and concentrates	Ammonium tungstates	Ferro-tungsten	Metal powder	Tungsten carbide powder	Other <sup>2</sup>	Total	Total, year to date
2018	4,050	2,200	143	1,440	1,530	2,120	11,500	XX
2019:								
April	200	82	--	170	164	145	762	3,320
May	274	76	7	186	120	260	925	4,250
June:								
Austria	--	--	--	1	63	2	66	344
Bolivia	167	--	--	--	--	--	167	672
Brazil	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11
Burundi	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	36
Canada	--	--	--	12	43	(3)	55	341
China	(3)	73	--	90	94	81	338	1,950
France	--	--	--	(3)	2	2	4	12
Germany	--	28	--	(3)	(3)	23	52	256
Hong Kong	--	--	--	7	5	(3)	13	52
India	--	--	--	--	--	2	2	36
Israel	--	--	--	3	13	(3)	16	81
Japan	--	--	--	2	(3)	13	15	98
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	8	(3)	(3)	8	60
Mongolia	13	--	--	--	--	--	13	79
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	--	20	20	20
Nigeria	79	--	--	--	--	--	79	124
Philippines	--	--	--	--	--	15	15	80
Poland	2	--	--	--	--	--	2	25
Portugal	57	--	--	--	--	--	57	323
Russia	--	--	8	--	--	--	8	89
Spain	11	--	--	--	--	1	11	268
Switzerland	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	7
Thailand	7	--	--	--	--	--	7	23
Uganda	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	23
Ukraine	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5
United Kingdom	--	--	--	(3)	--	(3)	1	5
Vietnam	--	--	--	1	--	20	21	190
Other	--	--	--	--	(3)	2	2	14
Total	335	102	8	126	222	181	974	5,220
January–June	1,660	653	49	877	993	991	5,220	XX

-- 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 June 2019 totaled 279 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–June total of 1,460 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3  
U.S. EXPORTS OF TUNGSTEN, BY COUNTRY OR LOCALITY<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period and country or locality 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
2018	284	106	260	1,180	1,020	2,850	XX
2019:							
April	66	16	15	81	65	243	916
May	126	(4)	13	76	126	341	1,260
June:							
Argentina	--	--	--	1	(4)	1	3
Australia	--	--	--	1	--	1	22
Austria	--	--	--	--	14	14	91
Belgium	--	--	1	(4)	--	1	4
Brazil	--	--	1	(4)	(4)	1	15
Canada	(4)	--	8	15	3	26	179
China	--	--	(4)	15	2	17	49
Costa Rica	--	--	--	--	1	1	5
Czechia	--	--	1	--	--	1	31
France	(4)	--	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	22
Germany	--	--	(4)	1	5	6	110
Hong Kong	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	3
India	9	--	(4)	(4)	1	10	23
Indonesia	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	3
Ireland	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	9
Japan	--	(4)	(4)	3	50	53	374
Korea, Republic of	--	--	1	1	(4)	2	10
Malaysia	--	--	--	2	--	2	4
Mexico	--	--	2	1	20	24	120
Netherlands	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	174
Peru	--	--	(4)	(4)	--	1	3
Philippines	--	--	--	1	(4)	1	5
Saudi Arabia	--	--	--	--	--	--	9
Singapore	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	5
South Africa	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	9
Taiwan	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	4
United Kingdom	--	--	(4)	(4)	1	1	17
Vietnam	18	--	--	--	--	18	124
Other	--	--	--	1	1	1	16
Total	27	(4)	14	45	96	182	1,440
January–June	304	18	95	419	604	1,440	XX

-- 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>Less than ½ unit.

Note: Exports of waste and scrap in June 2019 totaled 87 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–June total of 364 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.