

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## TUNGSTEN IN JULY 2021

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 July 2021 was 5% less than that imported during the same period in 2020 (table 2). The amount of tungsten contained in U.S. exports of selected materials in January through July 2021 was 49% more than that exported during the same period in 2020 (table 3).

**Prices**

The following tungsten price comparisons are based on Argus Metals International prices. The July 2021 monthly average

price for tungsten concentrate, ex works China, was 7% higher than that in June 2021 and 40% higher than that in July 2020. The July 2021 monthly average price for ammonium paratungstate, European Union market, was 5% higher than that in June 2021 and 42% higher than that in July 2020 (fig. 1).

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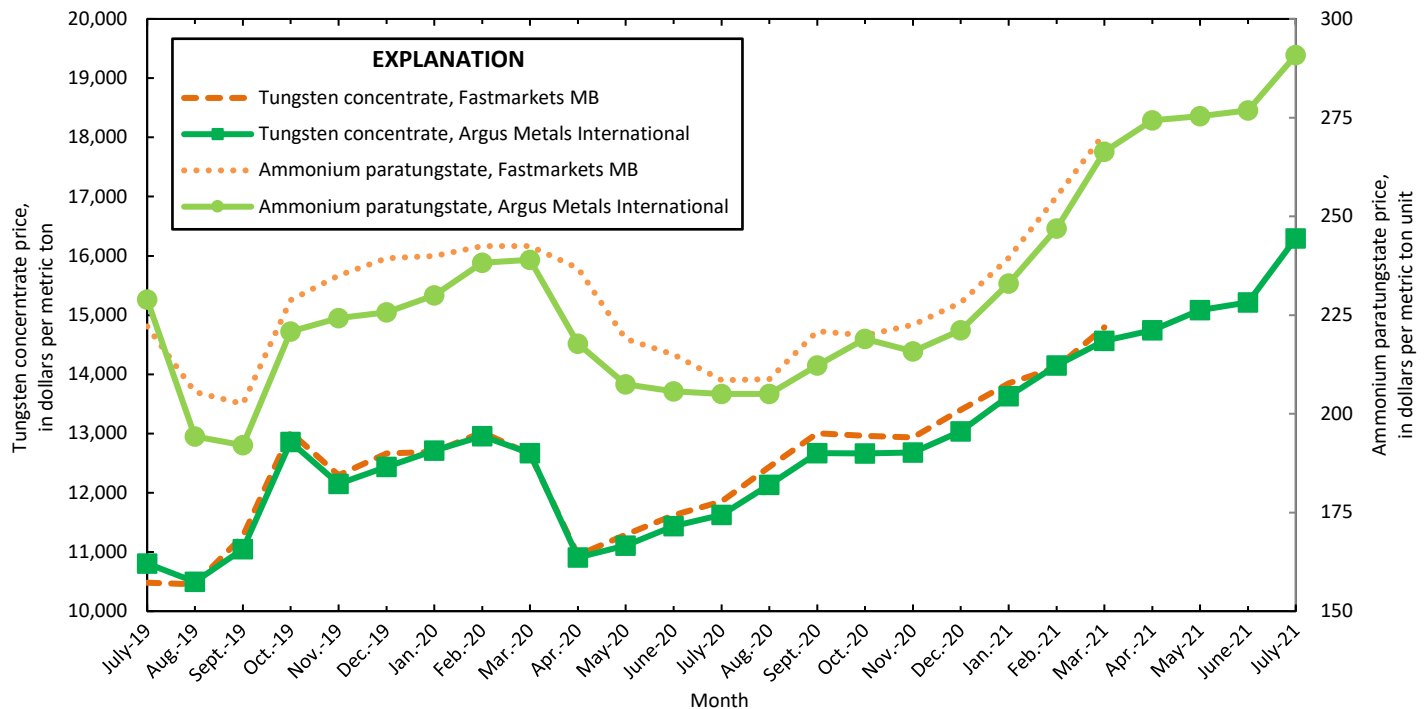


Figure 1. Monthly average prices for tungsten concentrate and ammonium paratungstate for July 2019 through July 2021. Sources: Argus Metals International and Fastmarkets MB.

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>4</sup>	Stocks, end of period	
			Industry <sup>2</sup>	U.S. Government <sup>3</sup>		Producer <sup>5</sup>	U.S. Government <sup>3</sup>
2020:							
July	W	80	W	7,710	W	W	125
August	W	296	W	7,680	W	W	125
September	W	159	W	7,660	W	W	107
October	W	201	W	7,660	W	W	107
November	W	170	W	7,660	W	W	107
December	W	140	W	7,600	W	W	93
January–December	W	2,020	W	7,600	W	W	93
2021:							
January	W	136	W	7,600	W	W	93
February	W	122	W	7,360	W	W	92
March	W	75	W	7,220	W	W	93
April	W	130	W	7,020	W	W	93
May	W	73	W	7,020	W	W	93
June	W	100	W	6,900	W	W	--
July	W	108	W	6,900	W	W	--
January–July	W	743	W	6,900	W	W	--

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. --Zero.

<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
2020:								
January–July	1,050	505	32	1,190 <sup>r</sup>	779	1,580 <sup>r</sup>	5,130 <sup>r</sup>	XX
January–December	2,020	1,080	38	1,850	1,120	2,320	8,430	XX
2021:								
May	73	29	--	135	159	303	698	3,380
June	100	36	--	105	156	286	683	4,070
July:								
Australia	7	--	--	--	--	(3)	7	21
Austria	--	--	--	36	28	2	66	384
Bolivia	54	--	--	--	--	--	54	309
Burundi	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12
Canada	--	--	--	26	44	(3)	70	403
China	--	18	--	32	79	44	173	1,170
Cote D'Ivoire	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	18
Estonia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11
France	--	--	--	4	1	1	5	12
Germany	--	42	--	8	(3)	11	60	317
India	--	--	--	--	--	14	14	69
Israel	--	--	--	2	17	(3)	19	203
Japan	--	--	--	2	(3)	24	26	100
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	22	--	(3)	22	202
Philippines	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	39
Portugal	36	--	--	--	--	--	36	232
Russia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	56
Rwanda	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	29
Singapore	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	11
Spain	12	--	--	--	--	(3)	12	37
Taiwan	--	--	--	--	--	42	42	345
Thailand	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11
Uganda	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11
Vietnam	--	--	--	(3)	--	178	178	840
Other	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	1	1	11
Total	108	60	--	132	169	316	785	4,850
January–July	743	412	3	832	1,000	1,860	4,850	XX

<sup>1</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>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 July 2021 totaled 217 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–July total of 1,410 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
2020:							
January–July	139	31	110 <sup>r</sup>	240 <sup>r</sup>	472	992 <sup>r</sup>	XX
January–December	480	36	205	415	856	1,990	XX
2021:							
May	64	1	20	30	124	238	1,110
June	3	--	47	38	83	172	1,290
July:							
Australia	--	--	--	2	(4)	2	17
Austria	--	--	--	--	4	4	42
Brazil	--	--	(4)	1	(4)	1	9
Canada	--	--	34	22	5	61	284
China	1	--	(4)	2	28	30	83
Costa Rica	--	--	--	(4)	1	1	8
Czechia	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	8
Finland	--	--	--	--	17	17	23
Germany	--	--	(4)	2	1	3	111
India	--	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	11
Israel	--	--	--	1	5	6	27
Japan	--	--	(4)	2	(4)	2	21
Korea, Republic of	--	--	1	7	(4)	8	23
Mexico	--	--	2	(4)	6	8	73
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	65
Peru	--	--	2	(4)	(4)	2	6
Philippines	--	--	--	--	--	--	5
Russia	--	--	3	--	(4)	3	24
Saudi Arabia	--	--	--	--	--	--	9
South Africa	--	--	1	--	(4)	1	5
Spain	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	6
Sweden	--	--	--	--	--	--	54
United Kingdom	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	33
Vietnam	5	--	--	--	31	36	494
Other	--	--	3	2	1	6	36
Total	5	--	46	41	100	192	1,480
January–July	273	92	226	306	580	1,480	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>Less than ½ unit.

Note: Exports of waste and scrap in July 2021 totaled 118 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–July total of 484 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.