



# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## TUNGSTEN IN SEPTEMBER 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 September 2021 was 5% more 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 September 2021 was 31% 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 September 2021 monthly

average price for tungsten concentrate, ex works China, decreased slightly from that in August 2021 and was 35% higher than that in September 2020. The September 2021 monthly average price for ammonium paratungstate, European Union market, was essentially unchanged from that in August 2021 and was 47% higher than that in September 2020 (fig. 1).

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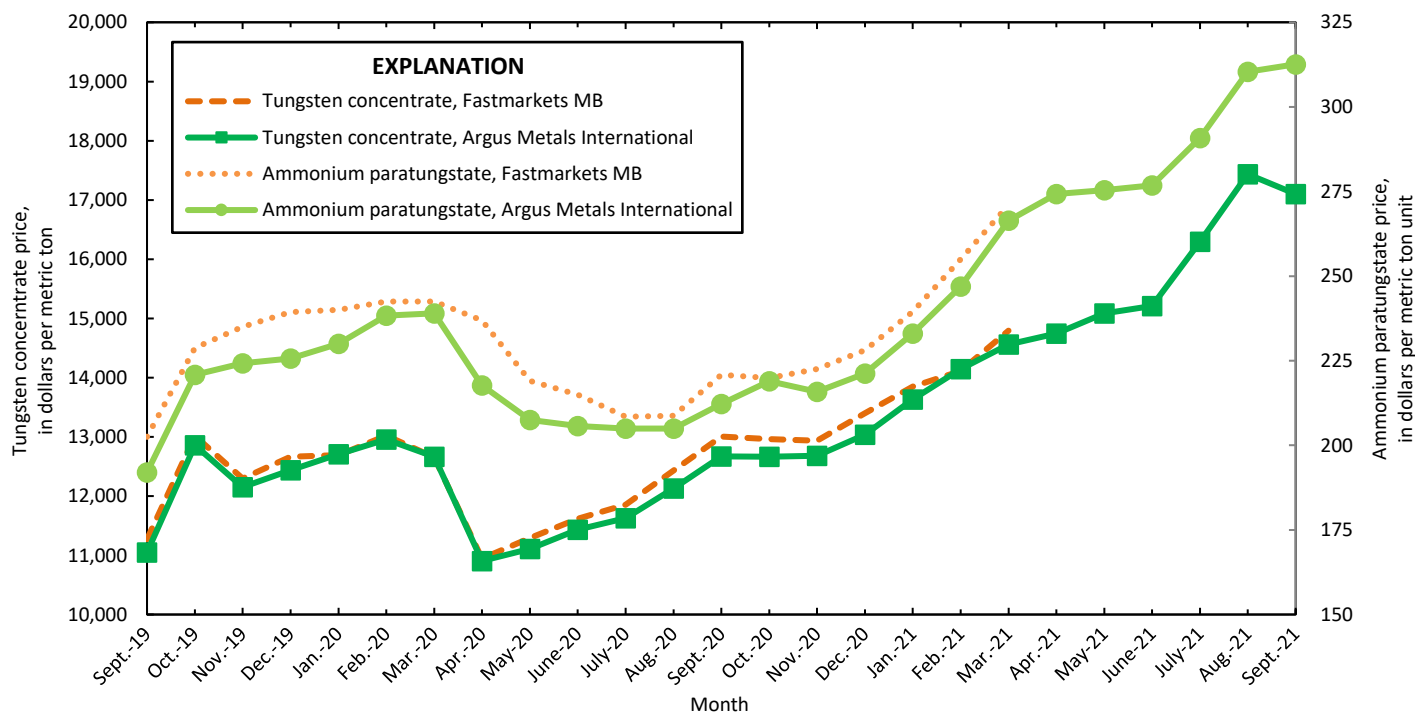


Figure 1. Monthly average prices for tungsten concentrate and ammonium paratungstate for September 2019 through September 2021. Sources: Argus Metals International and Fastmarkets MB.

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:							
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	--
August	W	180	W	6,850	W	W	--
September	W	135	W	6,850	W	W	--
January–September	W	1,060	W	6,850	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–September	1,500	714	36	1,400 <sup>r</sup>	894	1,850 <sup>r</sup>	6,400 <sup>r</sup>	XX
January–December	2,020	1,080	38	1,850	1,120	2,320	8,430	XX
2021:								
July	108	60	--	132	169	316	785	4,850
August:	180	178	16	101	203	301	977	5,830
September:								
Australia	8	--	--	--	--	(3)	8	29
Austria	--	--	--	2	58	2	61	538
Bolivia	42	--	--	--	--	--	42	465
Burundi	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12
Canada	--	--	--	29	58	1	88	543
China	1	67	--	34	64	149	315	1,830
Cote D'Ivoire	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	18
Estonia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11
France	--	--	--	(3)	--	(3)	(3)	14
Germany	13	10	--	1	(3)	16	41	405
India	--	--	--	--	--	14	14	84
Israel	--	--	--	9	--	5	14	229
Japan	--	--	--	13	--	8	21	127
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	27	--	(3)	27	238
Philippines	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	39
Portugal	11	--	--	--	--	(3)	11	286
Russia	44	--	--	--	--	--	44	100
Rwanda	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	29
Singapore	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	11
Spain	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	60
Taiwan	--	--	--	--	--	10	10	402
Thailand	10	--	--	--	--	--	10	21
Uganda	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11
Vietnam	--	--	8	--	20	127	155	1,180
Other	6	--	--	--	--	10	16	28
Total	135	77	8	115	200	344	879	6,710
January–September	1,060	667	26	1,050	1,410	2,500	6,710	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 September 2021 totaled 415 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–September total of 2,080 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–September	234	32	160	298 <sup>r</sup>	692	1,420 <sup>r</sup>	XX
January–December	480	36	205	415	856	1,990	XX
2021:							
July	5	--	46	41	100	192	1,480
August	1	1	68	43	84	197	1,670
September:							
Australia	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	21
Austria	--	--	--	2	6	8	67
Brazil	--	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	1	11
Canada	--	--	55	13	3	71	433
China	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	15	16	116
Costa Rica	--	--	--	(4)	2	2	11
Czechia	--	--	--	1	--	1	12
Finland	--	--	--	--	18	18	40
Germany	--	--	(4)	5	(4)	6	119
India	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	1	14
Israel	--	--	--	(4)	1	1	30
Japan	--	--	(4)	4	(4)	4	26
Korea, Republic of	--	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	24
Luxembourg	--	--	--	--	3	3	7
Malaysia	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	9
Mexico	--	--	4	1	7	12	95
Netherlands	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	67
Peru	--	--	1	(4)	--	1	7
Philippines	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	6
Russia	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	24
Saudi Arabia	--	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	9
South Africa	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	6
Spain	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	7
Sweden	--	--	--	--	--	--	54
United Arab Emirates	--	--	6	(4)	(4)	6	7
United Kingdom	--	--	--	(4)	1	1	35
Vietnam	20	--	--	--	--	20	557
Other	--	2	1	2	1	6	37
Total	20	2	69	28	59	177	1,850
January–September	293	96	363	377	723	1,850	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 September 2021 totaled 57 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–September total of 564 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.