

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## TUNGSTEN IN JANUARY 2022

U.S. reported consumption of tungsten concentrate, net production of intermediate tungsten products, including metal powder and tungsten carbide powder, and industry stocks of tungsten materials were withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

On January 31, 2022, the U.S. Government stockpile inventory of tungsten concentrates held by DLA Strategic Materials was unchanged from that on December 31, 2021 (table 1).

The amount of tungsten contained in U.S. imports of selected materials in January 2022 was 5% more than the monthly average in 2021 (table 2). The amount of tungsten contained in U.S. exports of selected materials in January 2022 was 13% less than the monthly average in 2021 (table 3).

### Prices

The following tungsten price comparisons are based on Argus Metals International prices. The January 2022 monthly average price for tungsten concentrate, ex works China, was 6% higher than that in December 2021 and 31% higher than that in January 2021. The January 2022 monthly average price for ammonium paratungstate, European Union market, increased slightly from that in December 2021 and was 41% higher than that in January 2021 (fig. 1).

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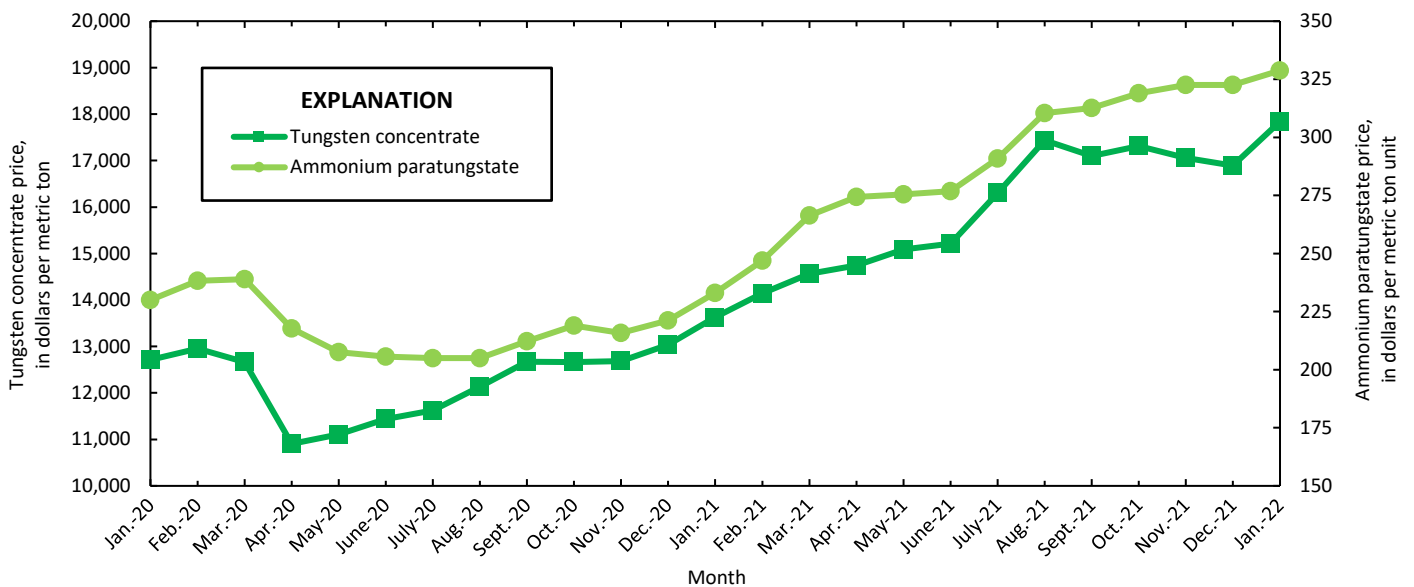


Figure 1. Monthly average prices for tungsten concentrate and ammonium paratungstate for January 2020 through January 2022. Source: Argus Metals International.

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>		Industry <sup>5</sup>	U.S. Government <sup>3</sup>
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	--
October	W	107	W	6,850	W	W	--
November	W	176	W	6,660	W	W	--
December	W	252	W	6,570	W	W	--
January–December	W	1,590	W	6,570	W	W	--
2022, January	W	125	W	6,570	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>Consumer stocks.

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

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

<sup>5</sup>Producer stocks of tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder.

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 concen- trates	Ammonium tungstates	Ferro-tungsten	Metal powder	Tungsten carbide powder	Other <sup>2</sup>	Total
2021	1,590	1,040	26	1,290	1,900	3,360	9,200
2022, January:							
Austria	--	--	--	29	17	2	47
Bolivia	42	--	--	--	--	--	42
Canada	--	--	--	51	22	(3)	73
China	--	38	--	35	61	92	227
Germany	--	40	--	(3)	--	63	103
India	--	--	--	--	--	6	6
Israel	--	--	--	3	--	--	3
Japan	--	--	--	(3)	--	7	7
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	23	--	(3)	23
Mongolia	11	--	--	--	--	--	11
Philippines	--	--	--	--	--	13	13
Portugal	42	--	--	--	--	--	42
Russia	19	--	9	--	--	--	28
Taiwan	--	--	--	--	--	42	42
Thailand	11	--	--	--	--	4	14
United Kingdom	--	--	--	--	1	15	15
Vietnam	--	--	--	18	--	87	105
Other	--	--	--	(3)	--	2	2
Total	125	78	9	159	101	332	804

-- 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 January 2022 totaled 189 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
2021	441	116	550	476	891	2,470
2022, January:						
Australia	--	--	--	9	(4)	9
Canada	--	--	49	17	3	69
China	--	--	1	1	12	14
Japan	--	--	(4)	4	1	5
Mexico	--	1	1	2	5	9
Vietnam	30	--	--	--	28	58
Other	--	--	4	5	8	17
Total	30	1	55	37	57	180

-- 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 January 2022 totaled 360 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.