

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ANTIMONY IN THE FIRST QUARTER 2014

Imports of antimony were 5,640 metric tons (t) in the first quarter of 2014, a decrease of 3% from that in the previous quarter, but slightly greater than that in the first quarter of 2013. During the first 3 months of 2014, the leading suppliers of antimony oxide to the United States were, in descending order, China, Thailand, Belgium, Bolivia, and Mexico. China was the leading source of imported antimony metal during the same period.

The Platts Metals Week New York dealer price for antimony metal averaged \$4.35 per pound in the first quarter of 2014, a 5% decrease from that in the fourth quarter of 2013.

Update

China's National Bureau of Statistics reported that antimony metal production in April was 10,500 t, a 7% decrease from that in April 2013. Antimony metal production during the first 4

months of 2014 was 37,600 t, a slight decline from that in the same period of 2013 (Hu, 2014).

On May 15, 2014, the Platts Metals Week New York dealer price range for antimony was \$4.25 to \$4.35 per pound.

Reference Cited

Hu, Hellen, 2014, China's antimony output falls in Jan-Apr 2014: Metal-Pages, May 21. (Accessed May 21, 2014, via <http://www.metal-pages.com/>.)

TABLE 1
SALIENT ANTIMONY STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, antimony content, unless otherwise specified)

	2013 ^P		2014
	1st quarter–4th quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter
Imports for consumption:			
Ore and concentrate	342	92	112
Metal, alloys, waste and scrap (gross weight)	6,170	1,630	1,850
Oxide ²	18,200	4,090	3,680
Total	24,700	5,810	5,640
Exports:			
Ore and concentrate	36	6	20
Metal, alloys, waste and scrap (gross weight)	1,550	284	317
Oxide ²	2,420	349	553
Total	4,010	639	890
Price, average, cents per pound ³	462.63	456.67	435.00

^PPreliminary.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices; may not add to totals shown.

²Antimony content is calculated by the U.S. Geological Survey.

³Source: Platts Metals Week. New York dealer price for 99.5% to 99.6% metal, c.i.f. U.S. ports.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ANTIMONY, BY CLASS AND COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, antimony content, unless otherwise specified)

Class and country	2013		2014			
	1st quarter– 4th quarter	4th quarter	January	February	March	January– March
Ore and concentrate:						
China	89	16	--	--	24	24
Italy	203	77	13	13	34	60
Other	49	--	--	29	--	29
Total	342	92	13	42	58	112
Metal, alloys, waste and scrap (gross weight):						
China	3,880	1,060	353	158	898	1,410
Hong Kong	448	51	--	--	--	--
India	903	120	40	20	60	120
Japan	115 ^r	76 ^r	--	6	--	6
Mexico	171	76	38	20	11	69
Peru	304	131	90	21	21	132
United Kingdom	161	55	26	--	1	27
Other	187 ^r	63 ^r	43	--	40	83
Total	6,170	1,630	590	225	1,030	1,850
Oxide:²						
Belgium	1,450	332	125	117	176	418
Bolivia	2,400	615	166	116	100	382
China	10,300	1,900	521	399	796	1,720
France	424	163	26	72	32	130
Japan	463	107	11	15	134	160
Mexico	959	243	116	70	103	289
Thailand	2,070	730	448	116	--	564
Other	116	--	--	1	17	18
Total	18,200	4,090	1,410	906	1,360	3,680
Grand total	24,700	5,810	2,020	1,170	2,450	5,640
Other antimony compounds (gross weight)	27	12	6	--	8	14

^rRevised. -- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Antimony content is calculated by the U.S. Geological Survey.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.