

Mineral Industry Surveys

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BISMUTH IN THE THIRD QUARTER 2013

Bismuth imports to the United States for the third quarter of 2013 were 550 metric tons (t), an increase of 61% from those in the second quarter of 2013, and an increase of 42% from those in the third quarter of 2012. Imports for the first three quarters of 2013 totaled 1,280 t, a decrease of 3% from those in the first three quarters of 2012. In the first three quarters of 2013, the leading import sources to the United States were, in descending order, China, Belgium, and Peru.

The New York dealer price range for bismuth, published in Platts Metals Week, started July 2013 at \$8.45 to \$8.65 per pound and decreased slightly during the third quarter to end September at \$8.25 to \$8.40 per pound.

Update

The Platts Metals Week price range for bismuth at yearend 2013 was \$9.00 to \$9.60 per pound and rose to \$10.4 to \$11.00 per pound on March 06, 2014.

TABLE 1
SALIENT BISMUTH STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons)

	2012			2013			1st quarter–
	Year	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	3d quarter
Exports ²	764	161	160	299	195	185	679
Imports for consumption ²	1,700	387	455	384	342	550	1,280
Price per pound, dealer, average of period	\$10.10	\$10.04	\$9.12	\$8.61	\$8.96	\$8.22	\$8.60

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; except prices.

²Bismuth metal and articles thereof, including waste and scrap.

TABLE 2
U.S. EXPORTS OF BISMUTH METAL, BY COUNTRY^{1,2}

(Kilograms)

Country	2012			2013						1st quarter–
	Year	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter	2d quarter	July	August	September	3d quarter	
Belgium	56,100	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Brazil	2,350	231	2,120	761	3,040	31	--	1,490	5,320	
Canada	72,000	11,500	11,600	49,800	34,200	1,370	31,200	2,120	119,000	
China	36,200	19,300	--	5,050	18,700	--	459	--	24,200	
Columbia	4,710	1,850	1,250	15	95	--	--	--	110	
Costa Rica	7,690	194	3,050	1,210	1,050	2,530	--	1,320	6,100	
France	2,610	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
French Guiana	1,410	--	1,410	--	1,410	--	--	--	1,410	
Germany	3,270	1,490	1,480	76,000	--	--	--	--	76,000	
Hong Kong	32,100	6,080	9,790	8,340	9,890	6,840	9,020	5,680	39,800	
India	2,270	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Israel	1,470	1,470	--	1,340	--	--	50	--	1,390	
Jamaica	1,280	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Malaysia	581	--	--	--	862	862	3,450	5,820	11,000	
Mexico	159,000	29,700	35,600	9,600	9,380	3,970	2,490	2,520	28,000	
Netherlands	1,670	--	--	--	20,200	--	--	--	20,200	
Singapore	4,500	1,920	541	2,770	2,100	--	--	14	4,880	
South Africa	91	52	--	50	--	1,310	--	--	1,360	
Thailand	8,930	3,120	4,480	10,800	7,430	--	--	4,110	22,300	
United Kingdom	13,300	7,090	4,130	954	10,400	--	--	--	11,300	
Vietnam	351,000	77,000	83,500	132,000	76,200	42,900	27,200	26,600	305,000	
Other	2,260	473	1,330	628	132	635	48	948	2,390	
Total	764,000	161,000	160,000	299,000	195,000	60,400	73,800	50,600	679,000	

-- Zero.

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

²Bismuth metal and articles thereof, including waste and scrap.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF BISMUTH METAL, BY COUNTRY^{1,2}

(Kilograms)

Country	2012			2013					
	Year	3d quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter	2d quarter	July	August	September	1st quarter– 3d quarter
Belgium	505,000	101,000	53,700	155,000	96,200	36,700	28,500	17,700	334,000
Canada	11,400	3,330	1,750	4,490	4,150	441	--	325	9,410
China	1,070,000	256,000	337,000	177,000	188,000	119,000	69,200	206,000	759,000
Germany	200	100	--	18,300	1,180	1	--	--	19,500
Korea, Republic of	45,000	--	40,000	9,980	--	--	5,000	--	15,000
Malaysia	--	--	--	--	1,330	1,180	--	--	2,510
Peru	--	--	--	10,700	40,400	20,400	4,860	24,900	101,000
United Kingdom	63,800	25,900	22,700	8,230	11,200	4,730	2,040	8,570	34,800
Other	255	38	51	29	46	10	--	27	112
Total	1,700,000	387,000	455,000	384,000	342,000	182,000	110,000	258,000	1,280,000

-- Zero.

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

²Bismuth metal and articles thereof, including waste and scrap.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.