

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MOLYBDENUM IN APRIL 2014

Domestic production of molybdenum (Mo) in concentrate in April 2014 was 12% more than the output of the previous month and 4% more than that of April 2013. Producer stocks of molybdenum in concentrate, oxide, and other product forms were about 6,600 metric tons (t) at yearend 2013 and about 7,000 t at the end of April.

According to Ryan's Notes, the April monthly average price range for U.S. ferromolybdenum (FeMo) was \$13.472 to \$13.956 per pound of molybdenum content, compared with \$11.838 to \$12.038 per pound in March. European FeMo monthly averages ranged from \$29.378 to \$29.917 per kilogram of molybdenum content in April compared with \$25.025 to \$25.294 per kilogram in March. In April, worldwide

molybdenum oxide (MoO₃) prices ranged from \$11.000 to \$12.267 per pound compared with \$9.988 to \$10.231 per pound in March.

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TABLE 1
U.S. SALIENT MOLYBDENUM CONCENTRATE STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, contained molybdenum)

Period	Production	Shipments ^{2,3}
2013:		
January–April	21,200 ^r	20,800
April	5,340	5,270
May	4,880	5,040
June	5,090	5,130
July	4,960	5,090
August	4,940	4,930
September	5,230	5,090
October	5,070	5,420
November	4,800	4,570
December	4,560	4,850
January–December	60,800	60,900
2014:		
January	5,050	4,960
February	4,540	4,580
March	4,960 ^r	4,910 ^r
April	5,560	5,570
January–April	20,100	20,000

^r Revised.

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

² As reported by producers.

³ Shipments include sales to domestic customers, sales for export, and transfers to other company plants.

TABLE 2
U.S. REPORTED CONSUMPTION, BY END USES, AND CONSUMER STOCKS OF MOLYBDENUM MATERIALS¹

(Kilograms, contained molybdenum)

End use	Molybdic oxides	Ferro molybdenum ²	Ammonium and sodium molybdate	Molybdenum scrap	Other	Total
2014:						
March:						
Steel:						
Carbon	W	W	--	--	W	W
High-strength low-alloy	W	7,380	--	--	--	7,380
Stainless and heat-resisting	167,000	50,600	--	(3)	W	218,000
Full alloy	265,000	236,000	--	--	W	501,000
Tool	W	W	--	--	--	W
Total	432,000	294,000	--	(3)	W	726,000
Cast irons (gray, malleable, and ductile iron)	W	W	--	--	W	W
Superalloys	W	W	--	(3)	65,200	65,200
Alloys: (other than steels, cast irons, and superalloys)						
Welding materials (structural and hard-facing)	--	W	--	--	W	W
Other alloys	303	W	--	--	--	303
Mill products made from metal powder ⁴	--	--	--	--	W	W
Cemented carbides and related products ⁵	--	--	--	--	W	W
Chemical and ceramic uses:						
Pigments	--	--	(3)	--	--	--
Catalysts	77,300	--	(3)	--	W	77,300
Other chemicals	--	--	--	--	--	--
Miscellaneous and unspecified uses:						
Lubricants	--	--	--	--	10,800	10,800
Other	147,000	42,100	-3	(3)	323,000	512,000
Grand total	656,000	336,000	--	--	399,000	1,390,000
Stocks, March 31, 2014	520,000	288,000	2,980	(6)	(6)	1,680,000
April:						
Steel:						
Carbon	W	W	--	--	W	W
High-strength low-alloy	W	7,380	--	--	--	7,380
Stainless and heat-resisting	172,000	51,400	--	(3)	W	224,000
Full alloy	275,000	250,000	--	--	W	525,000
Tool	W	W	--	--	--	W
Total	448,000	309,000	--	(3)	W	756,000
Cast irons (gray, malleable, and ductile iron)	W	W	--	--	W	W
Superalloys	W	W	--	(3)	70,700	70,700
Alloys: (other than steels, cast irons, and superalloys)						
Welding materials (structural and hard-facing)	--	W	--	--	W	W
Other alloys	78	W	--	--	--	78
Mill products made from metal powder ⁴	--	--	--	--	W	W
Cemented carbides and related products ⁵	--	--	--	--	W	W
Chemical and ceramic uses:						
Pigments	--	--	(3)	--	--	--
Catalysts	77,300	--	(3)	--	W	77,300
Other chemicals	--	--	--	--	--	--
Miscellaneous and unspecified uses:						
Lubricants	--	--	--	--	10,800	10,800
Other	148,000	47,800	384	(3)	307,000	503,000
Grand total	673,000	356,000	384	--	389,000	1,420,000
Stocks, April 30, 2014	503,000	288,000	2,780	(6)	(6)	1,680,000

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Miscellaneous and unspecified uses: Other" category. -- Zero.

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

²Includes calcium molybdate.

³Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Other, Miscellaneous and unspecified uses: Other" category.

⁴Includes ingot, wire, rod, and sheet.

⁵Includes construction, mining, oil and gas, metalworking machinery.

⁶Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Total."

TABLE 3
U.S. EXPORTS OF MOLYBDENUM ORES AND CONCENTRATES
(including roasted concentrate), BY COUNTRY¹

(Kilograms, contained molybdenum)

Country	2013			2014		
	January– December	April	January– April	March	April	January– April
Antigua and Barbuda	--	--	--	--	22,400	22,400
Argentina	--	--	--	--	--	5,110
Australia	214,000	--	--	--	--	--
Austria	31,800	--	19,800	--	--	--
Belgium	3,770,000	573,000	1,030,000	218,000	286,000	900,000
Brazil	690,000	124,000	192,000	7,260	23,400	78,700
Canada	2,070,000	205,000	670,000	165,000	260,000	799,000
China	1,520,000	99,300	422,000	119,000	66,400	277,000
Germany	172,000	24,900	123,000	89	--	89
India	1,310,000	50,800	473,000	84,000	31,000	238,000
Israel	--	--	--	188	244	432
Japan	4,900,000	469,000	1,250,000	564,000	438,000	1,920,000
Korea, Republic of	898,000	117,000	330,000	133,000	58,100	578,000
Mexico	9,160,000	789,000	3,090,000	708,000	275,000	1,950,000
Netherlands	21,100,000	2,240,000	6,810,000	1,140,000	745,000	3,780,000
Peru	24,700	--	18,200	--	--	--
Philippines	2,180	--	--	--	--	--
Singapore	1,370	--	--	--	--	--
South Africa	194,000	--	57,000	--	--	--
Taiwan	24,900	5,600	13,100	--	--	--
Thailand	46,700	7,440	14,900	3,050	10,300	13,300
United Kingdom	2,380,000	229,000	1,350,000	1,370,000	1,400,000	4,940,000
Venezuela	210	--	--	--	--	--
Vietnam	57,100	--	14,900	2,010	5,470	17,400
Total	48,600,000	4,930,000	15,900,000	4,520,000	3,630,000	15,500,000

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
U.S. EXPORTS OF FERROMOLYBDENUM, BY COUNTRY¹

(Kilograms, contained molybdenum)

Country	2013			2014		
	January– December	April	January– April	March	April	January– April
Argentina	382	--	--	--	--	--
Canada	635,000	94,600	265,000	32,300	41,400	175,000
Chile	1,480	--	--	--	--	--
Colombia	238	--	--	--	--	134
Denmark	513	171	171	--	--	--
Israel	168	--	--	--	--	--
Mexico	156,000	28,800	36,000	477	--	24,600
Netherlands	48,600	--	13,300	--	--	--
Panama	13,200	13,200	13,200	--	--	--
Peru	6,550	--	6,000	--	--	--
Total	862,000	137,000	334,000	32,700	41,400	200,000

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MOLYBDENUM PRODUCTS¹

(Kilograms, unless otherwise specified)

Material	January–December 2013			April 2014			January–April 2014		
	Gross weight	Contained molybdenum	Value ² (thousands)	Gross weight	Contained molybdenum	Value ² (thousands)	Gross weight	Contained molybdenum	Value ² (thousands)
Ore and concentrates roasted	6,870,000	4,160,000	47,100	621,000	378,000	8,710	2,400,000	1,460,000	28,600
Ore and concentrates other	18,100,000	8,890,000	250,000	1,220,000	637,000	16,400	5,230,000	2,580,000	73,700
Molybdenum chemicals:									
Oxides and hydroxides	283,000	NA	5,390	38,200	NA	602	76,100	NA	1,190
Molybdates of ammonium	1,080,000	611,000	17,000	249	163	15	244,000	137,000	3,510
Molybdates (all others)	3,770	1,550	190	--	--	--	1,150	457	12
Molybdenum orange	274,000	--	2,430	28,100	NA	189	154,000	NA	1,130
Ferromolybdenum	6,120,000	4,090,000	108,000	490,000	325,000	8,810	1,890,000	1,260,000	31,800
Molybdenum powders	448,000	433,000	16,000	35,000	32,800	1,260	173,000	168,000	5,780
Molybdenum unwrought	762,000	747,000	22,100	142,000	141,000	3,610	384,000	362,000	9,640
Molybdenum waste and scrap	739,000	690,000	21,900	149,000	148,000	4,490	406,000	398,000	11,800
Molybdenum wire	22,700	NA	3,490	2,500	NA	375	6,310	NA	984
Molybdenum other	298,000	NA	20,800	35,900	NA	2,560	146,000	NA	9,600
Total	35,000,000	XX	514,000	2,760,000	XX	47,000	11,100,000	XX	178,000

NA Not available. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²Customs value.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.