

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Patricia J. Loferski, PGM Commodity Specialist
 National Minerals Information Center
 U.S. Geological Survey
 989 National Center
 Reston, VA 20192
 Telephone: (703) 648-7708, Fax: (703) 648-7757
 Email: ploferski@usgs.gov

Paula R. Neely (Data)
 Telephone: (703) 648-7949
 Fax: (703) 648-7975
 Email: pneely@usgs.gov

Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/>

PLATINUM-GROUP METALS IN JANUARY 2017

The Engelhard average January prices for platinum and palladium each increased by 6% and that for rhodium increased by 5% compared with average December prices (table 1, fig. 1). The average monthly price for iridium increased slightly and that for ruthenium was unchanged during the same period. The higher platinum, palladium, and rhodium prices were in response to strong industrial and investor buying (Gilcrest, 2017; Jonson, 2017).

List services and web feed subscribers are the first to receive notification of USGS minerals information publications and data releases. For information on how to subscribe, go to <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/>.

References Cited

Gilcrest, Laura, 2017, US PGMs blast higher on bargain-buying, solid data: Platts Metals Daily, v. 6, no. 3, January 5, p. 8–9.
 Jonson, Nick, 2017, Rhodium pushes past \$850/oz on earlier buying: Platts Metals Daily, v. 6, no. 14, January 20, p.14.

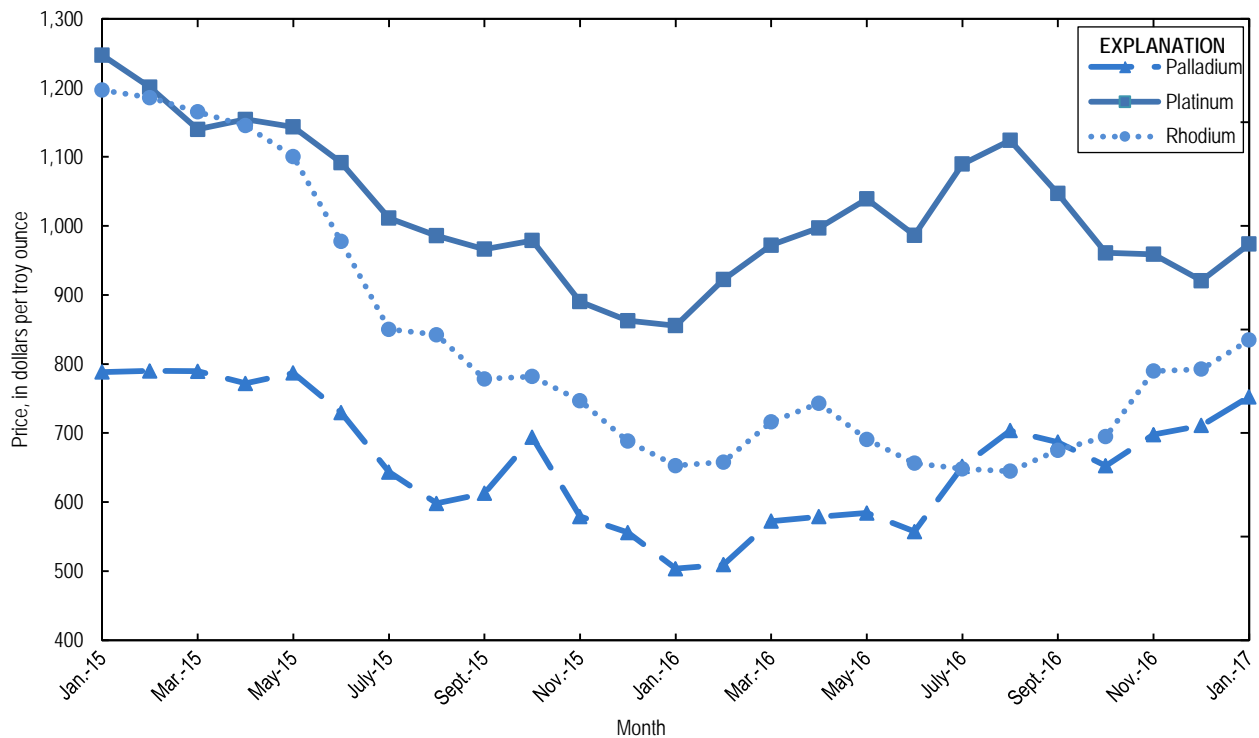


Figure 1. Engelhard monthly palladium, platinum, and rhodium prices for January 2015 through January 2017. Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 1
 PLATINUM-GROUP METALS PRICES¹

(Dollars per troy ounce)

	Platinum	Palladium	Rhodium	Iridium	Ruthenium
2016:					
Low/date	816.00 Jan. 21	473.00 Jan. 12	625.00 July 29–Aug. ²	525.00 Jan.–May. ²	42.00 Jan.–Dec. ²
High/date	1,184.00 Aug. 10	771.00 Dec. 1	850.00 Dec. 15 and 16	700.00 Nov. ² –Dec. ²	42.00 Jan.–Dec. ²
Average	989.52	617.39	696.84	586.90	42.00
2017, January:					
Low/date	931.00/3	710.00/3	765.00/3	700.00 ²	42.00 ²
High/date	995.00/25	791.00/23	855.00/24 and 25	710.00 ²	42.00 ²
Average	973.76	752.38	834.76	702.86	42.00

¹Quotes from Engelhard.

²Occurred multiple days in month(s) listed.

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PLATINUM METAL, BY COUNTRY¹

(Kilograms metal content, unless otherwise specified)

Period and country	Platinum grain and nuggets		Platinum sponge		Other unwrought platinum		Platinum, other		Platinum waste and scrap		Platinum coins	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		(thousands)		(thousands)		(thousands)		(thousands)		(thousands)		(thousands)
2016:												
November	4	\$106	2,680	\$84,100	503	\$15,900	842	\$28,800	5,420	\$74,000	126	\$4,280
December	159	5,140	2,360	73,000	315	9,710	700	22,800	15,400	67,000	95	3,300
January–December	418	12,600	27,500	872,000	4,970	161,000	8,600	278,000	159,000	821,000 ²	924	31,900
2017:												
January:												
Australia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	38	536	--	--
Belgium	--	--	20	611	--	--	--	--	20	674	--	--
Brazil	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	79	19	581	--	--
Canada	4	130	--	--	--	--	10	312	114	3,800	14	509
China	--	--	--	--	--	--	16	641	141	1,350	--	--
Colombia	--	--	--	--	34	939	--	--	8	105	--	--
France	--	--	1	39	--	--	7	361	125	3,940	--	--
Germany	--	--	183	5,980	95	3,860	468	15,200	154	8,940	--	--
Italy	--	--	437	13,700	--	--	(2)	4	255	13,900	--	--
Japan	--	--	--	--	(2)	18	2	89	272	6,260	--	--
Malaysia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	88	1,350	--	--
Mexico	--	--	--	--	2	74	--	--	36	1,210	--	--
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	131	820	--	--
Norway	--	--	78	2,390	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Singapore	--	--	--	--	--	--	12	465	197	6,250	--	--
South Africa	--	--	1,430	43,100	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sweden	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	25	520	--	--
Switzerland	--	--	--	--	16	495	89	2,830	--	--	--	--
Trinidad and Tobago	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	109	3,430	--	--
United Kingdom	--	--	31	906	--	--	20	491	327	9,500	--	--
Other	--	--	4	137	1	24	15	315	12	283	1	51
Total	4	130	2,190	66,900	149	5,410	641	20,800	2,070	63,500	16	560

¹Revised. -- Zero.

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

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF PLATINUM-GROUP METALS, BY COUNTRY¹

(Kilograms metal content, unless otherwise specified)

Period and country	Unwrought palladium		Palladium, other		Iridium ²		Osmium ²		Ruthenium ²		Rhodium ²	
	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)
2016:												
November	5,960	\$120,000	632	\$17,200	83	\$1,910	--	--	1,540	\$2,730	779	\$17,700
December	6,320	148,000	1,700	40,200	128	2,760	--	--	557	1,030	631	15,000
January–December	76,500	1,340,000	12,300	275,000	1,290	23,000	27	159	8,410	14,500	10,700	229,000
2017:												
January:												
Canada	78	3,050	133	4,530	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Germany	44	732	4	49	26	628	--	--	62	101	9	365
Italy	507	12,300	(3)	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	48	1,210
Japan	74	1,800	(3)	3	63	1,440	--	--	--	--	--	--
Norway	264	6,040	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6	163
Russia	1,800	37,900	723	17,700	--	--	--	--	--	--	136	3,270
South Africa	2,040	47,300	174	3,660	25	529	5	35	475	842	552	14,300
United Kingdom	84	2,000	3	83	26	465	--	--	628	1,080	473	13,000
Other	6	98	2	50	--	--	--	--	--	--	5	124
Total	4,900	111,000	1,040	26,000	140	3,060	5	35	1,170	2,020	1,230	32,400

-- Zero.

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

²Unwrought and other forms.

³Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
U.S. EXPORTS OF PLATINUM-GROUP METALS, BY COUNTRY¹

(Kilograms metal content, unless otherwise specified)

Period and country	Platinum ²		Platinum waste and scrap		Palladium ²		Iridium, osmium and ruthenium ^{2,3}		Rhodium ²	
	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)	Quantity	Value (thousands)
2016:										
November	844	\$26,600	14,700	\$57,100	1,310	\$21,100	42	\$804	79	\$1,710
December	1,050	31,300	29,000	63,900	1,420	26,100	26	495	54	1,620
January–December	14,200	423,000	273,000	705,000	17,500	272,000	736	11,300	795	19,600
2017:										
January:										
Argentina	40	1,280	--	--	1	3	--	--	--	--
Australia	6	142	--	--	2	69	2	62	--	--
Belgium	--	--	21,100	13,400	--	--	--	--	--	--
Canada	9	316	157	42	151	2,770	--	--	--	--
China	4	90	--	--	235	4,960	--	--	24	558
Czech Republic	--	--	14	354	2	18	--	--	--	--
Germany	354	11,000	2,480	6,280	220	4,270	2	31	1	29
Hong Kong	11	293	--	--	38	628	5	54	--	--
India	65	2,290	5	163	13	180	--	--	--	--
Ireland	15	421	--	--	11	105	--	--	--	--
Israel	(4)	11	--	--	137	685	--	--	--	--
Italy	145	4,500	--	--	9	236	--	--	9	256
Japan	2	50	1,110	3,990	30	237	--	--	--	--
Luxembourg	279	8,220	--	--	279	6,770	--	--	--	--
Mexico	140	2,180	--	--	7	206	--	--	--	--
Singapore	342	10,700	--	--	1	26	--	--	--	--
South Africa	--	--	800	6,200	--	--	--	--	--	--
Switzerland	2	34	295	6,330	42	125	1	10	--	--
Taiwan	4	124	--	--	118	2,110	1	20	--	--
Thailand	4	108	--	--	9	313	--	--	(4)	6
United Arab Emirates	(4)	3	--	--	2	9	11	244	--	--
United Kingdom	12	324	1,360	35,500	16	74	3	68	--	--
Other	21	524	--	--	75	717	--	--	--	--
Total	1,460	42,700	27,400	72,300	1,400	24,500	24	489	35	849

-- Zero.

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

²Unwrought and other forms.

³Gross weight.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.