



Mineral Industry Surveys

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TUNGSTEN IN AUGUST 2017

U.S. net production of intermediate tungsten products, including metal powder and tungsten carbide powder, was withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

The amount of tungsten contained in U.S. imports of selected materials in January through August 2017 was 56% more than that imported during the same period in 2016 (table 2). The amount of tungsten contained in U.S. exports of selected materials in January through August 2017 was 30% more than that exported during the same period in 2016 (table 3).

Prices

Prices for August 2017 were sourced from Platts Metals Week. In late August, the averages of high and low prices for ammonium paratungstate and concentrates each increased by 20%. The following prices, in dollars per metric ton unit, were

converted from short-ton-unit prices and rounded to the nearest dollar.

Ammonium paratungstate, U.S. free market:

Low—\$254/metric ton unit WO_3 (\$230/short ton unit WO_3)

High—\$353/metric ton unit WO_3 (\$320/short ton unit WO_3)

Concentrates:

Low—\$220/metric ton unit WO_3 (\$200/short ton unit WO_3)

High—\$298/metric ton unit WO_3 (\$270/short ton unit WO_3)

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NOTICE

The U.S. Geological Survey plans to discontinue this monthly Mineral Industry Surveys report. The last published report will be Tungsten in December 2017. Information on this mineral commodity will still be available on an annual basis in the tungsten chapters of the Mineral Commodity Summaries and the Minerals Yearbook, Volume I, Metals and Minerals. Prior to the proposed discontinuation date, please direct any comments or concerns to Elizabeth Sangine, Chief, Mineral Commodities Section, escottsangine@usgs.gov.

TABLE 1
U.S. SALIENT TUNGSTEN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period	Concentrate				Intermediate products			
	Reported consumption	Imports for consumption	Stocks, end of period		Net production ^{p, 4}	Stocks, end of period		
			Industry ^{p, 2}	U.S. Government ³		Producer ^{p, 5}	U.S. Government ³	
2016:								
August	W	432	W	11,600	W	518	125	
September	W	303	W	11,600	W	476	125	
October	W	414	W	11,600	W	532	125	
November	W	182	W	11,600	W	437	125	
December	W	289	W	11,600	W	544	125	
January–December	W	3,580	W	11,600	W	544	125	
2017:								
January	W	404	W	11,600	W	564	125	
February	W	313	W	11,600	W	576	125	
March	W	305	W	11,300	W	422	125	
April	W	412	W	11,100	W	446	125	
May	W	307	W	10,800	W	644	125	
June	W	252	W	10,700	W	614	125	
July	W	353	W	10,600	W	W	125	
August	W	292	W	10,400	W	W	125	
January–August	W	2,640	W	10,400	W	W	125	

^pPreliminary. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

²Reported by consumers.

³Data from the Defense Logistics Agency Strategic Materials.

⁴Net production of tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder.

⁵Data for tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder reported by producers; includes estimates.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF TUNGSTEN, BY COUNTRY OR LOCALITY¹

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period and country or locality of origin	Ores and concentrates	Ammonium tungstates	Ferro-tungsten	Metal powder	Tungsten carbide powder	Other ²	Total	Total, year to date
2016	3,580	1,020	236	1,040	782	1,510	8,200	XX
2017:								
June	252	197	--	132	190	179	950	6,440
July	353	144	9	148	142	267	1,060	7,500
August:								
Austria	--	--	--	(3)	37	4	41	291
Bolivia	106	--	--	--	--	--	106	786
Brazil	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6
Burma	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12
Burundi	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	73
Canada	--	--	--	30	28	(3)	58	379
China	(3)	36	8	35	44	56	180	3,350
Czechia	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	8
France	--	--	--	--	1	2	3	12
Germany	--	83	--	1	1	18	102	487
Hong Kong	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9
Hungary	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	4
India	--	--	--	3	--	1	4	15
Israel	--	--	--	--	16	(3)	16	71
Japan	--	--	--	1	--	15	16	82
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	7	1	--	7	213
Mexico	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4
Mongolia	12	--	--	--	--	--	12	92
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9
Poland	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9
Portugal	47	--	--	--	--	--	47	347
Russia	27	--	2	--	--	(3)	29	685
Rwanda	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	20
Seychelles	--	--	--	--	--	2	2	9
Spain	31	--	--	--	--	--	31	314
Taiwan	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	4
Thailand	11	--	--	--	--	--	11	25
Uganda	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	34
United Kingdom	45	--	--	--	--	(3)	45	324
Uzbekistan	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9
Vietnam	13	--	3	--	--	14	29	556
Other	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	7
Total	292	119	13	77	128	113	742	8,240
January–August	2,640	1,730	143	888	1,020	1,820	8,240	XX

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²Includes 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.

³Less than ½ unit.

Note: Imports of waste and scrap in August 2017 totaled 222 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–August total of 1,450 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
U.S. EXPORTS OF TUNGSTEN, BY COUNTRY OR LOCALITY¹

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period and country or locality of destination	Ores and concentrates ²	Ammonium tungstates	Metal powder ²	Tungsten carbide powder	Other ³	Total	Total, year to date
2016	183	108	308	763	1,580	2,940	XX
2017:							
June	142	1	50	74	178	445	1,680
July	86	--	41	58	133	318	1,990
August:							
Australia	--	--	(4)	1	(4)	1	49
Austria	45	--	--	--	39	84	701
Brazil	--	--	(4)	1	2	3	12
Canada	--	--	10	17	11	38	287
Chile	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	1	4
China	--	--	(4)	4	1	5	31
Costa Rica	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	6
Czechia	--	--	1	1	--	2	30
Dominican Republic	--	--	--	--	3	3	8
Finland	--	--	--	--	17	17	86
France	--	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	8
Germany	--	--	4	8	1	12	156
Hong Kong	--	--	1	--	--	1	12
Hungary	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	6
India	--	--	(4)	(4)	1	1	14
Ireland	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	4
Japan	--	--	--	3	4	7	73
Korea, Republic of	--	--	1	2	(4)	2	18
Luxembourg	--	--	--	--	18	18	33
Malaysia	--	--	--	--	--	--	6
Mexico	--	--	2	1	14	17	134
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	1	1	207
Peru	--	--	1	(4)	(4)	1	6
Portugal	--	--	--	--	--	--	39
Saudi Arabia	--	--	--	--	--	--	86
Singapore	--	--	(4)	1	1	2	16
South Africa	--	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	16
Spain	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	10
Taiwan	--	--	(4)	3	(4)	3	47
Thailand	--	--	--	12	--	12	15
United Arab Emirates	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	11
United Kingdom	--	--	(4)	1	1	2	22
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	--	--	42
Other	--	(4)	3	2	1	6	38
Total	45	(4)	25	56	115	240	2,230
January–August	460	5	260	509	1,000	2,230	XX

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²Tungsten content estimated from reported gross weight.

³Includes unwrought tungsten, including bars and rods obtained simply by sintering, wrought tungsten, ferrotungsten, and other tungstates. Tungsten content estimated in part.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

Note: Estimated exports of waste and scrap in August 2017 totaled 39 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–August total of 247 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.