

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Désirée E. Polyak, Molybdenum Commodity Specialist
National Minerals Information Center
Telephone: (703) 648-4909
Email: dpolyak@usgs.gov

Raymond I. Eldridge III (Data)

Telephone: (703) 648-7982

Email: reldridge@usgs.gov

Internet: <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/mineral-industry-surveys>

MOLYBDENUM IN NOVEMBER 2022

Domestic production of molybdenum in concentrate in November 2022 was essentially unchanged compared with the output of the previous month and 5% more than that of November 2021 (fig. 1, table 1).

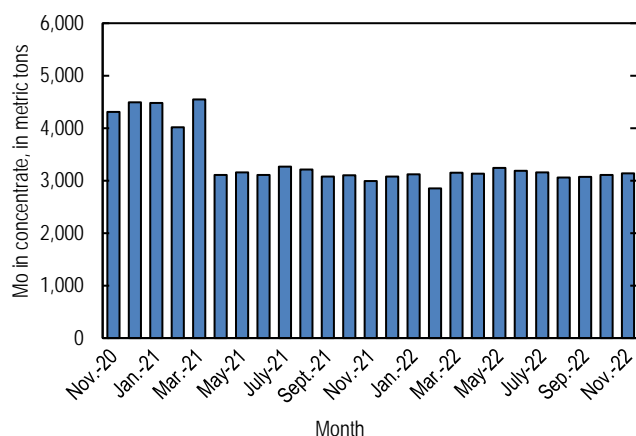


Figure 1. Monthly domestic production of molybdenum (Mo) in concentrate from November 2020 through November 2022 (may include revisions to previously published data).

Prices

According to CRU Group (2022), the monthly average price range for U.S. ferromolybdenum (FeMo) was \$21.589 to \$22.361 per pound of molybdenum content in November 2022 compared with \$20.875 to \$21.719 per pound of molybdenum content in October 2022. FeMo monthly average prices in Europe ranged from \$47.067 to \$48.067 per kilogram (\$21.349 to \$21.803 per pound) of molybdenum content in November 2022 compared with \$41.688 to \$42.688 per kilogram (\$18.909 to \$19.363 per pound) in October 2022.

U.S. molybdic oxide (MoO_3) prices ranged from \$18.944 to \$19.356 per pound of molybdenum content in November 2022 compared with from \$17.000 to \$17.563 per pound of molybdenum content in October 2022 (fig. 2).

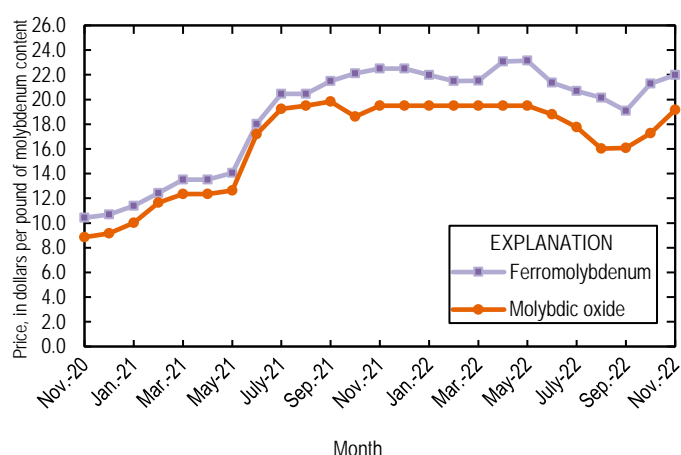


Figure 2. Average monthly prices for U.S. ferromolybdenum and molybdic oxide from November 2020 through November 2022. Source: CRU Group.

Reference Cited

CRU Group, 2022, Molybdenum prices: London, United Kingdom, CRU Group, November 30. (Accessed January 14, 2022, via <http://www.crugroup.com/>.)

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TABLE 1
U.S. SALIENT MOLYBDENUM CONCENTRATE
STATISTICS^{1,2}

(Metric tons, contained molybdenum)

Period	Production	Shipments ^{3,4}
2021:		
January	4,480	4,450
February	4,020	4,010
March	4,550	4,580
April	3,110	3,120
May	3,160	3,080
June	3,110	3,140
July	3,270	3,210
August	3,210	3,290
September	3,080	3,100
October	3,100	3,060
November	2,990	2,950
December	3,080	3,090
January–December	41,100	41,100
2022:		
January	3,120	3,080
February	2,850	2,850
March	3,150	3,180
April	3,130	3,150
May	3,240	3,250
June	3,190	3,170
July	3,160	3,130
August	3,060	3,100
September	3,070	3,090
October	3,110	3,030
November	3,140	3,150
January–November	34,200	34,200

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

²Includes data from Freeport-McMoRan Inc., 2021–2022. Adjusted by USGS to reflect estimated monthly data.

³As reported by producers.

⁴Shipments include sales to domestic customers, sales for export, and transfers to other company plants.

TABLE 2
U.S. EXPORTS OF MOLYBDENUM ORES AND CONCENTRATES
(including roasted concentrate), BY COUNTRY OR LOCALITY¹

(Kilograms, contained molybdenum)

Country or locality	2021		2022			
	January– December	November	January– November	October	November	January– November
Argentina	33,200	11,000	11,000	--	--	87,000
Belgium	5,900,000	222,000	5,780,000 ^r	343,000	186,000	1,910,000
Brazil	136,000	7,890	132,000	36,700	39,800	195,000
Cambodia	29,900	8,300 ^r	29,900 ^r	--	--	5,000
Canada	782,000	18,500	782,000	18,700	19,600	371,000
Chile	1,230,000	--	1,080,000 ^r	--	--	98,400
China	1,510,000	--	1,510,000	65,800	182,000	267,000
Germany	--	--	--	--	--	5,700
Hong Kong	--	--	--	--	--	1,680
India	757,000	21,900	723,000 ^r	91,900	22,200	460,000
Italy	--	--	--	--	114	114
Japan	4,340,000	297,000 ^r	3,950,000 ^r	209,000	151,000	3,200,000
Korea, Republic of	1,480,000	70,800 ^r	1,360,000 ^r	63,800	93,800	681,000
Latvia	--	--	--	--	--	1,140
Lithuania	1,900	--	1,900	--	--	--
Mexico	3,350,000	162,000	3,270,000	157,000	178,000	1,800,000
Netherlands	27,700,000	1,990,000 ^r	25,100,000 ^r	1,600,000	2,790,000	25,800,000
South Africa	3,810	--	3,810	--	--	11,800
Taiwan	3,130	--	3,130	--	--	3,400
Thailand	--	--	--	--	5,310	12,400
United Kingdom	8,250,000	453,000	7,740,000	326,000	72,600	5,960,000
Vietnam	369,000	145,000	336,000 ^r	135,000	242,000	1,030,000
Total	55,900,000	3,400,000 ^r	51,900,000 ^r	3,050,000	3,980,000	41,900,000

^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

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

(Kilograms, contained molybdenum)

Country or locality	2021		2022			
	January– December	November	January– November	October	November	January– November
Argentina	--	--	--	--	85	547
Australia	2,790	774	2,790	--	--	2,560
Canada	217,000	15,700	211,000 ^r	544	3,990	90,700
Denmark	1,350	440	1,350	--	--	880
Mexico	282,000	--	282,000	73	10,000	92,600
Total	504,000	17,000	497,000 ^r	617	14,100	187,000

^rRevised. -- 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. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MOLYBDENUM PRODUCTS¹

(Kilograms, unless otherwise specified)

Material	2021			2022					
	January–December			November			January–November		
	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	5,130,000	3,200,000	\$89,700	230,000	142,000	\$5,510	3,060,000	1,890,000	\$68,900
Ore and concentrates, other	25,200,000	12,300,000	362,000	1,560,000	760,000	25,400	26,900,000	12,800,000	477,000
Molybdenum chemicals:									
Oxides and hydroxides	3,770,000	NA	88,800	78,000	NA	2,230	3,290,000	NA	96,600
Molybdates of ammonium	1,610,000	907,000	32,400	47,100	26,500	1,070	1,350,000	762,000	33,100
Molybdates (all others)	182,000	72,100	2,540	46,100	18,300	741	314,000	125,000	5,180
Molybdenum orange	128,000	NA	1,010	33,200	NA	197	146,000	NA	1,050
Ferromolybdenum	12,300,000	8,390,000	280,000	497,000	333,000	13,400	10,300,000	7,070,000	302,000
Molybdenum powders	216,000	201,000	9,900	16,600	13,100	936	237,000	231,000	13,300
Molybdenum unwrought	426,000	425,000	14,700	43,800	43,700	1,920	274,000	273,000	11,800
Molybdenum waste and scrap	2,030,000	1,810,000	62,600	129,000	97,800	4,730	1,760,000	1,420,000	62,500
Molybdenum wire	17,900	NA	2,010	1,510	NA	178	14,400	NA	1,770
Molybdenum other	190,000	NA	18,900	17,700	NA	2,130	178,000	NA	22,800
Total	51,200,000	XX	964,000	2,700,000	XX	58,500	47,800,000	XX	1,100,000

NA Not available. XX Not applicable.

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

²Customs value.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.