

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

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

Sidney Deloach-Overton (Data)

Telephone: (703) 648-7982

Email: msaedi@usgs.gov

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

MOLYBDENUM IN JULY 2023

Domestic production of molybdenum in concentrate in July 2023 was 6% more than the output in the previous month and 8% more than the output in July 2022 (fig. 1, table 1).

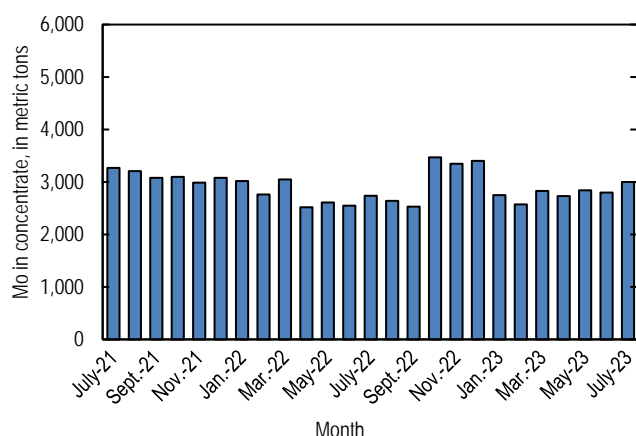


Figure 1. Monthly domestic production of molybdenum (Mo) in concentrate from July 2021 through July 2023 (may include revisions to previously published data).

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 <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/national-minerals-information-center/minerals-information-publication-list-services>.

Prices

According to CRU Group, the monthly average price range for U.S. ferromolybdenum (FeMo) was \$24.000 to \$25.000 per pound of molybdenum content in both June and July 2023. FeMo monthly average prices in Europe ranged from \$50.000 to \$52.000 per kilogram (\$22.680 to \$23.587 per pound) of molybdenum content in July 2023 compared with \$50.000 to \$53.000 per kilogram (\$22.680 to \$24.040 per pound) in June 2023. U.S. molybdic oxide (MoO_3) prices ranged from \$21.625 to \$22.625 per pound of molybdenum content in July 2023 compared with \$20.833 to \$21.833 per pound of molybdenum content in June 2023 (fig. 2).

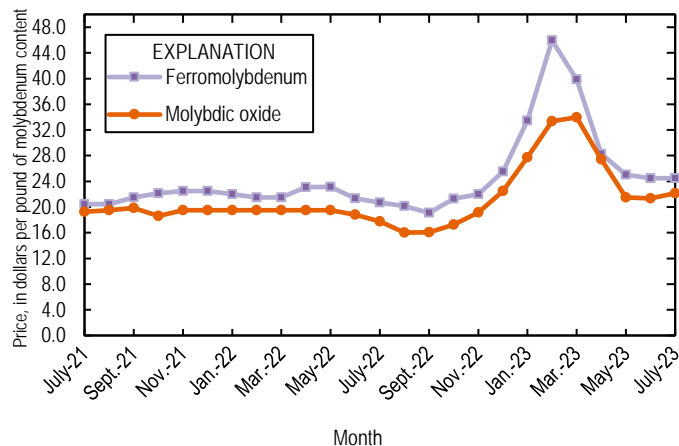


Figure 2. Average monthly prices for U.S. ferromolybdenum and molybdic oxide from July 2021 through July 2023. Source: CRU Group.

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

(Metric tons, contained molybdenum)

Period	Production	Shipments ^{3,4}
2022:		
January	3,020	3,100
February	2,760	2,760
March	3,050	3,080
April	2,520	2,540
May	2,610	2,620
June	2,550	2,530
July	2,740	2,700
August	2,640	2,680
September	2,530	2,550
October	3,470	3,390
November	3,350	3,360
December	3,400	3,350
January–December	34,600	34,700
2023:		
January	2,750	2,610
February	2,570	2,570
March	2,830	2,900
April	2,730	2,720
May	2,840	2,860
June	2,800	2,790
July	2,960	2,930
January–July	19,500	19,400

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

²Includes annual or quarterly published data from Freeport-McMoran Inc. (2022–2023) that has been adjusted by USGS to reflect estimated monthly

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	2022			2023		
	January– December	July	January– July	June	July	January– July
Argentina	87,000	11,300	87,000	--	--	--
Belgium	2,130,000	102,000	1,320,000 ^r	87,800	72,000	296,000
Brazil	229,000	5,250	88,700	14,100	12,800	176,000
Cambodia	5,000	--	5,000	--	--	--
Canada	408,000	47,300	230,000	36,300	62,900	572,000
Chile	98,400	--	98,400	74,800	190,000	828,000
China	402,000	19,100	19,100	65,900	195,000	458,000
Germany	5,700	--	5,700	--	--	--
Hong Kong	1,680	--	1,680	--	--	--
India	499,000	--	260,000 ^r	42,000	23,100	215,000
Italy	114	--	--	--	--	--
Japan	3,460,000	318,000 ^r	2,120,000 ^r	205,000	266,000	2,030,000
Korea, Republic of	681,000	115,000	413,000	22,300	118,000	509,000
Latvia	1,140	--	1,140	--	--	--
Mexico	1,970,000	49,900	1,070,000	--	--	92,900
Netherlands	28,300,000	2,310,000	18,200,000 ^r	3,640,000	2,070,000	17,500,000
Singapore	--	--	--	11,000	11,000	55,000
South Africa	11,800	--	--	330	--	330
Taiwan	3,400	--	2,550	--	--	--
Thailand	12,400	--	7,060	--	--	14,900
United Kingdom	6,740,000	652,000	4,290,000	635,000	254,000	4,120,000
Vietnam	1,130,000	54,900	481,000 ^r	305,000	56,900	638,000
Total	46,200,000	3,690,000 ^r	28,700,000 ^r	5,140,000	3,330,000	27,500,000

^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	2022			2023		
	January– December	July	January– July	June	July	January– July
Argentina	547	--	462	--	--	--
Australia	2,560	--	1,700	--	--	1,060
Canada	93,400	9,000	84,600	22,400	27,200	134,000
Denmark	880	--	880	474	--	1,060
India	--	--	--	--	--	17,700
Mexico	92,600	--	31,500	10,000	--	103,000
Total	190,000	9,000	119,000	32,900	27,200	257,000

-- 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. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MOLYBDENUM PRODUCTS¹

(Kilograms, unless otherwise specified)

Material	2022			2023					
	January–December			July			January–July		
	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	3,240,000	2,000,000	\$74,600	167,000	106,000	\$5,340	1,290,000	811,000	\$47,700
Ore and concentrates, other	28,800,000	13,700,000	511,000	1,400,000	679,000	27,100	18,100,000	8,880,000	478,000
Molybdenum chemicals:									
Oxides and hydroxides	3,660,000	NA	106,000	494,000	NA	17,400	3,240,000	NA	132,000
Molybdates of ammonium	1,360,000	773,000	33,700	107,000	60,400	3,100	1,040,000	585,000	35,400
Molybdates (all others)	360,000	144,000	5,980	1,000	396	26	144,000	56,900	2,840
Molybdenum orange	174,000	NA	1,260	12,600	NA	79	196,000	NA	1,110
Ferromolybdenum	10,600,000	7,260,000	311,000	929,000	628,000	32,100	6,700,000	4,610,000	246,000
Molybdenum powders	238,000	232,000	13,400	1,300	1,280	139	36,800	33,200	2,960
Molybdenum unwrought	318,000	317,000	14,300	76,700	76,500	4,320	329,000	327,000	20,500
Molybdenum waste and scrap	1,910,000	1,540,000	68,000	144,000	142,000	8,130	1,080,000	967,000	60,300
Molybdenum wire	15,800	NA	1,950	3,990	NA	397	12,800	NA	1,840
Molybdenum other	192,000	NA	24,700	27,700	NA	4,040	153,000	NA	22,500
Total	50,900,000	XX	1,160,000	3,360,000	XX	102,000	32,300,000	XX	1,050,000

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.