

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Kim B. Shedd, Tungsten Commodity Specialist
National Minerals Information Center
Telephone: (703) 648-4974
Email: kshed@usgs.gov

Annie Hwang (Data)

Telephone: (703) 648-7952

Email: ahwang@usgs.gov

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

TUNGSTEN IN SEPTEMBER 2023

U.S. reported consumption of tungsten concentrate, net production of intermediate tungsten products, including metal powder and tungsten carbide powder, and industry stocks of tungsten materials were withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. U.S. Government National Defense Stockpile inventory statistics are no longer available.

During January through September 2023, the amount of tungsten contained in U.S. imports of materials listed in table 2 was 21% less than that imported during the same period in 2022. The amount of tungsten contained in U.S. exports of materials listed in table 3 was 62% more during January through September 2023 than that exported during the same period in 2022.

Prices

The following tungsten price comparisons are U.S. Geological Survey calculations based on Argus Analytics

prices. The September 2023 monthly average price for tungsten concentrate, minimum 65% tungsten trioxide, ex works China, was essentially unchanged from that in August 2023 and essentially unchanged from that in September 2022. The September 2023 monthly average price for ammonium paratungstate, European Union market, was slightly lower than that in August 2023 and 7% lower than that in September 2022 (fig. 1).

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>.

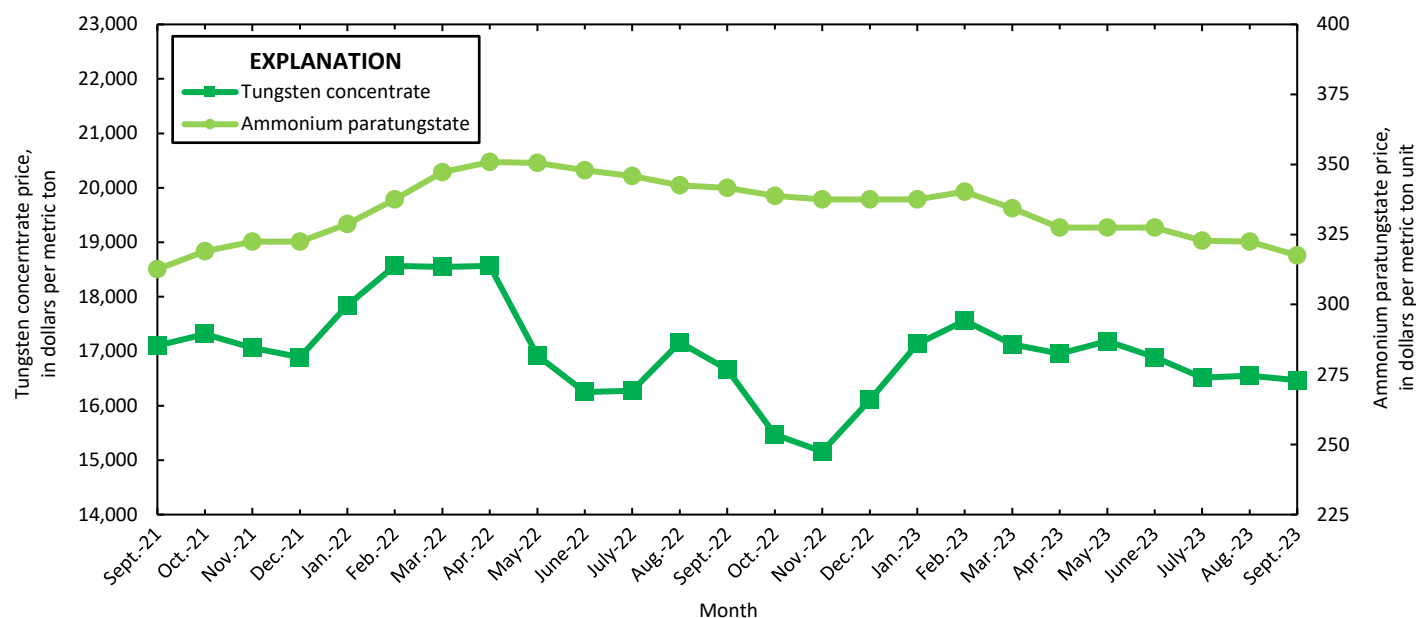


Figure 1. Monthly average prices for tungsten concentrate and ammonium paratungstate for September 2021 through September 2023. Source: Argus Analytics.

TABLE 1
U.S. SALIENT TUNGSTEN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period	Concentrate			Intermediate products	
	Consumption	Imports for consumption	Stocks, end of period ^{2, 3}	Net production ⁴	Stocks, end of period ⁵
2022:					
September	W	245	W	W	W
October	W	202	W	W	W
November	W	190	W	W	W
December	W	239	W	W	W
January–December	W	2,130	W	W	W
2023:					
January	W	153	W	W	W
February	W	99	W	W	W
March	W	120	W	W	W
April	W	119	W	W	W
May	W	91	W	W	W
June	W	91	W	W	W
July	W	112	W	W	W
August	W	207	W	W	W
September	W	96	W	W	W
January–September	W	1,090	W	W	W

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

²Consumer stocks.

³U.S. Government National Defense Stockpile inventory statistics are no longer available.

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

⁵Producer stocks of tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder.

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
2022:								
January–September	1,500	696	45	1,430	1,550 ^r	2,520	7,730 ^r	XX
January–December	2,130	1,200	52	1,990	2,010	3,340	10,700	XX
2023:								
July	112	218	--	105	112	232	779	4,720
August	207	190	4	61	141	129	731	5,450
September:								
Austria	--	--	--	1	16	3	19	364
Bolivia	53	--	--	--	--	--	53	578
Canada	--	--	--	53	11	2	67	615
China	9	58	--	(3)	74	94	235	2,300
France	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	16
Germany	--	53	--	(3)	2	6	61	494
India	--	--	--	--	--	25	25	81
Israel	--	--	--	18	11	(3)	29	120
Japan	--	--	--	(3)	--	8	8	81
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	79
Luxembourg	--	--	--	--	12	--	12	13
Mexico	--	--	(3)	--	--	--	(3)	9
Mongolia	10	--	--	--	--	--	10	40
Portugal	24	--	--	--	--	--	24	242
Russia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	49
Spain	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	53
Switzerland	--	--	--	--	--	2	2	14
Taiwan	--	--	--	(3)	--	49	49	240
Thailand	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	58
United Kingdom	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	5
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	--	51	51	634
Other	1	--	--	(3)	--	2	3	17
Total	96	112	(3)	73	126	241	648	6,100
January–September	1,090	1,010	21	939	1,180	1,860	6,100	XX

^rRevised. 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 September 2023 totaled 261 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–September total of 2,820 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
2022:							
January–September	475	7	594 ^r	391 ^r	372 ^r	1,840	XX
January–December	614	8	787	512	463	2,380	XX
2023:							
July	341	7	66	31	83	529	2,550
August	29	1	62	35	63	189	2,740
September:							
Australia	--	--	--	10	(4)	10	56
Austria	--	--	--	--	8	8	46
Belgium	--	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	41
Brazil	--	--	(4)	2	(4)	3	13
Canada	--	--	61	17	2	80	662
China	--	--	(4)	--	8	8	68
Costa Rica	--	--	--	(4)	5	5	37
Czechia	--	--	--	--	--	--	16
Denmark	--	--	--	--	--	--	30
France	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	1	26
Germany	--	--	(4)	2	1	3	92
India	--	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	44
Indonesia	--	--	--	1	(4)	1	7
Israel	--	--	--	1	(4)	1	11
Japan	--	--	(4)	2	1	3	43
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	16
Malaysia	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	5
Mexico	--	--	2	1	15	18	127
Philippines	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	13
Saudi Arabia	--	--	--	3	--	3	26
Singapore	--	--	(4)	(4)	(4)	1	7
South Africa	--	--	1	(4)	(4)	1	8
Taiwan	--	--	--	2	1	3	186
United Kingdom	(4)	--	(4)	1	3	5	24
Vietnam	91	--	--	--	--	91	1,340
Other	--	--	1	(4)	1	2	40
Total	92	--	67	44	44	247	2,990
January–September	1,340	64	605	372	609	2,990	XX

^rRevised. 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: Exports of waste and scrap in September 2023 totaled 65 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–September total of 840 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.