

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## TUNGSTEN IN NOVEMBER 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 November 2023, the amount of tungsten contained in U.S. imports of materials listed in table 2 was 22% 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 50% more during January through November 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 Tungsten

Analytics prices. The November 2023 monthly average price for tungsten concentrate, minimum 65% tungsten trioxide, ex works China, was essentially unchanged from that in October 2023 (revised) and 9% more than that in November 2022. The November 2023 monthly average price for ammonium paratungstate, in-warehouse Rotterdam, duty unpaid, was slightly lower than that in October 2023 and 10% lower than that in November 2022 (fig. 1).

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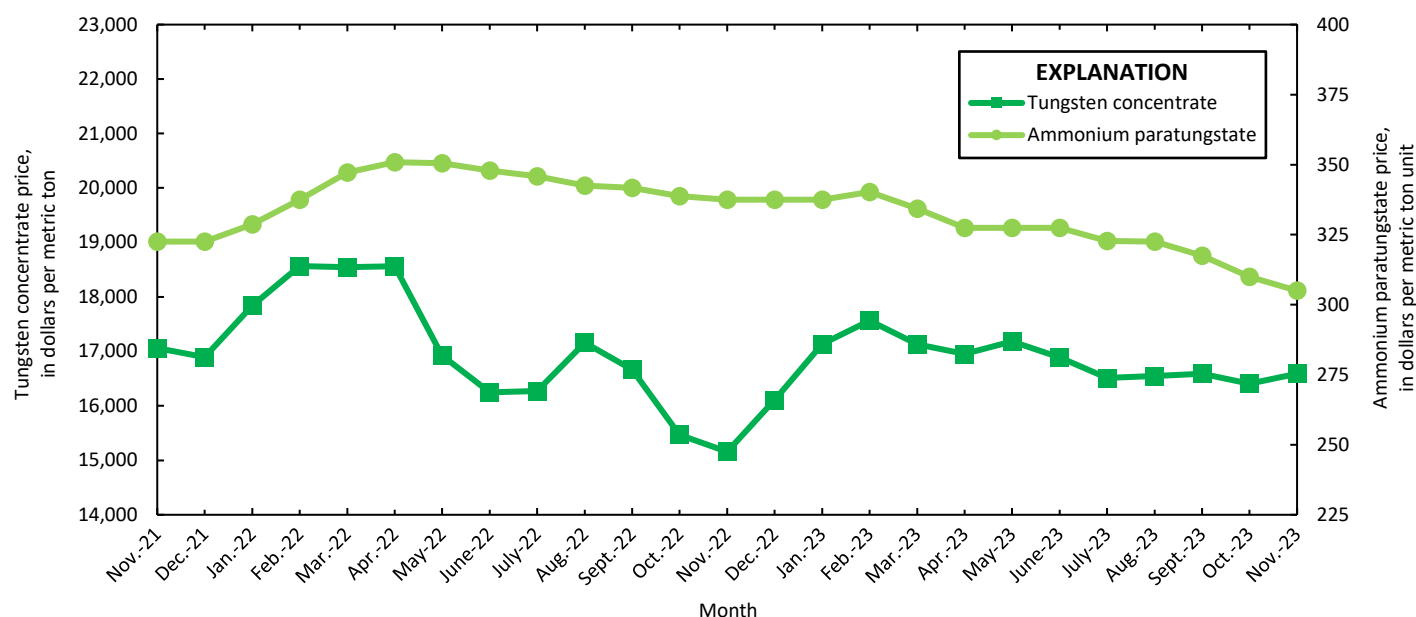


Figure 1. Monthly average prices for tungsten concentrate and ammonium paratungstate for November 2021 through November 2023. Source: Argus Tungsten Analytics.

TABLE 1  
U.S. SALIENT TUNGSTEN STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period	Concentrate			Intermediate products	
	Consumption	Imports for consumption	Stocks, end of period <sup>2, 3</sup>	Net production <sup>4</sup>	Stocks, end of period <sup>5</sup>
2022:					
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
October	W	190	W	W	W
November	W	188	W	W	W
January–November	W	1,470	W	W	W

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

<sup>2</sup>Consumer stocks.

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Government National Defense Stockpile inventory statistics are no longer available.

<sup>4</sup>Net production of tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder.

<sup>5</sup>Producer stocks of tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder.

TABLE 2  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF TUNGSTEN, BY COUNTRY OR LOCALITY<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period and country or locality of origin	Ores and concentrates	Ammonium tungstates	Ferro- tungsten	Metal powder	Tungsten carbide powder	Other <sup>2</sup>	Total	Total, year to date
2022:								
January–November	1,890 <sup>r</sup>	1,020	49	1,750 <sup>r</sup>	1,880 <sup>r</sup>	3,190 <sup>r</sup>	9,790 <sup>r</sup>	XX
January–December	2,130	1,200	52	1,990	2,010	3,340	10,700	XX
2023:								
September	96	112	(3)	73	126	241	648	6,100
October	190	163	--	47	189	241	830	6,930
November:								
Australia	18	--	--	--	--	--	18	19
Austria	--	--	--	17	24	2	43	452
Bolivia	82	--	--	--	--	--	82	766
Canada	--	--	--	48	6	7	62	714
China	3	110	--	(3)	58	39	210	2,780
France	--	--	--	--	(3)	1	1	18
Germany	--	19	--	(3)	19	7	45	683
Hungary	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	5
India	--	--	--	--	--	14	14	101
Israel	--	--	--	46	4	(3)	50	198
Japan	(3)	--	--	19	--	14	33	122
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	(3)	85
Luxembourg	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	13
Mexico	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9
Mongolia	31	--	--	--	--	--	31	89
Portugal	24	--	--	--	--	--	24	289
Russia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	49
Singapore	--	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	5
Spain	30	--	--	--	--	--	30	95
Switzerland	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	19
Taiwan	--	--	--	(3)	--	22	22	272
Thailand	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	81
United Kingdom	--	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	(3)	6
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	--	26	26	743
Other	--	--	--	(3)	--	(3)	(3)	10
Total	188	128	--	131	113	134	693	7,630
January–November	1,470	1,300	21	1,120	1,480	2,230	7,630	XX

<sup>r</sup>Revised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Includes 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.

<sup>3</sup>Less than ½ unit.

Note: Imports of waste and scrap in November 2023 totaled 250 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–November total of 3,230 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3  
U.S. EXPORTS OF TUNGSTEN, BY COUNTRY OR LOCALITY<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period and country or locality of destination	Ores and concentrates <sup>2</sup>	Ammonium tungstates	Metal powder <sup>2</sup>	Tungsten carbide powder	Other <sup>3</sup>	Total	Total, year to date
2022:							
January–November	542 <sup>r</sup>	8	729	465	435 <sup>r</sup>	2,180 <sup>r</sup>	XX
January–December	614	8	787	512	463	2,380	XX
2023:							
September	92	--	67	44	44	247	2,990
October	35	15	22	23	57	153	3,140
November:							
Australia	--	--	(4)	4	(4)	4	65
Austria	--	--	--	--	11	11	64
Belgium	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	42
Brazil	--	--	1	--	(4)	1	17
Canada	--	--	6	3	4	12	697
China	--	--	1	1	2	4	81
Costa Rica	--	--	--	--	4	4	46
Czechia	--	--	1	--	(4)	1	18
Denmark	--	--	--	--	--	--	30
France	--	--	(4)	2	1	3	30
Germany	--	--	(4)	8	2	10	107
India	--	--	1	(4)	(4)	1	47
Indonesia	--	--	1	2	(4)	3	10
Israel	(4)	--	--	1	(4)	1	13
Japan	--	--	(4)	9	1	10	59
Korea, Republic of	--	--	1	--	1	1	31
Malaysia	--	--	--	1	--	1	6
Mexico	(4)	--	2	--	14	15	160
Netherlands	--	--	(4)	--	(4)	(4)	9
Philippines	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	13
Saudi Arabia	--	--	2	(4)	(4)	2	30
Singapore	--	--	--	(4)	2	2	10
South Africa	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	8
Taiwan	--	--	--	--	(4)	(4)	194
Turkey	--	--	1	--	(4)	1	6
United Kingdom	--	--	2	(4)	2	3	32
Vietnam	30	--	--	--	--	30	1,400
Other	--	--	(4)	(4)	5	6	41
Total	30	--	19	32	49	129	3,270
January–November	1,400	79	646	426	715	3,270	XX

<sup>r</sup>Revised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

<sup>2</sup>Tungsten content estimated from reported gross weight.

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

<sup>4</sup>Less than ½ unit.

Note: Exports of waste and scrap in November 2023 totaled 101 metric tons, tungsten content, to give a January–November total of 980 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.