

# Mineral Industry Surveys

**For information, contact:**

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

Mana Saedi (Data)  
 Telephone: (703) 648-7982  
 Email: msaedi@usgs.gov

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

## MOLYBDENUM IN FEBRUARY 2024

Domestic production of molybdenum in concentrate in February 2024 was 11% less than the output in the previous month and 10% more than the output in February 2023 (fig. 1, table 1).

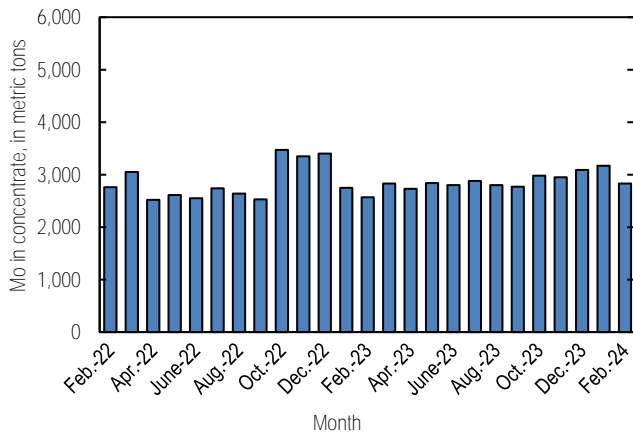


Figure 1. Monthly domestic production of molybdenum (Mo) in concentrate from February 2022 through February 2024 (may include revisions to previously published data).

**Prices**

According to Argus Media, Argus Non-Ferrous Markets, the monthly average price range for U.S. ferromolybdenum (FeMo), 65% molybdenum content, was \$21.500 to \$23.250 per pound of molybdenum content in February 2024 compared with \$22.000 to \$23.500 per pound in January 2024. FeMo, 65–70% molybdenum content, monthly average prices in Europe ranged from \$45.800 to \$49.000 per kilogram (\$20.775 to \$22.226 per pound) of molybdenum content in February 2024 compared with \$46.000 to \$50.000 per kilogram (\$20.865 to \$22.680 per pound) in January 2024. U.S. molybdic oxide (MoO<sub>3</sub>) prices, 57% molybdenum content, ranged from \$19.800 to \$20.900 per pound of molybdenum content in February 2024 compared with \$20.000 to \$21.500 per pound of molybdenum content in January 2024 (fig. 2).

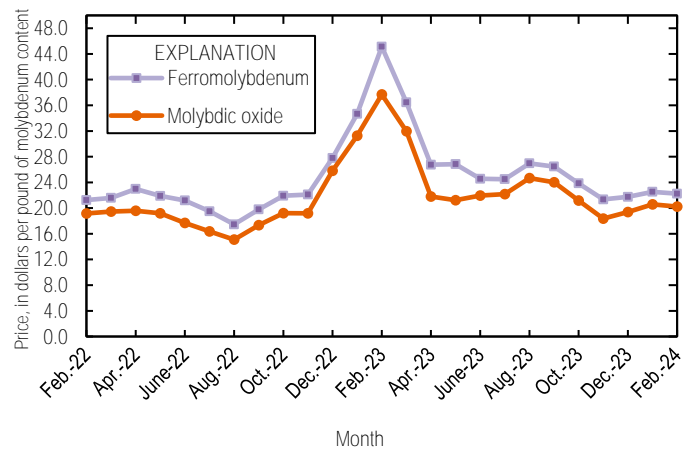


Figure 2. Average monthly prices for U.S. ferromolybdenum and molybdic oxide from February 2022 through February 2024. Source: Argus Media, Argus Non-Ferrous Markets.

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**Table1.** U.S. Salient molybdenum concentrate statistics.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Table includes annual or quarterly published data from Freeport-McMoran Inc. (2023–2024) that has been adjusted by USGS to reflect estimated monthly data. Data are in metric tons, molybdenum content].

<b>Period</b>	<b>Production</b>	<b>Shipments<sup>1,2</sup></b>
<b>2023</b>		
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	2,880	2,850
August	2,800	2,830
September	2,770	2,760
October	2,980	2,970
November	2,950	2,910
December	3,090	3,100
<b>January–December</b>	<b>34,000</b>	<b>33,900</b>
<b>2024</b>		
January	3,170	3,170
February	2,830	2,900
<b>January–February</b>	<b>5,990</b>	<b>6,070</b>

<sup>1</sup>As reported by producers.

<sup>2</sup>Shipments 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 and unroasted concentrates). By country or locality.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in kilograms, molybdenum content. Source: U.S. Census Bureau].

Country or locality	2023			2024		
	January–December	February	January–February	January	February	January–February
Belgium	875,000	83,700	100,000	123,000	144,000	268,000
Brazil	219,000	6,600	13,000	2,840	11,800	14,700
Canada	871,000	98,800	253,000	76,900	36,300	113,000
Chile	1,490,000	142,000	142,000	80,400	79,800	160,000
China	1,880,000	0	80,000	296,000	698,000	994,000
Ecuador	741	0	0	0	0	0
France	38,700	0	0	0	0	0
Germany	181	0	0	0	0	0
India	351,000	60,200	60,200	0	0	0
Japan	3,280,000	215,000	529,000	125,000	123,000	248,000
Korea, Republic of	665,000	128,000	230,000	69,700	69,000	139,000
Mexico	92,900	0	92,900	0	0	0
Netherlands	29,800,000	2,270,000	4,660,000	2,120,000	1,270,000	3,390,000
Singapore	144,000	0	0	0	0	0
South Africa	330	0	0	0	0	0
Sweden	12,500	0	0	0	0	0
Switzerland	11,700	0	0	0	0	0
Taiwan	433	0	0	0	0	0
Thailand	94,900	12,800	12,800	8,160	0	8,160
United Kingdom	8,770,000	867,000	1,120,000	1,380,000	906,000	2,290,000
Vietnam	868,000	76,300	156,000	12,200	31,500	43,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>49,400,000</b>	<b>3,960,000</b>	<b>7,450,000</b>	<b>4,300,000</b>	<b>3,370,000</b>	<b>7,670,000</b>

**Table 3.** U.S. exports of ferromolybdenum, by country or locality.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in kilograms, molybdenum content. Source: U.S. Census Bureau].

Country or locality	2023			2024		
	January–December	February	January–February	January	February	January–February
Australia	3,770	0	0	0	0	0
Canada	210,000	0	7,610	9,110	227	9,340
Denmark	1,060	0	0	0	0	0
India	17,700	17,700	17,700	0	0	0
Mexico	111,000	0	0	20,200	140,000	161,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>343,000</b>	<b>17,700</b>	<b>25,300</b>	<b>29,300</b>	<b>141,000</b>	<b>170,000</b>

**Table 4.** U.S. imports for consumption of molybdenum products.

[Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. Data are in kilograms, unless otherwise specified. NA Not available; — Not applicable. Source: U.S. Census Bureau].

Material	2023			2024					
	January–December			February			January–February		
	Gross weight	Molybdenum	Value <sup>1</sup>	Gross weight	Molybdenum	Value <sup>1</sup>	Gross weight	Molybdenum	Value <sup>1</sup>
		content	(thousands)		content	(thousands)		content	(thousands)
<b>Molybdenum chemicals</b>									
Oxides and hydroxides	5,140,000	NA	201,000	250,000	NA	7,850	763,000	NA	22,000
Molybdates of ammonium	1,480,000	837,000	49,000	59,300	33,400	1,750	124,000	69,700	3,510
Molybdates (all others)	202,000	80,200	4,120	2,490	988	41	25,400	10,100	499
Molybdenum orange	244,000	NA	1,470	5,110	NA	31	7,110	NA	37
<b>Other</b>									
Ores and concentrates, roasted	2,220,000	1,400,000	76,100	106,000	67,500	2,940	349,000	221,000	9,480
Ores and concentrates, other	30,100,000	14,800,000	745,000	1,310,000	640,000	23,800	3,570,000	1,780,000	65,500
Ferromolybdenum	9,190,000	6,270,000	333,000	682,000	460,000	20,900	1,360,000	910,000	40,100
Molybdenum powders	80,800	73,800	5,830	18,500	17,600	959	19,200	18,300	1,030
Molybdenum unwrought, bars and rods	597,000	595,000	36,900	49,800	49,700	2,610	136,000	136,000	6,730
Molybdenum waste and scrap	1,870,000	1,720,000	104,000	161,000	140,000	8,290	293,000	271,000	15,600
Molybdenum wire	18,200	NA	2,810	666	NA	131	2,800	NA	504
Molybdenum, other	244,000	NA	35,400	11,700	NA	2,030	20,400	NA	3,380
<b>Total</b>	<b>51,400,000</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,590,000</b>	<b>2,650,000</b>	<b>1,410,000</b>	<b>71,300</b>	<b>6,670,000</b>	<b>3,410,000</b>	<b>168,000</b>

<sup>1</sup>Customs value.