

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Kim B. Shedd, Tungsten Commodity Specialist
 National Minerals Information Center
 U.S. Geological Survey
 989 National Center
 Reston, VA 20192
 Telephone: (703) 648-4974, Fax: (703) 648-7757
 Email: kshedd@usgs.gov

Annie Hwang (Data)
 Telephone: (703) 648-7952
 Fax: (703) 648-7975
 Email: ahwang@usgs.gov

Internet: <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/nmic>

TUNGSTEN IN JANUARY 2021

U.S. net production of intermediate tungsten products, including metal powder and tungsten carbide powder, was withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

The amount of tungsten contained in U.S. imports of selected materials in January 2021 was 11% less than that reported during December 2020 and 17% less than the monthly average in 2020 (table 2). The amount of tungsten contained in U.S. exports of selected materials in January 2021 was 10% less than that reported during December 2020 and 10% less than the monthly average in 2020 (table 3).

Prices

Beginning with the January 2021 Mineral Industry Surveys, tungsten prices will be based on information from Fastmarkets

MB. The January 2021 monthly average price for tungsten concentrate was 3% higher than that in December 2020 and essentially unchanged from that in January 2020. The January 2021 monthly average price for ammonium paratungstate was 5% higher than that in December 2020 and unchanged from that in January 2020 (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/nmic/minerals-information-publication-list-services>.

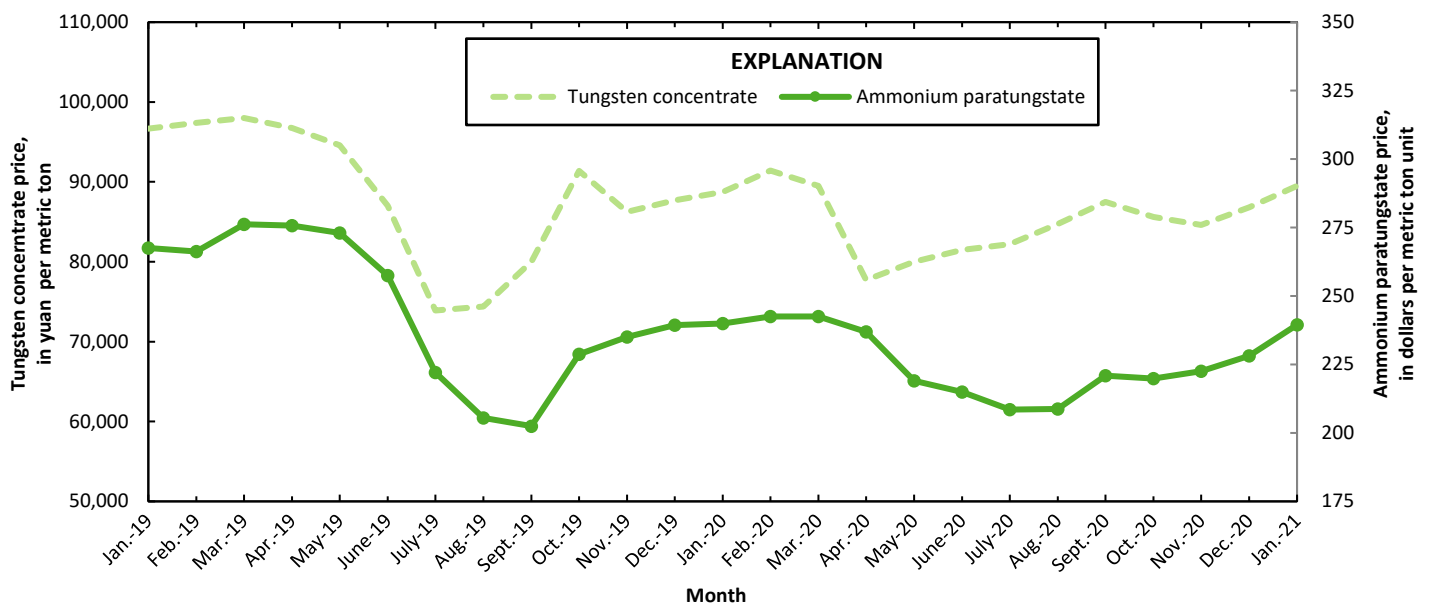


Figure 1. Monthly average prices for tungsten concentrate, in-warehouse China, and ammonium paratungstate, c.i.f. Rotterdam and Baltimore duty-free, for January 2019 through January 2021. Source: Fastmarkets MB.

TABLE 1
U.S. SALIENT TUNGSTEN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, tungsten content)

Period	Concentrate				Intermediate products		
	Reported consumption	Imports for consumption	Stocks, end of period		Net production ⁴	Stocks, end of period	
			Industry ²	U.S. Government ³		Producer ⁵	U.S. Government ³
2020:							
January	W	189	W	8,240	W	W	125
February	W	105	W	8,000	W	W	125
March	W	347	W	7,900	W	W	125
April	W	92	W	7,900	W	W	125
May	W	76	W	7,820	W	W	125
June	W	160	W	7,710	W	W	125
July	W	80	W	7,710	W	W	125
August	W	296	W	7,680	W	W	125
September	W	159	W	7,660	W	W	107
October	W	201	W	7,660	W	W	107
November	W	173	W	7,660	W	W	107
December	W	140	W	7,600	W	W	93
January–December	W	2,020	W	7,600	W	W	93
2021, January	W	136	W	7,600	W	W	93

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

²Reported by consumers; includes estimates.

³Data from the Defense Logistics Agency Strategic Materials.

⁴Net production of tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder; includes estimates.

⁵Data for tungsten metal powder and tungsten carbide powder reported by producers; includes estimates.

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
2020	2,020	1,080	38	1,870	1,120	2,290	8,420
2021, January:							
Austria	--	--	--	2	17	2	20
Bolivia	55	--	--	--	--	--	55
Burundi	6	--	--	--	--	--	6
Canada	--	--	--	41	28	--	69
China	--	35	--	5	44	38	123
Cote D'Ivoire	--	--	--	18	--	--	18
Germany	--	73	--	--	--	20	93
Israel	--	--	--	40	21	--	61
Japan	--	--	--	(3)	(3)	9	9
Philippines	--	12	--	--	--	--	12
Portugal	43	--	--	--	--	--	43
Rwanda	20	--	--	--	--	--	20
Taiwan	--	--	--	--	--	20	20
Uganda	11	--	--	--	--	--	11
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	(3)	20	20
Other	--	--	(3)	2	(3)	1	3
Total	136	121	(3)	108	111	109	585

-- 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

³Less than ½ unit.

Note: Imports of waste and scrap in January 2021 totaled 141 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
2020	480	36	205	415	856	1,990
2021, January:						
Australia	--	--	--	3	(4)	3
Austria	--	--	--	--	4	4
Canada	--	--	4	6	4	14
China	--	--	(4)	1	6	7
Germany	--	--	7	4	(4)	11
India	--	--	(4)	(4)	7	8
Israel	--	--	--	(4)	5	5
Japan	--	--	--	2	1	3
Mexico	--	--	1	1	6	9
Netherlands	3	--	3	(4)	7	13
Spain	--	--	--	6	--	6
Sweden	--	--	--	54	--	54
Vietnam	3	--	--	--	--	3
Other	(4)	--	3	3	5	11
Total	6	--	19	80	44	149

-- 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 January 2021 totaled 25 metric tons, tungsten content.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.