

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MOLYBDENUM IN JULY 2007

Domestic production of molybdenum (Mo) in concentrate in July 2007 was about 5% less than the output of the previous month and about 10% less than that of July 2006, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Producer stocks of molybdenum in concentrate, oxide, and other product forms were about 5,330 metric tons (t) at the beginning of 2007 and about 5,990 t at the end of July.

According to Ryan's Notes (2007b), the July monthly average price range for U.S. ferromolybdenum (FeMo) was from \$34.833 to \$35.833 per pound of molybdenum content, compared with \$36.000 to \$37.000 in June. European FeMo monthly averages ranged from \$72.444 to \$73.167 per kilogram (kg) of molybdenum content in July compared with \$75.000 to \$76.333 per kg in June. In July, worldwide molybdenum oxide (MoO₃) prices ranged from \$31.633 to \$32.089 per pound versus \$32.267 to \$33.028 per pound in June.

In October 2006, the European Commission (EC) suspended the 22.5% antidumping duty on FeMo imports from China into the European Union (EU) for 9 months. Then the EC undertook

a 15-month sunset review of the antidumping duty, which was required to be completed by January 31, 2008. The EC proposed that the suspension, set to expire on July 24, 2007, be extended to coincide with the completion of the sunset review. The proposal was presented to the EC Antidumping Committee, and none of the member states objected. The EC expected the full Council will vote to accept the extension and publish the decision in the EU Official Journal by the end of July (Ryan's Notes, 2007a).

Included in this Mineral Industry Surveys are U.S. production and shipments of molybdenum concentrates and materials, U.S. consumption by end use, and stocks of molybdenum material in June and July 2007. Export data for May and June 2007 and import data for June 2007 are also included.

References Cited

Ryan's Notes, 2007a, Ferroalloy notes: Ryan's Notes, v. 13, no. 28, July 9, p. 3.
Ryan's Notes, 2007b, [untitled]: Ryan's Notes, v. 13, no. 32, August 6, p. 10.

TABLE 1
U.S. SALIENT MOLYBDENUM CONCENTRATE STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, contained molybdenum)

	2006 ^p		2007		
	January- December	January- July ^r	June	July	January- July
Production	59,800	35,500	5,100 ^r	4,850	34,900
Shipments: ²					
Domestic	38,600	23,600	3,220	3,160	23,900
Export	21,300	11,800	1,710	1,220	10,200

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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

²As reported by producers.

TABLE 2
U.S. REPORTED PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF MOLYBDENUM
PRODUCTS¹

(Metric tons, contained molybdenum)

	2006 ^p		2007		
	January- December	January- July	June	July	January- July
Gross production	78,000	46,500	3,700	3,860	37,800
Internal consumption ²	47,400	29,200	1,140	1,130	19,700
Gross shipments	51,000	29,800	3,910	3,970	28,500

^pPreliminary.

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

²Includes molybdic oxides, metal powder, ammonium molybdate, sodium molybdate, and other.

TABLE 3
U.S. REPORTED CONSUMPTION, BY END USES, AND CONSUMER STOCKS OF MOLYBDENUM MATERIALS¹

(Kilograms, contained molybdenum)

End use	Molybdic oxides	Ferro molybdenum ²	Ammonium and sodium molybdate	Molybdenum scrap	Other	Total
2007, June:						
Steel:						
Carbon	75,500	W	--	--	W	75,500
High-strength low-alloy	37,900	7,920	--	--	11,300	57,200
Stainless and heat-resisting	178,000	65,800	--	W	6,510	250,000
Full alloy	145,000	177,000	--	--	1,510	323,000
Tool	57,000	W	--	--	--	57,000
Total	493,000	250,000	--	W	19,400	763,000
Cast irons (gray, malleable, and ductile iron)	W	6,860	--	--	763	7,620
Superalloys	72,300	W	--	W	78,600	151,000
Alloys: (other than steels, cast irons, and superalloys)						
Welding materials (structural and hard-facing)	--	W	--	--	6	6
Other alloys	--	5,400	--	--	--	5,400
Mill products made from metal powder ³	--	--	--	--	184,000	184,000
Cemented carbides and related products ⁴	--	--	--	--	W	W
Chemical and ceramic uses:						
Pigments	--	--	W	--	--	W
Catalysts	77,300	--	W	--	W	77,300
Other chemicals	--	--	--	--	599	599
Miscellaneous and unspecified uses:						
Lubricants	--	--	--	--	10,600	10,600
Other	1,090	32,300	75,100 ^r	47,400	21,400	177,000 ^r
Grand total	644,000	295,000	75,100 ^r	47,400	316,000	1,380,000 ^r
Stocks, June 30, 2007	574,000	302,000	4,350 ^r	46,300	850,000	1,780,000
2007, July:						
Steel:						
Carbon	14,500	W	--	--	W	14,500
High-strength low-alloy	37,900	12,000	--	--	11,300	61,300
Stainless and heat-resisting	165,000	64,200	--	W	6,510	236,000
Full alloy	153,000	297,000	--	--	1,510	452,000
Tool	57,900	W	--	--	--	57,900
Total	429,000	374,000	--	W	19,400	822,000
Cast irons (gray, malleable, and ductile iron)	W	6,860	--	--	763	7,620
Superalloys	47,500	W	--	W	71,200	119,000
Alloys: (other than steels, cast irons, and superalloys)						
Welding materials (structural and hard-facing)	--	W	--	--	6	6
Other alloys	--	2,380	--	--	--	2,380
Mill products made from metal powder ³	--	--	--	--	184,000	184,000
Cemented carbides and related products ⁴	--	--	--	--	W	W
Chemical and ceramic uses:						
Pigments	--	--	W	--	--	W
Catalysts	77,300	--	W	--	W	77,300
Other chemicals	--	--	--	--	472	472
Miscellaneous and unspecified uses:						
Lubricants	--	--	--	--	10,600	10,600
Other	1,090	44,900	72,600	68,700	33,400	221,000
Grand total	555,000	428,000	72,600	68,700	320,000	1,440,000
Stocks, July 31, 2007	582,000	309,000	4,160	16,400	856,000	1,770,000

^rRevised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Other" of the "Miscellaneous and unspecified uses" category. -- Zero

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

²Includes calcium molybdate.

³Includes ingot, wire, rod, and sheet.

⁴Includes construction, mining, oil and gas, metalworking machinery.

TABLE 4
U.S. EXPORTS OF MOLYBDENUM ORES AND CONCENTRATES
(including roasted concentrate), BY COUNTRY¹

(Kilograms, contained molybdenum)

Country	2006		2007		
	January- December	January- June	May	June	January- June
Australia	88,800	7,350	800	--	800
Belgium	7,490,000	4,120,000	740,000	495,000	3,070,000
Brazil	113,000	36,900	--	--	90,800
Canada	2,680,000	1,570,000	188,000	181,000	1,570,000
Chile	259,000	91,800	--	270,000	1,270,000
China	405,000	398,000	23,600	--	71,400
India	82,800	2,170	23,300	23,700	93,900
Japan	2,260,000	1,180,000	120,000	94,700	782,000
Korea, Republic of	45,000	11,000	--	--	24,700
Mexico	6,070,000	2,770,000	541,000	510,000	2,610,000
Netherlands	10,300,000	5,230,000	677,000	563,000	5,750,000
Pakistan	--	--	36,800	--	75,600
Sweden	20,000	--	--	--	--
Switzerland	25,200	25,200	1,630	--	1,630
Taiwan	53,400	608	--	--	413
Thailand	9,740	122	--	--	9,620
United Kingdom	7,280,000	3,890,000	376,000	406,000	2,600,000
Vietnam	14,100	9,140	--	--	4,130
Other	9,420	3,980 ^r	698	539	3,830
Total	37,200,000	19,300,000	2,730,000	2,540,000	18,000,000

^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
U.S. EXPORTS OF FERROMOLYBDENUM, BY COUNTRY¹

(Kilograms, contained molybdenum)

Country	2006		2007		
	January- December	January- June	May	June	January- June
Argentina	14,500	14,500	--	--	--
Australia	24,500	24,100	11,200	--	11,200
Brazil	37,700	37,300	--	--	--
Canada	1,760,000	1,440,000	47,700	120,000	430,000
Denmark	57	57	--	--	394
India	667	166	--	207	417
Japan	60	60	--	--	--
Mexico	143,000	134,000	8,560	--	19,100
Netherlands	14,000	--	11,100	--	145,000
Saudi Arabia	--	--	15,200	--	45,500
Singapore	1,630	1,630	--	--	--
South Africa	--	--	13,500	--	13,500
Switzerland	12,000	12,000	--	--	--
United Kingdom	--	--	--	--	24,900
Total	2,010,000	1,660,000	107,000	120,000	689,000

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MOLYBDENUM PRODUCTS¹

(Kilograms, unless otherwise specified)

Material	January-December 2006			June 2007			January-June 2007		
	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	9,570,000	5,900,000	\$167,000	744,000	466,000	\$12,100	4,230,000	2,660,000	\$75,300
Ore and concentrates other	10,900,000	5,000,000	227,000	587,000	271,000	13,100	10,500,000	4,980,000	258,000
Molybdenum chemicals:									
Oxides and hydroxides	629,000	NA	24,300	26,100	NA	1,030	118,000	NA	4,410
Molybdates of ammonium	1,430,000	844,000	34,100	101,000	56,900	3,260	478,000	270,000	14,900
Molybdates (all others)	241,000	72,700	2,810	37,900	15,100	399	117,000	41,200	1,460
Molybdenum orange	822,000	NA	5,110	52,900	NA	290	313,000	NA	1,890
Ferromolybdenum	4,810,000	3,060,000	165,000	696,000	445,000	31,200	2,800,000	1,790,000	111,000
Molybdenum powders	367,000	270,000	17,600	75	75	3	32,000	30,800	2,410
Molybdenum unwrought	191,000	191,000	10,800	23,100	23,000	1,420	65,800	65,600	4,150
Molybdenum waste and scrap	452,000	445,000	27,800	64,900	60,300	3,760	283,000	270,000	16,500
Molybdenum wire	18,600	NA	2,550	1,460	NA	236	9,200	NA	1,380
Molybdenum other	130,000	NA	17,000	12,800	NA	2,130	72,200	NA	8,700
Total	29,600,000	15,800,000	701,000	2,350,000	1,340,000	69,000	19,000,000	10,100,000	500,000

NA Not available.

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

²Customs value.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.