

SILVER STATISTICS¹
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
[All values in metric tons (t) silver content unless otherwise noted]
Last modification: November 20, 2012

Year	Mine production	Primary production	Secondary production	Shipments	Imports	Exports	Stocks	Apparent consumption	Unit value (\$/t)	Unit value (98\$/t)	World production
1900	1,790	1,790	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	420	20,000	390,000	5,400
1901	1,720	1,720	38	NA	NA	NA	NA	402	19,000	380,000	5,380
1902	1,730	1,730	87	NA	NA	NA	NA	515	17,000	320,000	5,060
1903	1,690	1,690	122	NA	NA	NA	NA	499	17,000	320,000	5,220
1904	1,740	1,790	83	NA	NA	NA	NA	554	19,000	340,000	5,110
1905	1,750	1,740	137	NA	NA	NA	NA	601	20,000	360,000	5,360
1906	1,780	1,760	122	NA	NA	NA	NA	558	22,000	390,000	5,130
1907	1,630	1,760	72	NA	NA	NA	NA	686	21,000	370,000	5,730
1908	1,580	1,630	112	NA	1,380	1,610	NA	630	17,000	310,000	6,320
1909	1,780	1,700	216	NA	1,440	1,790	NA	652	17,000	300,000	6,600
1910	1,790	1,780	50	NA	1,430	1,780	NA	721	17,000	300,000	6,900
1911	1,900	1,880	178	NA	1,360	2,040	NA	818	17,000	300,000	7,040
1912	2,050	1,980	227	NA	1,510	2,240	NA	704	20,000	340,000	6,980
1913	2,210	2,080	245	NA	NA	NA	NA	719	19,600	323,000	7,010
1914	2,170	2,250	210	NA	807	1,610	NA	701	18,000	294,000	5,240
1915	2,250	2,330	218	NA	1,070	1,670	NA	714	16,400	264,000	5,730
1916	2,450	2,310	308	NA	1,000	2,200	NA	691	21,500	322,000	5,250
1917	2,200	2,230	343	NA	1,660	2,620	NA	498	27,000	344,000	5,420
1918	2,120	2,110	296	NA	2,220	7,860	NA	831	31,500	340,000	6,140
1919	1,610	1,760	201	NA	2,780	7,430	NA	816	36,000	340,000	5,490
1920	1,760	1,720	270	NA	2,740	3,530	NA	600	32,800	267,000	5,390
1921	1,440	1,650	218	NA	1,970	1,600	NA	897	20,300	184,000	5,330
1922	1,900	1,750	206	NA	2,200	1,950	NA	973	21,900	212,000	6,530
1923	2,190	2,280	263	NA	2,320	2,250	NA	882	20,900	199,000	7,650
1924	1,990	2,030	278	NA	2,300	3,420	NA	767	21,500	205,000	7,450
1925	2,070	2,060	308	NA	2,910	4,270	NA	931	22,200	207,000	7,650
1926	1,940	1,950	311	NA	3,480	4,440	NA	915	19,900	183,000	7,890
1927	1,850	1,880	316	NA	2,980	4,130	NA	917	18,300	171,000	7,900
1928	1,800	1,820	330	NA	3,570	4,540	NA	775	18,600	178,000	8,020
1929	1,890	1,910	354	NA	3,390	4,480	NA	964	17,000	162,000	8,120
1930	1,480	1,470	295	NA	3,120	4,170	NA	836	12,200	120,000	7,740
1931	929	962	291	NA	3,070	2,840	NA	757	9,320	99,900	6,080
1932	712	746	305	NA	1,110	1,300	NA	450	9,000	107,000	5,130
1933	725	715	576	NA	4,460	1,360	NA	336	11,300	141,000	5,340
1934	1,030	1,020	877	NA	4,470	655	NA	357	15,400	188,000	5,990
1935	1,520	1,430	1,120	NA	14,700	156	NA	165	20,600	245,000	6,890
1936	1,920	1,980	520	NA	6,910	86	NA	595	14,500	170,000	7,920
1937	2,240	2,240	733	NA	3,340	66	NA	862	14,500	164,000	8,640
1938	1,960	1,950	574	NA	5,980	57	NA	628	13,800	160,000	8,320
1939	2,040	2,030	777	NA	4,350	663	NA	1,390	12,500	147,000	8,300
1940	2,230	2,160	702	NA	3,280	297	NA	1,380	11,300	131,000	8,570

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1941	2,090	2,250	633	NA	2,600	263	NA	2,250	11,300	125,000	8,140
1942	1,680	1,740	934	NA	3,310	160	NA	3,150	12,200	122,000	7,780
1943	1,290	1,270	1,370	NA	687	1,070	NA	3,670	14,500	136,000	6,380
1944	1,070	1,110	1,750	NA	421	6,720	NA	3,740	14,500	134,000	5,740
1945	903	904	1,820	NA	604	4,190	NA	3,930	16,700	152,000	5,040
1946	713	656	1,140	NA	1,120	1,170	NA	2,710	25,700	214,000	3,970
1947	1,110	1,200	867	NA	1,700	916	NA	3,060	23,100	169,000	5,220
1948	1,180	1,220	743	NA	1,550	40	NA	3,270	23,800	161,000	5,440
1949	1,080	1,090	705	NA	1,980	94	NA	2,740	23,100	159,000	5,570
1950	1,320	1,320	1,410	NA	2,310	143	NA	3,420	23,800	161,000	6,320
1951	1,240	1,240	1,450	NA	1,620	199	NA	3,270	28,600	179,000	6,210
1952	1,230	1,240	779	NA	1,390	62	NA	3,000	27,300	168,000	6,700
1953	1,170	1,170	603	NA	1,360	32	NA	3,300	27,300	167,000	6,900
1954	1,150	1,110	579	NA	1,300	52	NA	2,680	27,300	166,000	6,670
1955	1,160	1,130	687	NA	898	150	NA	3,150	28,600	174,000	7,000
1956	1,200	1,200	933	NA	3,100	107	NA	3,110	29,300	175,000	7,020
1957	1,190	1,200	1,190	NA	3,300	278	NA	2,970	29,300	170,000	7,190
1958	1,060	1,140	1,120	NA	974	34	NA	2,660	28,600	162,000	7,430
1959	970	715	1,310	NA	912	282	NA	3,140	29,300	163,000	6,910
1960	957	1,140	700	NA	537	818	NA	3,170	29,300	161,000	7,320
1961	1,080	1,090	902	NA	488	1,220	NA	3,280	29,600	162,000	7,370
1962	1,140	1,130	124	NA	1,220	382	NA	3,430	35,000	189,000	7,650
1963	1,100	1,090	199	NA	541	939	NA	3,420	41,200	219,000	7,780
1964	1,130	1,150	417	NA	265	3,320	NA	3,830	41,500	218,000	7,730
1965	1,240	1,210	221	NA	214	1,220	NA	4,260	41,500	215,000	8,010
1966	1,360	2,470	1,140	NA	841	2,650	NA	5,710	41,500	208,000	8,300
1967	1,010	1,680	1,040	NA	929	2,130	1,617	5,320	49,800	243,000	8,030
1968	1,020	2,280	1,790	NA	1,300	3,190	2,401	4,520	68,800	323,000	8,560
1969	1,300	2,600	2,480	NA	1,230	1,800	2,666	4,400	57,550	255,900	9,200
1970	1,400	2,530	1,740	2,190	920	536	2,547	3,990	56,910	238,900	9,360
1971	1,290	2,140	935	3	696	264	1,748	4,020	49,830	200,600	9,170
1972	1,160	2,410	967	0	799	830	1,620	4,700	54,010	210,500	9,380
1973	1,170	2,340	1,070	0	2,530	255	1,194	6,670	82,310	301,900	9,700
1974	1,050	1,970	1,740	0	2,800	177	1,533	4,900	151,400	500,600	9,260
1975	1,090	1,870	1,590	0	1,920	704	1,076	4,990	142,100	430,500	9,430
1976	1,070	1,690	1,560	0	2,090	236	952	5,350	139,900	400,500	9,840
1977	1,190	1,400	1,490	0	2,160	280	1,107	4,780	148,500	399,600	10,300
1978	1,230	1,690	1,150	0	1,910	311	922	4,980	173,600	433,800	10,700
1979	1,180	1,580	1,240	0	2,440	508	498	4,900	356,600	800,900	10,800
1980	1,010	1,220	1,650	0	2,020	1,780	537	3,880	663,300	1,312,000	10,700
1981	1,270	1,460	1,220	62	2,360	471	649	3,630	338,200	606,200	11,200

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1982	1,250	1,510	933	0	3,010	400	637	3,750	255,600	431,700	11,500
1983	1,350	1,800	915	0	5,010	425	543	3,690	367,800	601,900	12,100
1984	1,390	1,850	866	0	2,910	322	660	5,300	261,700	410,800	13,100
1985	1,230	1,670	866	0	4,240	392	574	6,390	197,400	299,200	13,100
1986	1,070	1,320	762	317	3,900	314	550	5,670	175,900	261,500	13,000
1987	1,240	1,420	810	442	2,110	350	471	3,990	225,400	323,300	14,000
1988	1,660	1,470	852	207	2,260	444	480	4,140	209,900	289,300	15,500
1989	2,010	1,720	714	337	3,060	430	544	5,060	176,800	232,500	16,400
1990	2,120	1,940	454	107	2,700	736	583	4,360	155,000	193,300	16,600
1991	1,860	1,880	215	255	2,530	787	618	3,830	130,000	155,400	15,600
1992	1,800	2,160	145	356	2,660	911	677	4,060	127,000	147,200	14,900
1993	1,640	1,790	162	404	2,180	705	735	3,260	138,000	156,000	14,100
1994	1,490	1,810	1,700	186	2,060	868	929	4,820	170,000	187,000	14,000
1995	1,560	NA	NA	220	2,630	2,810	NA	4,880	166,000	177,100	14,900
1996	1,570	NA	NA	232	2,580	2,900	NA	4,930	167,000	173,400	15,100
1997	2,180	2,200	1,360	109	2,120	2,980	395	4,980	157,000	159,700	16,500
1998	2,060	2,300	1,700	250	2,800	2,250	400	5,300	178,000	178,000	17,200
1999	1,950	2,000	1,500	277	2,660	481	NA	5,500	169,000	165,000	17,600
2000	1,980	2,780	1,680	717	3,810	279	3,600	6,280	161,000	152,000	18,100
2001	1,740	2,640	1,060	437	2,940	707	3,490	6,780	141,000	130,000	18,700
2002	1,350	2,580	1,030	21	4,020	624	3,510	7,300	149,000	135,000	18,800
2003	1,240	2,580	1,010	0	4,000	135	3,680	8,000	158,000	140,000	18,800
2004	1,250	1,140	1,920	0	3,410	422	4,220	6,700	215,000	186,000	20,000
2005	1,230	2,530	981	0	3,880	166	3,970	6,140	236,000	197,000	20,800
2006	1,160	2,210	1,110	0	4,280	1,500	3,540	5,130	373,000	302,000	20,100
2007	1,280	791	1,130	0	4,210	660	4,190	5,250	431,000	339,000	20,800
2008	1,250	779	1,210	0	3,860	413	4,130	6,320	482,000	365,000	21,400
2009	1,250	796	1,340	0	2,800	167	3,650	6,110	472,000	359,000	22,200
2010	1,280	819	1,330	0	4,630	523	3,370	7,540	649,000	485,000	23,800
2011	1,120	790	1,710	0	5,250	625	3,800	7,910	1,130,000	819,000	23,300

NA Not available.

¹Compiled by K.E. Porter (retired), H.E. Hilliard (retired), W.E. Brooks (retired), and M.W. George.
Data are calculated, estimated, or reported. See notes for more information.

Silver Worksheet Notes

Data Sources

The sources of data for the silver worksheet are the mineral statistics publications of the U.S. Bureau of Mines and the U.S. Geological Survey—Minerals Yearbook (MYB) and its predecessor, Mineral Resources of the United States (MR); and Mineral Commodity Summaries (MCS) and its predecessor, Commodity Data Summaries (CDS). Metal price data were from Metal Prices in the United States through 1998 (MP98). The years of publication and corresponding years of data coverage are listed in the References section below.

Mine Production

Mine production data for 1900 to the most recent year represent the recoverable silver content of precious-metal ores that were extracted from domestic mines. Data were from the MR and the MYB.

Primary Production

Primary production data for 1900 to the most recent year represent the quantity of silver that were recovered from ores, concentrates, dorés, and precipitates from both domestic and foreign sources in domestic refineries. Data for primary silver production for 1995 and 1996 are not available owing to lack of reporting by industry. Data were from the MR and the MYB.

Secondary Production

Secondary silver production data for 1901–93 represent the silver recovered from old silver scrap and waste at domestic refineries, data were from the MR and the MYB. Secondary production from old scrap has not been reported separately from new scrap since 1993. Secondary production data for 1994 to the most recent year include new scrap and were from the MYB.

Shipments

Shipment data for 1970–97 represent the silver content of various silver materials that were shipped from Government stockpiles to domestic recipients. Data were from the CDS and the MCS.

Imports

Import data for 1908 to the most recent year represent the recoverable silver content in imported silver bullion. Data were from the MR and the MYB.

Exports

Export data for 1908 to the most recent year represent the recoverable silver content in exported silver bullion. Data were from the MR and the MYB.

Stocks

Stock data for 1967 to the most recent year represent the silver content of various silver materials that were stockpiled at industrial facilities consisting of producers, consumers, and dealers. Stock data were from the MYB. Industry stock data were not available prior to 1967.

Apparent Consumption

Apparent consumption data represent the total quantity of silver that was consumed for industrial, art, and coinage purposes. Apparent consumption data for 1900 was estimated by linear extrapolation back from the series for 1901–10. Apparent consumption data for 1995–96 were interpolated from the apparent consumption data series. Apparent consumption data for 1901–94 and 1997 to the most recent year were from the MCS, MR, and the MYB.

Unit Value (\$/t)

Unit value is defined as the value of 1 metric ton (t) of silver apparent consumption. Unit value data for 1900–98 were from the MP98. Unit value data for 1999 to the most recent year were from the MYB. Unit value data for 1900 to the most recent year represent the average value per metric ton of silver of a minimum purity of 99.9 percent.

Unit Value (98\$/t)

The Consumer Price Index conversion factor, with 1998 as the base year, is used to adjust unit value in current U.S. dollars to the unit value in constant 1998 U.S. dollars.

World Production

World production data for 1900 to the most recent year represent the recoverable silver content of precious-metal ores that were extracted from mines throughout the world. World production data were from the MR and the MYB.

References

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