

Mineral Industry Surveys

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NICKEL IN OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER 2010

According to U.S. Geological Survey preliminary data, reported domestic nickel consumption in 2010 was 5% lower than that in 2009. Consumer stocks of nickel at yearend 2010 increased by 70% from those at yearend 2009.

U.S. imports of primary nickel in 2010 were 129,000 metric tons (t), 29% more than imports in 2009. For cathode, pellets, and briquets, which represented 85% of the total primary nickel

imports, Russia (29%), Norway (23%), Canada (16%), and Australia (15%) were the principal import sources.

On December 31, 2010, stocks in London Metal Exchange (LME) warehouses worldwide totaled 136,890 t, which were 11% higher than LME stocks of 123,594 t on September 30, 2010, and 14% lower than nickel stocks of 158,424 t at yearend 2009.

TABLE 1
CONSUMPTION OF NICKEL (EXCLUSIVE OF SCRAP), BY FORM AND USE¹

(Metric tons, nickel content)

Period	Cathodes, pellets, briquets, and powder	Ferronickel	Oxide-sinter, salts, and other forms	Total	Total year to date ²
2009:					
October	3,890	283	27	4,200	43,900
November	3,730	343	34 ^r	4,110 ^r	48,000
December	3,990	323	31	4,350	52,400
January-December	48,400	3,160	795 ^r	52,400	XX
2010:					
January	4,660 ^r	485	34	5,180 ^r	5,180 ^r
February	5,060 ^r	392	37	5,490 ^r	10,700 ^r
March	4,700 ^r	402	112 ^r	5,210 ^r	15,900 ^r
April	4,080 ^r	344	38	4,460 ^r	20,300 ^r
May	3,410 ^r	376	32	3,820 ^r	24,200 ^r
June	3,490 ^r	334	36	3,860 ^r	28,000 ^r
July	3,800 ^r	405	28	4,230 ^r	32,300 ^r
August	3,280 ^r	323	33	3,640 ^r	35,900 ^r
September	3,160 ^r	323	32	3,510 ^r	39,400 ^r
October:					
Steel:					
Stainless and heat resisting	1,370	289	W	1,660	19,700
Alloy (excludes stainless)	W	--	--	W	W
Superalloys	535	W	W	535	5,390
Copper-nickel alloys	6	--	--	6	67
Electric, magnetic, and expansion alloys	11	--	--	11	117
Other nickel and nickel alloys	W	(3)	W	W	W
Cast iron	--	--	--	--	W
Electroplating (sales to platers)	567	--	--	567	6,990
Chemical uses	W	--	--	W	W
Other uses	930	--	36	966	10,900
Total reported	3,420 ⁴	289	36	3,740	43,100
Total all companies (calc) ⁵	XX	XX	XX	4,370	50,300
2010, January-October	39,100	3,670	420	43,100	XX
2009, January-October	40,700	2,500	731	43,900	XX
2010:					
November:					
Steel:					
Stainless and heat resisting	1,210	289	W	1,500	21,200
Alloy (excludes stainless)	W	--	--	W	W
Superalloys	474	--	W	474	5,860
Copper-nickel alloys	W	--	--	W	67
Electric, magnetic, and expansion alloys	9	--	--	9	126
Other nickel and nickel alloys	W	--	W	W	W
Cast iron	--	--	--	--	W
Electroplating (sales to platers)	554	--	--	554	7,540
Chemical uses	W	--	--	W	W
Other uses	658	--	30	688	11,600
Total reported	2,910 ⁴	289	30	3,230	46,400
Total all companies (calc) ⁵	XX	XX	XX	3,770	54,100
2010, January-November	42,000	3,960	450	46,400	XX
2009, January-November	44,400	2,840	765	48,000	XX

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 1—Continued
CONSUMPTION OF NICKEL (EXCLUSIVE OF SCRAP), BY FORM AND USE¹

(Metric tons, nickel content)

Period	Cathodes, pellets, briquets, and powder	Ferronickel	Oxide-sinter, salts, and other forms	Total	Total year to date ²
2010—Continued:					
December:					
Steel:					
Stainless and heat resisting	1,180	289	W	1,470	22,600
Alloy (excludes stainless)	W	--	--	W	W
Superalloys	514	--	W	514	6,370
Copper-nickel alloys	W	--	--	W	67
Electric, magnetic, and expansion alloys	10	--	--	10	137
Other nickel and nickel alloys	W	--	W	W	W
Cast iron	--	--	--	--	W
Electroplating (sales to platers)	562	--	--	562	8,110
Chemical uses	W	--	--	W	W
Other uses	836	--	31	866	12,500
Total reported	3,110 ⁴	289	31	3,430	49,800
Total all companies (calc) ⁵	XX	XX	XX	3,930	57,200
2010, January-December	45,100	4,250	481	49,800	XX
2009, January-December	48,400	3,160 ^r	795 ^r	52,400	XX

^rRevised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data, included with "Other uses." XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²May include revisions to prior months' data.

³Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Stainless and heat resisting steel."

⁴Of consumption, 7,880 metric tons were consumed as cathodes and pellets for the last 3 months, the remainder as briquets and powder.

⁵Figures represent calculated apparent consumption; based on the revised proportion of reported primary consumption (85.7%) to apparent primary consumption for 2009.

TABLE 2
ENDING STOCKS OF NICKEL (EXCLUSIVE OF SCRAP) HELD BY CONSUMERS BY FORM^{1,2}

(Metric tons, nickel content)

Period	Cathodes, pellets, briquets, and powder	Ferronickel	Oxide-sinter, salts, and other forms	Total
2009:				
October	1,880	227	37	2,140
November	2,100	293	33	2,420
December	1,430	250	24	1,700
2010:				
January	2,220	254	37	2,510
February	1,750	250	36	2,030
March	2,990	286	33	3,310
April	3,180	330	33	3,540
May	3,040	292	49	3,380
June	2,560	296	51	2,910
July	2,530	284	41	2,850
August	2,410	249	43	2,700
September	2,120 ^r	249	36	2,410 ^r
October	2,410	248	33	2,690
November	2,330	248	32	2,610
December	2,620	248	34	2,900

^rRevised.

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

²Stocks are subject to revisions owing to inventory adjustments.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION AND ENDING STOCKS OF PURCHASED SECONDARY NICKEL, BY USE¹

(Metric tons, nickel content)

Period	Consumption			Stocks		
	Ferrous scrap ²	Nonferrous scrap ³	Total	Ferrous scrap ²	Nonferrous scrap ³	Total
2009:						
October	4,710	736	5,450	4,120	62	4,190
November	5,220	658	5,880	3,720	64	3,780 ^r
December	4,620	810	5,430	3,550	49	3,600
January-December	63,100	8,050	71,100	XX	XX	XX
2010:						
January	5,920 ^r	432	6,350 ^r	3,700 ^r	62	3,760
February	5,440 ^r	729	6,170 ^r	3,760 ^r	61	3,820 ^r
March	5,700 ^r	812	6,510 ^r	3,630	53	3,680
April	5,430 ^r	1,340	6,770 ^r	3,480 ^r	64	3,540 ^r
May	5,620 ^r	548	6,160 ^r	3,600 ^r	69	3,670 ^r
June	4,840 ^r	605	5,450 ^r	3,940	63	4,000
July	5,700 ^r	787	6,490 ^r	3,970	84	4,060
August	5,180 ^r	452	5,630 ^r	4,080	76	4,150 ^r
September	5,310 ^r	546 ^r	5,850 ^r	4,000	67	4,070
October	5,080	521	5,600	3,880	71	3,950
November	4,640	475	5,120	3,940	79	4,010
December	4,280	244	4,520	4,090	41	4,130
January-December	63,100	7,490	70,600	XX	XX	XX

^rRevised. XX Not applicable.

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

²Nickel content is calculated from an average nickel content and the reported gross weight of scrap.

³Combined consumption and stocks of aluminum-base, copper-base, and nickel-base scrap.

TABLE 4
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF NICKEL, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, nickel content)²

Period and country of origin	Cathodes, pellets, and briquets	Powder and flakes	Ferro-nickel	Metal-lurgical-grade oxide	Waste and scrap	Stainless steel scrap	Chemicals	Total ³	Total year to date ⁴	Wrought nickel
2009	85,500	4,450	6,200	799	8,430	9,310	2,910	118,000	XX	405
2010:										
January	6,910	495	350	--	596	884	243	9,480	9,480	30
February	7,150	368	724	4	735	1,230	212	10,400	19,900	41
March	13,700	462	972	12	995	1,900	287	18,300	38,200	54
April	12,100	494	622	9	872	1,780	169	16,000	54,200	34
May	9,710	481	1,140	1	953	1,390	272	14,000	68,200	57
June	8,820	566	903	3	896	1,080	358	12,600	80,800	49
July	11,000	539	177	7	644	586	260	13,300	94,100	50
August	8,630	564	1,410	7	661	980	402	12,700	107,000	74
September:										
Australia	853	60	--	9	23	--	--	945	12,900	--
Belgium	--	14	--	--	3	--	13	29	273	(5)
Brazil	380	--	--	--	--	1	--	381	2,700	--
Canada	2,220	186	--	--	88	762	2	3,250	17,000	--
China	--	12	--	--	27	--	21	60	1,410	4
Colombia	--	--	454	--	--	--	--	454	4,570	--
Finland	642	--	--	--	--	--	--	642	4,930	--
France	89	(5)	--	--	94	--	5	187	2,200	11
Germany	46	13	--	--	67	--	20	145	1,900	6
Japan	--	11	--	--	31	2	--	43	1,550	1
Mexico	--	--	--	--	79	476	1	556	4,390	(5)
Netherlands	2	--	--	--	18	--	72	91	531	(5)
New Caledonia	--	--	250	--	--	--	--	250	2,150	--
Norway	2,050	--	--	--	--	--	--	2,050	21,400	--
Russia	2,130	83	--	--	--	--	--	2,210	29,600	--
South Africa	--	19	12	--	--	--	--	31	688	--
United Kingdom	217	61	--	--	102	4	15	400	6,100	(5)
Zimbabwe	20	--	--	--	--	--	--	20	590	--
Other	--	1	122	--	105	21	18	267	3,910	13
Total	8,640	460	839	9	637	1,270	166	12,000	119,000	34
2010, January-September	86,700	4,430	7,140	53	6,990	11,100	2,370	119,000	XX	423
2009, January-September	62,700	3,730	3,910	531	5,980	7,550	1,680	86,100	XX	361
2010:										
October:										
Australia	1,730	80	--	14	15	--	--	1,840	14,700	--
Belgium	--	17	--	--	--	--	32	49	322	--
Brazil	310	--	--	--	--	3	--	313	3,010	--
Canada	3,220	287	--	--	121	740	29	4,400	21,400	--
China	--	6	--	--	30	(5)	8	44	1,460	1
Colombia	--	--	463	--	--	--	--	463	5,030	--
Finland	605	--	--	--	(5)	--	13	617	5,550	--
France	178	(5)	--	--	65	1	18	263	2,460	25
Germany	20	6	--	--	61	--	31	118	2,020	14
Japan	18	10	--	--	35	--	61	124	1,670	10
Mexico	--	--	--	--	76	446	2	524	4,910	(5)
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	16	--	24	40	570	(5)
New Caledonia	--	--	100	--	--	--	--	100	2,250	--
Norway	1,810	--	--	--	--	--	--	1,810	23,200	--
Russia	2,290	10	--	--	--	--	--	2,300	31,900	--
South Africa	--	36	--	--	--	--	--	36	724	--

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 4—Continued
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF NICKEL, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, nickel content)²

Period and country of origin	Cathodes, pellets, and briquets	Powder and flakes	Ferro-nickel	Metal-lurgical-grade oxide	Waste and scrap	Stainless steel scrap	Chemicals	Total ³	Total year to date ⁴	Wrought nickel
2010—Continued:										
October—Continued:										
United Kingdom	21	54	--	1	245	4	(5)	326	6,420	4
Zimbabwe	78	--	--	--	--	--	--	78	668	--
Other	25	1	58	--	152	54	37	326	4,230	16
Total	10,300	508	620	15	816	1,250	255	13,800	133,000	70
2010, January-October	97,000	4,940	7,760	68	7,810	12,300	2,620	133,000	XX	493
2009, January-October	70,700	3,930	4,620	649	7,040	8,360	1,990	97,200	XX	300 ^r
November:										
Australia	1,590	20	--	--	(5)	--	--	1,610	16,300	--
Belgium	--	18	--	--	--	--	9	27	349	(5)
Brazil	224	--	--	--	--	--	--	224	3,240	--
Canada	3,010	301	17	7	133	744	4	4,210	25,600	(5)
China	--	2	--	--	38	--	59	100	1,560	2
Colombia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5,030	--
Finland	178	(5)	--	--	--	--	4	182	5,730	--
France	44	(5)	--	--	64	--	20	128	2,590	43
Germany	63	11	--	--	23	--	44	140	2,150	94
Japan	--	10	--	--	31	1	5	46	1,720	(5)
Mexico	--	--	--	--	60	413	5	477	5,390	(5)
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	--	--	66	66	637	(5)
New Caledonia	--	--	901	--	--	--	--	901	3,150	--
Norway	595	--	--	--	--	--	--	595	23,800	--
Russia	1,070	42	--	--	--	--	--	1,110	33,000	--
South Africa	20	--	14	--	--	--	--	34	758	--
United Kingdom	--	46	--	1	131	6	23	206	6,630	5
Zimbabwe	38	--	--	--	--	--	--	38	706	--
Other	--	1	149	--	109	121	53	433	4,660	11
Total	6,820	450	1,080	8	588	1,290	292	10,500	143,000	155
2010, January-November	104,000	5,390	8,840	76	8,390	13,600	2,920	143,000	XX	647
2009, January-November	78,300	4,070	4,810	649	7,700	8,850	2,410	107,000	XX	392 ^r

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 4—Continued
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF NICKEL, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, nickel content)²

Period and country of origin	Cathodes, pellets, and briquets	Powder and flakes	Ferro-nickel	Metal-lurgical-grade oxide	Waste and scrap	Stainless steel scrap	Chemicals	Total ³	Total year to date ⁴	Wrought nickel
2010—Continued:										
December:										
Australia	571	143	--	--	--	--	--	714	17,000	--
Belgium	--	19	--	--	--	--	13	31	380	--
Brazil	319	--	--	--	--	--	--	319	3,550	--
Canada	2,950	379	--	--	111	438	4	3,880	29,500	--
China	--	12	--	--	26	--	32	70	1,630	1
Colombia	--	--	197	--	--	--	--	197	5,230	--
Finland	526	--	--	--	--	--	12	538	6,270	--
France	89	--	--	--	110	2	11	211	2,800	4
Germany	40	14	--	--	35	--	18	107	2,260	15
Japan	--	14	--	--	34	--	23	71	1,790	2
Mexico	--	--	1	--	74	534	1	610	6,000	(5)
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	--	--	32	32	669	(5)
New Caledonia	--	--	375	--	--	--	--	375	3,530	--
Norway	1,200	--	--	--	--	--	--	1,200	25,000	--
Russia	610	256	--	--	--	--	--	866	33,800	--
South Africa	--	56	--	--	--	--	--	56	814	--
United Kingdom	3	9	--	2	185	8	32	241	6,870	(5)
Zimbabwe	56	--	--	--	--	--	--	56	762	--
Other	25	--	--	--	164	25	26	240	4,900	6
Total	6,390	902	573	2	739	1,010	204	9,820	153,000	29
2010, January-December	110,000	6,290	9,420	78	9,130	14,600	3,120	153,000	XX	677

¹Revised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²The nickel contents are assumed to be as follows: metallurgical-grade oxide (77%), waste and scrap (50%), and stainless steel scrap (7.5%). The chemicals category includes chloride (25%); sulfates (22%); other salts (22%); supported catalysts (22%); and oxide, sesquioxide, and hydroxide (65%).

³Excludes wrought nickel.

⁴May include revisions for prior months.

⁵Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

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

(Metric tons, nickel content)²

Period and country of destination	Cathodes, pellets, and briquets	Powder and flakes	Ferro-nickel	Metal-lurgical-grade oxide	Waste and scrap	Stainless steel scrap	Chemicals	Total ³	Total year to date	Wrought nickel
2009	1,100	1,110	32	627	5,170	84,800	4,160	97,000	XX	974
2010:										
January	97	118	--	50	250	4,900	248	5,660	5,660	138
February	116	107	--	160	350	5,560	273	6,570	12,200	177
March	114	130	24	583	498	4,930	282	6,560	18,800	153
April	155	144	(4)	340	712	4,460	347	6,160	24,900	164
May	109	158	1	552	710	5,790	388	7,710	32,700	287
June	177	122	--	506	1,640	5,400	255	8,100	40,800	210
July	111	180	4	461	1,310	6,060	403	8,530	49,300	134
August	85	128	--	351	846	6,790	598	8,790	58,100	161
September:										
Australia	--	1	--	--	19	--	--	20	540	--
Belgium	--	--	--	--	25	1	25	51	409	--
Brazil	--	5	--	--	--	--	23	28	228	(4)
Canada	(4)	13	--	647	734	209	77	1,680	7,170	20
China	(4)	4	--	(4)	25	605	1	634	4,940	4
Colombia	(4)	2	--	--	--	--	--	2	69	2
Finland	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1,890	--
France	--	1	--	--	--	1	--	2	75	3
Germany	--	33	--	1	45	1	51	129	662	6
Hong Kong	--	4	--	--	--	111	(4)	115	817	9
India	--	3	--	--	--	59	(4)	62	1,810	(4)
Italy	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	3	52	--
Japan	--	1	--	205	68	587	(4)	862	9,050	(4)
Korea, Republic of	--	5	--	--	--	902	5	912	7,260	6
Mexico	125	2	--	--	(4)	(4)	107	234	1,350	5
Netherlands	--	1	--	--	--	110	(4)	111	694	--
Pakistan	--	--	--	--	--	36	--	36	424	--
Singapore	--	4	--	--	--	--	(4)	4	144	(4)
South Africa	--	(4)	--	--	--	--	--	(4)	12	--
Spain	--	1	--	--	--	10	--	11	981	(4)
Sweden	--	--	--	--	--	26	--	26	277	--
Taiwan	1	1	--	--	--	2,570	67	2,640	23,400	3
Thailand	--	7	--	--	--	--	4	11	107	1
United Kingdom	--	4	--	--	40	1	6	52	1,070	1
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	--	106	--	106	1,320	(4)
Other	5	6	1	3	--	13	61	88	1,110	24
Total	132	98	1	856	955	5,350	427	7,820	65,900	84
2010, January-September	1,100	1,190	31	3,860	7,260	49,200	3,220	65,900	XX	1,510
2009, January-September	902	797	32	412	4,390	65,100	3,100	74,700	XX	749
2010:										
October:										
Australia	--	1	--	--	34	--	--	35	575	(4)
Bangladesh	--	--	--	--	--	83	--	83	83	--
Belgium	--	--	--	--	10	9	15	34	443	(4)
Brazil	19	3	(4)	--	--	(4)	23	45	273	--
Canada	(4)	15	--	341	713	218	83	1,370	8,540	13
China	--	18	--	--	5	712	19	755	5,690	6
Colombia	10	1	--	--	--	(4)	19	30	99	--
Finland	--	--	--	--	--	898	--	898	2,780	--
France	--	5	--	--	--	--	--	5	80	(4)

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 5—Continued
U.S. EXPORTS OF NICKEL, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, nickel content)²

Period and country of destination	Cathodes, pellets, and briquets	Powder and flakes	Ferro-nickel	Metal-lurgical-grade oxide	Waste and scrap	Stainless steel scrap	Chemicals	Total ³	Total year to date	Wrought nickel
2010—Continued:										
October—Continued:										
Germany	--	20	--	--	44	--	--	64	725	5
Hong Kong	--	--	--	(4)	17	130	--	147	965	5
India	2	7	--	1	--	74	157	241	2,050	3
Italy	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	5	57	--
Japan	--	5	--	293	66	500	11	874	9,930	(4)
Korea, Republic of	--	3	--	--	--	1,190	4	1,200	8,450	117
Mexico	51	2	--	--	--	1	148	201	1,550	5
Netherlands	(4)	--	--	--	78	284	(4)	362	1,060	--
Pakistan	--	--	--	--	--	39	--	39	463	--
Singapore	--	14	--	--	--	--	2	15	160	1
South Africa	--	1	--	--	--	--	1	2	14	--
Spain	--	--	--	--	--	9	--	9	990	(4)
Sweden	--	--	--	--	9	22	--	31	308	--
Taiwan	1	2	--	--	10	2,930	9	2,950	26,400	13
Thailand	--	3	(4)	--	2	--	1	7	113	(4)
United Kingdom	--	10	--	--	35	(4)	7	52	1,120	1
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	--	455	--	455	1,770	(4)
Other	--	12	--	1	--	9	62	84	1,190	17
Total	83	123	(4)	636	1,020	7,570	559	9,990	75,900	186
2010, January-October	1,180	1,310	31	4,490	8,290	56,800	3,780	75,900	XX	1,690
2009, January-October	928	911	32	517	4,700	72,300	3,430	82,900	XX	848
2010:										
November:										
Australia	--	2	--	--	32	(4)	(4)	34	610	--
Bangladesh	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	83	--
Belgium	--	1	--	--	--	16	41	58	501	--
Brazil	19	3	--	--	--	1	25	48	321	1
Canada	--	10	--	101	651	107	64	933	9,470	4
China	--	12	--	--	--	530	5	547	6,240	4
Colombia	(4)	(4)	--	--	--	--	(4)	1	100	--
Finland	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2,780	--
France	--	3	--	--	--	--	(4)	3	83	(4)
Germany	--	12	--	--	114	3	9	138	863	2
Hong Kong	--	(4)	--	--	--	97	(4)	97	1,060	4
India	--	6	--	--	--	48	22	75	2,120	1
Italy	--	(4)	--	--	--	5	--	5	61	--
Japan	--	3	--	309	38	250	(4)	601	10,500	(4)
Korea, Republic of	--	(4)	--	(4)	--	1,280	5	1,280	9,740	35
Mexico	18	4	--	--	--	39	3	65	1,620	23
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	183	23	5	211	1,270	--
Pakistan	--	--	--	--	--	18	--	18	481	--
Singapore	--	19	--	--	--	2	2	23	182	1
South Africa	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	15	--
Spain	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	3	992	(4)
Sweden	--	--	--	--	--	22	--	22	330	--
Taiwan	1	5	--	--	--	3,540	6	3,550	30,000	2
Thailand	--	2	--	--	--	151	--	153	266	(4)

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 5—Continued
U.S. EXPORTS OF NICKEL, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, nickel content)²

Period and country of destination	Cathodes, pellets, and briquets	Powder and flakes	Ferro-nickel	Metal-lurgical-grade oxide	Waste and scrap	Stainless steel scrap	Chemicals	Total ³	Total year to date	Wrought nickel
2010—Continued:										
November—Continued:										
United Kingdom	--	2	--	--	42	2	7	53	1,170	9
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	--	217	--	217	1,990	--
Other	--	8	--	1	--	43	20	72	1,260	18
Total	38	93	--	411	1,060	6,400	216	8,210	84,100	104
2010, January-November	1,220	1,400	31	4,910	9,350	63,200	4,000	84,100	XX	1,800
2009, January-November	1,050	1,010	32	575	4,940	79,000	3,650	90,300	XX	914
2010:										
December:										
Australia	--	(4)	--	--	52	--	(4)	52	662	(4)
Bangladesh	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	83	--
Belgium	--	(4)	--	8	--	11	13	32	533	--
Brazil	37	5	--	--	--	--	33	74	395	(4)
Canada	(4)	10	--	412	554	70	68	1,110	10,600	1
China	--	14	--	--	3	698	39	754	7,000	13
Colombia	(4)	(4)	--	--	--	--	(4)	1	101	--
Finland	--	--	--	--	--	423	--	423	3,210	--
France	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	2	85	1
Germany	--	18	--	(4)	6	16	4	44	907	20
Hong Kong	--	1	--	--	--	94	--	94	1,160	2
India	--	10	--	1	--	133	--	144	2,270	1
Italy	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	5	66	--
Japan	--	11	--	112	53	193	21	390	10,900	(4)
Korea, Republic of	--	6	--	(4)	--	909	9	924	10,700	5
Mexico	56	3	--	--	1	5	9	73	1,690	26
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	21	38	2	62	1,330	(4)
Pakistan	--	--	--	--	--	6	--	6	487	--
Singapore	--	14	--	--	--	39	2	55	238	1
South Africa	--	(4)	--	1	--	--	1	2	18	--
Spain	--	(4)	--	--	--	--	--	(4)	993	1
Sweden	--	2	--	--	--	13	--	15	345	--
Taiwan	1	5	--	(4)	--	4,110	43	4,160	34,100	2
Thailand	--	10	--	--	--	43	5	58	324	(4)
United Kingdom	--	12	--	--	4	--	13	29	1,200	2
Vietnam	--	--	--	--	--	274	--	274	2,260	(4)
Other	(4)	10	--	2	--	9	63	84	1,350	26
Total	95	131	--	536	695	7,090	327	8,870	93,000	102
2010, January-December	1,310	1,530	31	5,440	10,000	70,300	4,320	93,000	XX	1,900

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²The nickel contents are assumed to be as follows: metallurgical-grade oxide (77%), waste and scrap (50%), and stainless steel scrap (7.5%). The chemical category includes chlorides (25%); sulfates (22%); other salts (22%); supported catalysts (22%); and oxide, sesquioxide, and hydroxide (65%).

³Excludes wrought nickel.

⁴Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF NICKEL ALLOYS, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Period and country of origin	Unwrought alloyed ingot	Bars, rods, and profiles	Wire	Plates, sheets, and foil	Tubes and pipes	Other alloyed articles	Total	Total year to date
2009	4,590	3,300	3,150	1,790	1,670	2,820	17,300	XX
2010:								
January	405	178	157	139	92	93	1,060	1,060
February	382	355	324	171	47	201	1,480	2,540
March	1,250	332	413	233	113	84	2,420	4,960
April	499	395	278	125	76	123	1,500	6,460
May	675	361	348	181	76	158	1,800	8,260
June	466	409	438	214	93	290	1,910	10,200
July	814	271	486	200	289	231	2,290	12,500
August	737	466	453	303	74	128	2,160	14,600
September:								
Australia	110	13	(2)	--	--	(2)	123	1,620
Belgium	4	--	9	(2)	(2)	(2)	13	102
Brazil	--	3	--	--	--	6	9	398
Canada	38	--	1	(4)	18	4	61	868
China	--	1	1	2	4	30	38	636
France	--	(2)	107	8	(2)	6	122	1,220
Germany	20	78	64	157	52	8	379	3,400
Italy	--	64	--	--	(2)	(2)	64	1,010
Japan	--	16	7	(2)	18	1	41	429
Korea, Republic of	209	(2)	(2)	--	(2)	(2)	209	1,420
Mexico	--	15	1	--	4	5	25	65
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	--	15	15	57
Sweden	--	7	152	5	10	--	175	1,410
United Kingdom	139	6	8	13	16	4	185	1,780
Other	--	49	29	1	(2)	23	102	1,780
Total	519	251	380	186	123	102	1,560	16,200
2010, January-September	5,750	3,020	3,280	1,750	981	1,410	16,200	XX
2009, January-September	3,600	2,600	2,320	1,410 ^r	1,150	2,270	13,400 ^r	XX
2010:								
October:								
Australia	158	--	--	--	--	(2)	158	1,780
Belgium	30	--	(2)	1	--	(2)	30	132
Brazil	--	51	--	--	--	--	51	449
Canada	(2)	--	1	16	90	60	167	1,040
China	6	1	1	--	(2)	62	69	705
France	--	1	161	16	5	11	194	1,410
Germany	50	84	104	172	12	2	424	3,820
Italy	--	90	--	--	1	(2)	91	1,100
Japan	19	14	7	42	22	2	107	535
Korea, Republic of	--	--	1	--	(2)	(2)	1	1,420
Mexico	--	(2)	(2)	--	1	(2)	1	67
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	(2)	24	24	80
Sweden	--	4	227	10	4	(2)	245	1,650
United Kingdom	106	59	2	16	19	12	214	2,000
Other	23	11	21	(2)	2	14	71	1,850
Total	392	315	526	273	156	187	1,850	18,000
2010, January-October	6,140	3,340	3,800	2,020	1,140	1,600	18,000	XX
2009, January-October	3,940	2,880	2,570	1,490	1,280	2,480	14,600	XX

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 6—Continued
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF NICKEL ALLOYS, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Period and country of origin	Unwrought alloyed ingot	Bars, rods, and profiles	Wire	Plates and sheets	Tubes and pipes	Other alloyed articles	Total	Total year to date
2010—Continued:								
November:								
Australia	156	--	--	--	--	(2)	156	1,930
Belgium	--	--	(2)	--	--	--	(2)	133
Brazil	--	14	--	--	--	1	15	465
Canada	(2)	--	(2)	12	117	34	163	1,200
China	40	(2)	2	(2)	--	34	76	781
France	2	5	97	24	5	5	137	1,550
Germany	54	146	216	211	6	8	640	4,460
Italy	--	78	(2)	--	(2)	(2)	78	1,180
Japan	--	14	3	(2)	21	2	40	575
Korea, Republic of	--	(2)	(2)	--	(2)	(2)	1	1,420
Mexico	--	(2)	1	--	(2)	2	3	70
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	--	10	10	90
Sweden	--	--	170	11	3	3	187	1,840
United Kingdom	176	20	2	11	21	8	239	2,240
Other	--	35	11	--	1	25	71	1,920
Total	427	312	503	269	174	132	1,820	19,800
2010, January-November	6,560	3,650	4,310	2,290	1,310	1,730	19,800	XX
2009, January-November	4,350	3,150	2,850	1,620 [†]	1,450	2,660	16,100	XX
2010:								
December:								
Australia	136	--	--	--	--	--	136	2,070
Belgium	5	--	(2)	--	--	--	5	138
Brazil	--	5	(2)	--	--	--	5	470
Canada	(2)	--	(2)	--	11	5	17	1,220
China	13	1	15	1	1	24	53	835
France	--	2	122	43	4	5	177	1,720
Germany	39	101	118	193	315	11	777	5,240
Italy	--	39	5	--	1	(2)	45	1,220
Japan	--	12	5	6	15	2	40	616
Korea, Republic of	--	(2)	--	--	--	(2)	(2)	1,420
Mexico	--	(2)	1	--	5	3	9	79
Netherlands	--	--	--	--	(2)	19	19	109
Sweden	--	(2)	95	8	10	(2)	113	1,950
United Kingdom	97	12	(2)	40	3	10	163	2,400
Other	4	26	31	(2)	(2)	17	78	2,000
Total	293	198	392	291	365	98	1,640	21,500
2010, January-December	6,860	3,850	4,700	2,580	1,680	1,830	21,500	XX

[†]Revised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF NICKEL ALLOYS, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Period and country of destination	Unwrought alloyed ingot	Bars, rods, and profiles	Wire	Plates, sheets, and foil	Tubes and pipes	Other alloyed articles	Total	Total year to date
2009	5,740	10,000	2,670	6,240	1,920	4,110	30,700	XX
2010:								
January	387	897	198	654	175	212	2,520	2,520
February	274	781	116	537	202	255	2,170	4,690
March	317	1,340	328	587	254	233	3,050	7,740
April	260	1,090	202	733	201	269	2,760	10,500
May	446	1,050	176	817	185	300	2,980	13,500
June	343	962	232	772	178	318	2,800	16,300
July	382	880	210	1,040	162	266	2,940	19,200
August	480	765	185	734	150	272	2,580 ^r	21,800
September:								
Australia	5	2	(2)	18	2	3	30	126
Belgium	65	215	6	7	(2)	2	295	2,350
Brazil	(2)	4	23	(2)	(2)	5	33	203
Canada	9	47	15	23	39	13	145	1,090
China	11	101	40	190	53	33	427	3,730
France	100	295	3	45	(2)	5	448	2,990
Germany	5	49	3	57	13	21	149	1,720
India	18	17	4	12	5	4	60	398
Ireland	--	--	2	1	(2)	1	4	54
Israel	--	42	(2)	4	1	(2)	48	496
Italy	8	7	1	73	(2)	9	98	627
Japan	4	8	1	119	(2)	14	146	1,010
Korea, Republic of	(2)	40	9	106	8	8	171	1,250
Mexico	3	31	16	17	6	46	118	1,200
Netherlands	--	1	--	(2)	4	1	6	176
Singapore	2	24	24	16	1	18	85	613
Spain	1	4	(2)	(2)	(2)	1	6	49
Sweden	(2)	34	--	29	1	(2)	64	278
Switzerland	--	(2)	(2)	4	(2)	(2)	4	77
Taiwan	3	2	(2)	17	2	14	37	425
United Kingdom	59	165	68	141	11	14	459	3,640
Other	10	27	44	33	38	51	204	2,350
Total	305	1,120	258	911	185	264	3,040	24,800
2010, January-September	3,190	8,880	1,910	6,780	1,690	2,390	24,800	XX
2009, January-September	4,160	7,830	1,990	4,080 ^r	1,430	3,070	22,600	XX
2010:								
October:								
Australia	5	1	1	7	1	1	16	142
Belgium	30	186	8	10	1	(2)	234	2,580
Brazil	6	2	5	2	2	4	21	224
Canada	4	35	13	24	57	10	143	1,240
China	17	201	17	147	69	45	495	4,230
France	140	467	1	42	(2)	10	661	3,650
Germany	16	95	6	52	4	40	212	1,930
India	5	16	3	13	2	(2)	39	437
Ireland	1	--	9	2	(2)	(2)	12	66
Israel	21	37	(2)	3	3	1	64	561
Italy	13	4	2	18	2	24	64	691
Japan	10	3	(2)	72	(2)	13	98	1,110
Korea, Republic of	--	23	6	201	1	7	239	1,490
Mexico	5	146	14	19	7	29	218	1,420

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7—Continued
U.S. EXPORTS OF NICKEL ALLOYS, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Period and country of destination	Unwrought alloyed ingot	Bars, rods, and profiles	Wire	Plates, sheets, and foil	Tubes and pipes	Other alloyed articles	Total	Total year to date
2010—Continued:								
October—Continued:								
Netherlands	--	(2)	--	7	1	1	9	185
Singapore	4	22	29	12	1	16	86	698
Spain	(2)	--	--	1	(2)	1	2	51
Sweden	--	67	--	23	1	(2)	92	370
Switzerland	18	2	2	5	(2)	(2)	27	104
Taiwan	(2)	6	1	18	8	23	56	481
United Kingdom	119	178	12	130	6	11	456	4,090
Other	14	51	31	44	31	53	225	2,580
Total	429	1,540	160	853	197	290	3,470	28,300
2010, January-October	3,620	10,400	2,070	7,640	1,890	2,680	28,300	XX
2009, January-October	4,650	8,500	2,200	4,810 ^r	1,570	3,480	25,200	XX
2010:								
November:								
Australia	7	1	1	1	3	(2)	12	155
Belgium	6	74	3	29	2	(2)	113	2,700
Brazil	--	3	13	2	(2)	2	20	244
Canada	11	62	10	39	7	12	141	1,380
China	33	127	11	116	36	33	355	4,580
France	276	337	(2)	30	4	9	655	4,300
Germany	1	59	6	85	2	16	169	2,100
India	4	10	11	12	4	(2)	42	479
Ireland	(2)	--	41	(2)	1	1	44	110
Israel	(2)	30	1	6	5	2	44	605
Italy	(2)	6	2	56	2	18	85	776
Japan	1	6	(2)	25	(2)	10	42	1,150
Korea, Republic of	(2)	23	1	207	7	6	244	1,730
Mexico	5	81	13	5	8	25	137	1,560
Netherlands	8	34	--	7	9	(2)	58	243
Singapore	6	11	26	8	1	17	68	766
Spain	1	(2)	(2)	4	2	2	10	62
Sweden	(2)	--	--	10	--	(2)	10	380
Switzerland	--	1	3	2	1	1	7	111
Taiwan	(2)	3	2	16	7	19	46	527
United Kingdom	107	194	42	90	10	27	471	4,560
Other	5	37	29	46	35	52	205	2,780
Total	471	1,100	214	797	144	255	2,980	31,300
2010, January-November	4,100	11,500	2,280	8,430	2,030	2,930	31,300	XX
2009, January-November	5,250	9,300	2,440	5,420 ^r	1,730	3,820	28,000	XX

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7—Continued
U.S. EXPORTS OF NICKEL ALLOYS, BY COUNTRY¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Period and country of destination	Unwrought alloyed ingot	Bars, rods, and profiles	Wire	Plates, sheets, and foil	Tubes and pipes	Other alloyed articles	Total	Total year to date
2010—Continued:								
December:								
Australia	--	2	(2)	3	1	(2)	7	162
Belgium	--	147	6	9	4	4	169	2,870
Brazil	(2)	1	15	1	3	6	26	270
Canada	7	67	15	24	15	12	139	1,520
China	5	83	14	68	31	41	243	4,820
France	277	282	(2)	22	3	4	589	4,890
Germany	4	116	4	61	3	46	235	2,330
India	4	6	1	8	1	9	30	509
Ireland	(2)	--	15	2	2	1	21	131
Israel	1	30	(2)	5	142	1	181	786
Italy	1	2	2	22	(2)	11	37	813
Japan	7	5	2	34	1	6	55	1,210
Korea, Republic of	1	25	1	210	10	8	255	1,990
Mexico	5	61	7	54	3	23	153	1,710
Netherlands	--	108	(2)	13	1	2	124	367
Singapore	6	13	15	3	1	21	60	827
Spain	--	1	--	(2)	(2)	2	3	64
Sweden	--	--	--	14	(2)	(2)	14	394
Switzerland	--	5	1	4	1	(2)	10	122
Taiwan	1	4	(2)	22	7	18	53	581
United Kingdom	88	162	65	163	9	23	510	5,070
Other	8	81	13	89	27	72	291	3,070
Total	415	1,200	178	831	266	312	3,210	34,500
2010, January-December	4,510	12,700	2,460	9,270	2,300	3,250	34,500	XX

¹Revised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

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

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 8
NICKEL CONSUMPTION IN CAST AND WROUGHT PRODUCTS

	Percent	
	Wrought	Cast
2010:		
October:		
Stainless and heat resisting steels	99	1
Alloy steels	93	7
Superalloys	100	(1)
Copper-nickel alloys	74	26
Other nickel-base alloys	100	(1)
November:		
Stainless and heat resisting steels	99	1
Alloy steels	95	5
Superalloys	100	(1)
Copper-nickel alloys	64	36
Other nickel-base alloys	100	(1)
December:		
Stainless and heat resisting steels	99	1
Alloy steels	94	6
Superalloys	100	(1)
Copper-nickel alloys	70	30
Other nickel-base alloys	100	(1)

¹Less than ½ unit.

TABLE 9
NICKEL PRICES

Date	Platts Metals Week			American Metal Market ¹		
	Cathode NY Dealer \$/lb.	LME Cash mean ² \$/t	LME Cash mean ² \$/lb.	18/8 Stainless steel scrap free market \$/long ton (gw)	304 Stainless steel scrap: solids, clips Pittsburgh \$/long ton (gw)	316 Stainless steel scrap: solids, clips Pittsburgh \$/long ton (gw)
2009, yearly average	6.926	14,649.335	6.645	1,489	1,486	2,099
2010, average for month of:						
January	8.831	18,434.625	8.362	1,912	1,843	2,609
February	9.135	18,970.375	8.605	2,017	1,968	2,751
March	10.770	22,453.804	10.185	2,405	2,222	3,088
April	12.697	26,022.750	11.804	2,713	2,450	3,441
May	10.996	22,001.711	9.980	2,161	2,713	3,775
June	9.733	19,383.182	8.792	1,765	2,398 ^e	3,374 ^e
July	9.838	19,512.841	8.851	1,872	2,084	2,973
August	10.128	21,408.929	9.711	2,131	2,067	2,875
September	10.499	22,640.568	10.270	2,249	2,168	3,037
October	11.149	23,802.024	10.796	2,203	2,245	3,227
November	10.577	22,905.455	10.390	2,083	NA	NA
December	10.894	24,107.262	10.935	2,249	2,363	3,325

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹Computation of the monthly average price is based on the number of actual working days in the month and does not include weekends and holidays.

²Mean of cash buyer price and the cash seller and settlement price.