

Antimony:

Antimony output remained steady at 8,548 metric tons, though a value of US\$14 million was down 15 percent on soft prices. Production represented only about half of 1980 volume. Medium scale private producers led by EMUSA and San Juan Ltda. accounted for 71 percent of output, small mines for 18 percent, and COMIBOL for 7 percent of the total.

Concentrates accounted for 86 percent of antimony exports by value, alloys for 5 percent and antimony trioxide for 9 percent. The U.S. firm Laurent (a company active in China), has been working with the Vinto refinery, operating a crude antimony trioxide circuit. The private company Bernal Hnos produced over 600,000 kilograms of antimony trioxide in 1990. With South Africa, Bolivia is one of only two high grade antimony producers. The United States was the leading importer of Bolivian antimony in 1990, followed by the European Community and neighbouring Latin American countries.

Tungsten:

With production of 1,250 metric tons of tungsten valued at US\$5 million, this metal represented about 1 percent of total mining value. Two private companies, International Mining Co. and San Jose de Berque, accounted for nearly half of output. COMIBOL, dominant at a time of high prices ten years before, did not participate significantly in 1990 production.

Other Products:

A range of products accounted for the remaining 2 percent of production value, including copper, salt, sulfur, cadmium, iron, manganese, borate, marble, amethyst and others.