

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN JULY 2019

Domestic primary aluminum production in July was 92,000 metric tons (t). The average daily production in July was 2,980 t, slightly less than that in June, 35% more than that in July 2018, and 48% more than that in July 2017 (fig. 1, table 1).

Total aluminum recovered from scrap in July was 275,000 t, 4% less than the amount in June, 16% less than the amount in July 2018, and 9% less than that in July 2017. Of this, 145,000 t of aluminum was recovered from new scrap and 129,000 t was recovered from old scrap (fig. 1, table 1).

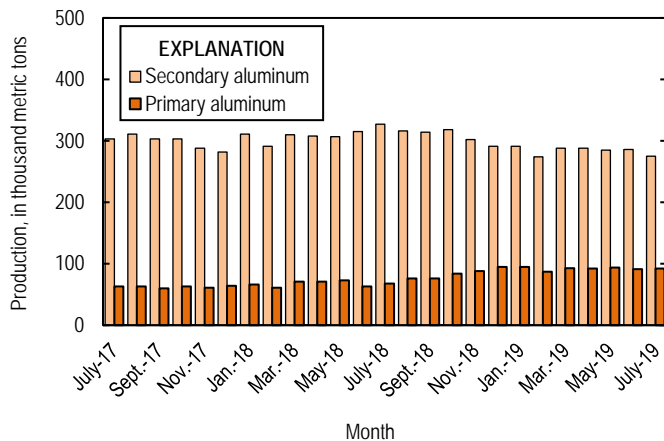


Figure 1. Monthly domestic primary and secondary aluminum production from July 2017 through July 2019.

Prices and Stocks

The July average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot was slightly more than that in June at \$0.997 per pound. The average cash price in July of primary aluminum ingot on the London Metal Exchange (LME) increased slightly from that in June to \$0.813 per pound (fig. 2, table 6).

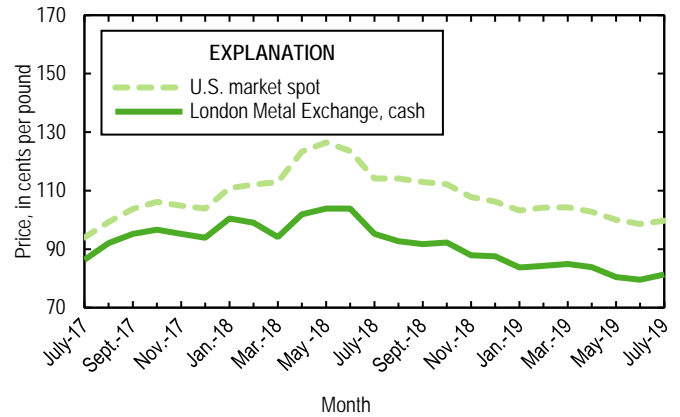


Figure 2. Average monthly prices for primary aluminum from July 2017 through July 2019. Source: Platts Metals Week.

Inventories of primary aluminum in LME-approved warehouses in the United States decreased to 8,175 t at the end of July from 12,050 t at the end of June. Inventories of secondary aluminum (North American Secondary Aluminum Alloy Contract) in LME-approved warehouses in the United States decreased to 85,020 t at the end of July from 93,340 t at the end of June (London Metal Exchange Ltd., 2019a, b).

References Cited

- London Metal Exchange Ltd., 2019a, Aluminium stocks: London, United Kingdom, London Metal Exchange Ltd., June 28, 3 p.
- London Metal Exchange Ltd., 2019b, Aluminium stocks: London, United Kingdom, London Metal Exchange Ltd., July 31, 3 p.

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TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery ²			Imports for consumption			Total new supply ³	Stocks, end of period ⁴
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2018 ^p	891	2,140	1,570	3,710	4,130	1,410	5,540	10,100	1,570
2018:									
July	68	194	133	327	332	105	437	833	1,520
August	76	185	131	316	292	104	396	787	1,560
September	76	182	132	314	313	105	418	809	1,560
October	84	182	136	318	306	119	425	827	1,570
November	88	169	133	302	294	122	416	806	1,580
December	95	169	122	291	306	122	428	813	1,570
January–July	473	1,250	917	2,170	2,620	838	3,460	6,100	1,570
2019:									
January	95	172	119	291	298	136	434	820	1,640
February	87	153	121	274	284	118	402	763	1,600
March	93	159	129	288	312	145	457	838	1,590
April	92	161	128	288	314	143	457	838	1,650
May	94	158	127	285	287	135	423	802	1,630
June	91	159	127	286	315	131	446	823	1,630
July	92	145	129	275	91	117	208	575	NA
January–July	644	1,110	880	1,990	1,900	925	2,830	5,460	NA

^pPreliminary. NA Not available.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

²Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

³Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

⁴Inventory levels reflect total for U.S. and Canadian producers; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM
PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
	2018 ^P	2,210	1,700	2,090	1,910	101	93	4	4	4,410
2018:										
July	189	146	189	173	8	8	(2)	(2)	386	327
August	191	148	175	160	8	8	(2)	(2)	374	316
September	189	146	175	160	8	8	(2)	(2)	373	314
October	195	146	179	164	8	8	(2)	(2)	383	318
November	189	141	167	153	8	8	(2)	(2)	365	302
December	186	141	155	142	8	8	(2)	(2)	350	291
January–July	1,260	978	1,240	1,130	59	54	2	2	2,560	2,170
2019:										
January	178	135	161	148	8	8	(2)	(2)	348	291
February	182	138	140	128	8	8	(2)	(2)	330	274
March	188	141	152	140	8	8	(2)	(2)	349	288
April	184	139	154	141	8	8	(2)	(2)	346	288
May	185	139	150	137	8	8	(2)	(2)	344	285
June	184	139	152	139	8	8	(2)	(2)	345	286
July	182	137	142	130	8	8	(2)	(2)	333	275
January–July	1,280	969	1,050	963	59	54	2	2	2,400	1,990

^PPreliminary.

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

²Less than ½ unit.

TABLE 3
 CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
 NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN JULY 2019¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	152,000	182,000	114,000	137,000
Independent mill fabricators	127,000	142,000	116,000	130,000
Foundries	7,040	8,450	6,440	7,730
Other consumers	273	328	273	328
Total	286,000	333,000	237,000	275,000

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

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP IN JULY 2019¹

(Metric tons)

	July				January–July ²	
	Stocks, opening ²	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Extrusion	18,600	41,700	41,800	18,500	365,000	365,000
Can stock clippings	5,910	24,100	24,000	6,030	173,000	173,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	39,400	40,200	36,700	42,900	279,000	263,000
Casting	4,150	6,010	6,010	4,150	47,400	47,400
Borings and turnings	5,560	12,300	12,300	5,570	88,600	88,600
Dross and skimmings	16,400	39,600	39,600	16,400	278,000	278,000
Total new scrap	90,000	164,000	160,000	93,600	1,230,000	1,220,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	9,410	26,300	26,300	9,410	187,000	187,000
Used extrusion	9,190	15,900	15,900	9,190	106,000	106,000
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	11,300	43,700	43,700	11,300	282,000	282,000
Other wrought products	13,900	31,000	30,400	14,500	208,000	210,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	3,700	9,570	9,480	3,790	67,100	67,300
Total old scrap	47,500	127,000	126,000	48,200	850,000	853,000
Total all classes	137,000	291,000	286,000	142,000	2,080,000	2,070,000

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

²May include revisions to previously published data.

³Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES IN JULY 2019^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	July			January–July		
	Stocks, opening ³	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,630	1,790	1,790	2,630	12,500	12,500
380 and variations	6,930	15,400	15,400	6,930	108,000	108,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,310	2,550	2,550	1,310	17,800	17,800
No. 319 and variations	3,480	3,370	3,370	3,480	23,600	23,600
F-132 alloy and variations	418	386	386	418	2,700	2,700
Al-Zn alloys	W	W	W	W	W	W
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	214	142	142	214	996	996
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	W	W	W	W	W	W
Other ⁴	6,930	10,100	10,100	6,930	70,600	70,600
Wrought alloys, extrusion billets	10,800	55,000	55,000	10,800	385,000	385,000
Total all alloys	32,700	88,800	88,800	32,700	621,000	621,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	15,900	XX	XX	112,000	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	1,980	XX	XX	13,800	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	964	XX	XX	6,750	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum						
scrap consumed in production of						
secondary aluminum ingot ⁵	XX	69,900	XX	XX	489,000	XX

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Other." XX Not applicable.

¹Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³May include revisions to previously published data.

⁴Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Zn, Al-Cu, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

⁵No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
 AVERAGE PRICE OF ALUMINUM IN THE UNITED STATES
 AND ON THE LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Cents per pound)

Period	Midwest U.S. market price	LME cash price Grade A
2018:		
July	114.136	95.177
August	114.193	92.764
September	112.963	91.739
October	112.207	92.254
November	107.763	87.871
December	106.294	87.588
January–December	114.737	95.703
2019:		
January	103.268	83.711
February	104.202	84.333
March	104.286	84.907
April	102.825	83.849
May	100.083	80.510
June	98.625	79.547
July	99.707	81.310
January–July	101.857	82.595

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 7
AVERAGE BUYING PRICES FOR ALUMINUM SCRAP

(Cents per pound)

Month	Used beverage cans	Mixed low copper clips	Old sheet	Old cast	Turnings (clean and dry)
2018:					
July	77.40	64.55	57.93	58.52	54.48
August	73.37	60.24	52.87	51.70	49.80
September	65.87	57.37	47.13	46.21	43.84
October	63.50	55.87	45.78	44.30	42.30
November	59.35	54.62	45.45	44.50	41.00
December	58.12	53.25	45.50	45.00	40.62
January–December	73.00	61.90	55.12	55.42	52.03
2019:					
January	54.98	50.55	44.38	43.45	39.38
February	57.58	50.21	45.32	44.32	39.50
March	59.60	51.00	46.00	45.00	39.38
April	59.48	51.38	46.40	45.48	39.05
May	57.00	49.05	44.77	43.07	37.91
June	54.12	47.15	42.40	40.90	34.70
July	54.00	46.34	41.00	39.00	32.18
January–July	56.68	49.38	44.32	43.03	37.44

Source: American Metal Market.

TABLE 8
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN JULY 2019¹

(Metric tons)

Country or locality	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	July	January– July	July	January– July	July	January– July	July	January– July
Argentina	3,900	93,400	--	21	--	--	3,900	93,400
Australia	3,110	160,000	56	641	--	389	3,160	161,000
Austria	--	--	2,360	19,100	--	--	2,360	19,100
Bahrain	12,800	87,300	7,100	41,900	--	--	19,900	129,000
Belgium	--	129	1,180	9,480	--	--	1,180	9,610
Brazil	--	1,610	1,700	24,200	75	174	1,770	26,000
Canada	16,600	880,000	18,000	111,000	33,700	223,000	68,400	1,210,000
Chile	--	--	--	4	186	2,040	186	2,040
China	147	9,800	7,580	86,300	10	68	7,740	96,200
Colombia	--	--	480	2,760	165	1,190	645	3,950
Costa Rica	--	--	--	--	318	2,080	318	2,080
El Salvador	--	--	76	400	257	973	333	1,370
France	--	3,040	1,940	12,900	14	162	1,960	16,100
Germany	4	142	10,100	63,000	44	1,470	10,100	64,600
Greece	--	--	2,920	25,100	4	24	2,930	25,100
Guatemala	--	--	8	8	1,100	7,300	1,100	7,310
Honduras	--	--	136	1,040	105	745	241	1,780
Hong Kong	--	--	85	5,060	--	--	85	5,060
India	6,360	111,000	4,450	36,100	5	26	10,800	147,000
Indonesia	--	--	5,970	55,200	--	--	5,970	55,200
Italy	--	1,570	3,450	23,100	--	--	3,450	24,600
Japan	--	53	5,170	28,000	531	8,040	5,700	36,100
Korea, Republic of	--	7,630	3,410	28,400	957	6,490	4,360	42,500
Malaysia	597	2,920	606	4,350	20	20	1,220	7,290
Mexico	155	325	3,350	23,100	12,800	94,600	16,300	118,000
Netherlands	--	445	602	3,430	14	190	616	4,060
New Zealand	229	4,730	--	2	--	--	229	4,730
Norway	45	11,600	490	4,080	--	--	535	15,700
Oman	--	5,110	4,590	53,900	--	--	4,590	59,000
Qatar	15,300	103,000	62	62	--	--	15,300	103,000
Romania	--	--	786	8,710	--	--	786	8,710
Russia	5,260	117,000	329	10,100	--	--	5,590	127,000
Saudi Arabia	102	12,000	5,890	28,600	--	--	5,990	40,600
South Africa	--	6,760	1,570	34,200	--	--	1,570	41,000
Spain	--	2,080	3,190	15,200	120	729	3,310	18,000
Sweden	--	--	559	6,290	--	--	559	6,290
Switzerland	--	--	663	4,470	--	--	663	4,470
Taiwan	16	117	3,310	39,300	61	689	3,390	40,100
Thailand	35	500	769	9,200	38	309	842	10,000
Turkey	--	--	5,470	39,400	--	--	5,470	39,400
United Arab Emirates	26,200	277,000	128	2,400	21	134	26,400	280,000
United Kingdom	10	693	375	6,590	451	2,620	836	9,910
Venezuela	--	36	58	266	50	883	108	1,190
Vietnam	--	--	1,700	12,800	--	1,110	1,700	13,900
Other	276	1,730	6,290	45,100	727	9,330	7,290	56,200
Total	91,200	1,900,000	117,000	925,000	51,900	365,000	260,000	3,190,000

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 9
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN JULY 2019¹

(Metric tons)

Country or locality	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	July	January–	July	January–	July	January–	July	January–
		July		July		July		July
Australia	4	311	142	1,320	--	3	146	1,630
Belgium	1	6	222	1,200	556	4,730	779	5,930
Brazil	121	875	294	4,130	2,340	13,300	2,760	18,300
Canada	7,430	58,100	30,200	198,000	7,300	54,100	44,900	310,000
China	55	535	2,350	16,700	31,300	254,000	33,700	272,000
Colombia	--	4	56	343	--	--	56	347
Dominican Republic	98	409	35	473	--	--	133	882
France	615	4,280	554	4,790	210	1,210	1,380	10,300
Germany	98	1,220	465	3,790	691	5,180	1,250	10,200
Guatemala	--	--	418	2,710	--	--	418	2,710
Hong Kong	--	29	144	823	9,430	62,900	9,570	63,700
India	2	157	155	1,080	21,400	150,000	21,500	152,000
Indonesia	--	4	13	42	8,010	60,200	8,030	60,200
Ireland	--	14	59	332	--	--	59	346
Israel	--	4	1,150	6,820	--	21	1,150	6,840
Italy	1	22	244	849	432	1,270	677	2,140
Jamaica	--	7	6	72	--	--	6	79
Japan	90	1,110	1,280	10,500	1,270	8,920	2,640	20,500
Korea, Republic of	42	200	1,830	17,500	19,600	157,000	21,500	174,000
Malaysia	51	63	246	1,980	19,800	119,000	20,100	121,000
Mexico	9,420	71,700	31,700	228,000	14,900	108,000	56,100	408,000
Netherlands	1	27	36	303	151	827	188	1,160
New Zealand	--	1	42	189	--	--	42	190
Norway	--	--	12	73	--	--	12	73
Pakistan	--	--	12	36	1,430	9,130	1,450	9,170
Panama	--	1	9	90	--	--	9	91
Philippines	2	2	21	195	952	6,570	975	6,770
Poland	2	58	89	626	--	200	91	884
Romania	7	52	113	518	--	--	120	570
Russia	1	6	5	72	233	3,250	239	3,330
Saudi Arabia	--	2	67	424	506	2,520	573	2,940
Singapore	13	241	114	1,080	179	4,580	306	5,900
Spain	--	6	100	689	225	2,640	325	3,330
Taiwan	221	1,290	463	3,560	3,620	38,500	4,300	43,400
Thailand	--	104	96	1,020	4,580	13,600	4,680	14,700
Turkey	--	115	401	3,100	64	163	465	3,370
United Arab Emirates	--	166	27	222	789	3,080	816	3,470
United Kingdom	26	535	678	5,830	118	1,760	822	8,120
Vietnam	--	--	13	108	523	1,860	536	1,970
Other	32	268	365	2,630	1,370	7,050	1,760	9,950
Total	18,300	142,000	74,200	522,000	152,000	1,100,000	245,000	1,760,000

-- Zero.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.