

Mineral Industry Surveys

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TIN IN AUGUST 2019

Domestic reported consumption of primary refined tin in August 2019 was 1,710 metric tons (t), 3% more than the primary consumption in July 2019. Apparent consumption of refined tin in August 2019 was 2,270 t, 39% less than the apparent consumption in July 2019 (table 1).

Prices

The Platts Metals Week average New York dealer price of Grade A tin for August 2019 was \$7.76 per pound, an 8% decrease from \$8.40 per pound in July 2019. The average London Metal Exchange cash price of Grade A tin for August 2019 was \$7.51 per pound, an 8% decrease from \$8.16 per pound in July 2019 (fig. 1, table 2).

U.S. Trade

Total refined tin imports in August 2019 were 1,590 t, a 46% decrease from the 2,940 t of imports in July 2019 (table 4). This was primarily driven by decreased imports from, in descending order, Indonesia, Bolivia, Malaysia, Brazil, and Peru. The leading sources of refined tin in August 2019 were Peru (39%), Bolivia (20%), Malaysia (14%), Brazil (11%), and Indonesia (7%).

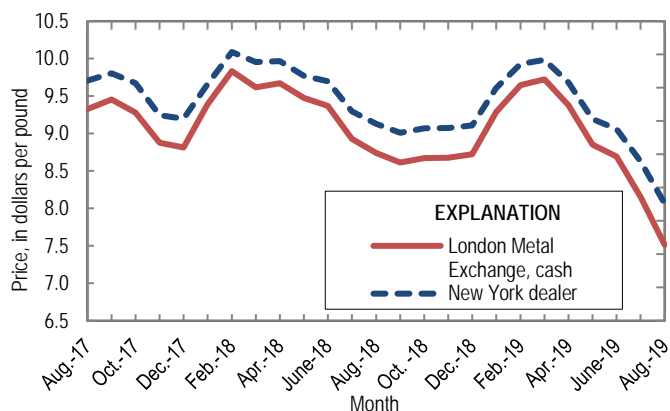


Figure 1. Average monthly prices for Grade A tin from August 2017 through August 2019. Source: Platts Metals Week.

References Cited

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TABLE 1
SALIENT TIN STATISTICS¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

	2019			
	2018 ^p	July	August	January– August
Production, secondary ^{e,2}	10,300	858	858	6,010
Consumption, reported:				
Primary	20,100	1,660	1,710	13,500
Secondary	2,400	194	198	1,550
Consumption, apparent ³	46,100	3,700	2,270	27,000
Imports for consumption, refined tin	36,800	2,940	1,590	23,300
Exports, refined tin	962	94	178	1,020
Stocks at end of period	5,570	5,350	4,790	4,790
Prices (average cents per pound): ⁴				
Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	935.87	839.50	775.89	912.70
London Metal Exchange cash	914.31	815.62	751.27	890.63

^eEstimated. ^pPreliminary.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except prices.

²Includes tin recovered from alloys and tinplate. The detinning of tinplate (coated steel) yields only a small part of the total.

³Defined as secondary production plus imports minus exports.

⁴Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 2
AVERAGE TIN PRICES

(Cents per pound)

Period	Metals Week New York dealer, Grade A	London Metal Exchange cash
2018:		
August	895.89	873.96
September	882.38	861.35
October	889.00	867.37
November	889.38	867.72
December	893.57	872.33
January–December	935.87	914.31
2019:		
January	949.88	928.81
February	985.63	964.47
March	991.88	972.45
April	958.11	937.61
May	902.88	885.42
June	888.00	869.23
July	839.50	815.60
August	775.89	751.27
January–August	911.47	890.61

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3
TINPLATE PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES¹

(Metric tons, unless otherwise noted)

Period	Tinplate (all forms)			
	Production			Shipments ² (gross weight)
	Gross weight	Tin content	Tin per metric ton of plate (kilograms)	
2018:				
August	44,800	387	8.6	91,600
September	39,800	381	9.6	79,000
October	45,400	381	12.2	100,000
November	40,100	384	9.6	88,000
December	42,100	389	9.1	88,900
January–December	487,000	4,600	9.7	985,000
2019:^P				
January	30,600	399	13.0	76,100
February	45,100	432	9.6	81,500
March	42,000	390	9.3	72,800
April	42,600	383	9.0	70,900
May	44,800	390	8.7	86,000
June	47,200	413	8.7	75,500
July	37,100	384	10.3	75,500
August	40,200	405	10.1	78,800
January–August	330,000	3,200	9.8	617,000

^PPreliminary.

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

²Source: American Iron and Steel Institute monthly publication.

TABLE 4
U.S. TIN IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTS¹

(Metric tons, gross weight)

Country/locality, or product	2018 ^p	2019		January – August
		July	August	
Imports:				
Refined tin:				
Belgium	112	39	20	230
Bolivia	6,310	665	325	4,210
Brazil	2,740	324	176	1,880
Canada	61	1	2	4
Chile	--	60	--	60
China	1,310	--	--	1,340
Indonesia	10,500	595	115	2,640
Malaysia	7,590	420	215	4,750
Peru	6,660	721	611	5,560
Poland	731	90	67	761
Thailand	422	25	55	378
Other	340 ^r	-- ^r	--	1,470
Total	36,800	2,940	1,590	23,300
Other:				
Alloys	1,430	81	63	652
Bars, rods, profiles, and wire	1,460	86	115	969
Flakes and powders	189	6	11	83
Foil	91	14	(2)	30
Plates, sheets, strip	89	6	5	37
Tubes, pipes, and tube and pipe fittings	143	12	28	146
Waste and scrap	47,700	2,050	2,900	23,300
Miscellaneous ³	1,060	157	68	650
Exports:				
Refined tin	962	94	178	1,020
Alloys	885	59	180	653

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. -- Zero.

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

²Less than ½ unit.

³Includes other articles of tin not elsewhere specified or included (HTS code 8007.00.5000).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
REPORTED CONSUMPTION OF TIN IN THE UNITED STATES, BY FINISHED PRODUCT¹

(Metric tons of contained tin)

Product	2019							
	2018 ^p	July			August			January– August
		Primary	Secondary	Total	Primary	Secondary	Total	
Alloys (miscellaneous) ²	2,230	196	--	196	196	--	196	1,540
Babbitt	231	15	W	15	16	W	16	158
Bronze and brass	1,720	60	77	138	58	82	140	1,120
Chemicals	3,850	329	W	329	343	W	343	2,680
Solder	3,630	171	W	171	192	W	192	2,300
Tinning	269	25	--	25	25	--	25	186
Tinplate ³	4,680	384	W	384	405	W	405	3,210
Other ⁴	5,900	478	117	593	478	116	594	3,880
Total reported	22,500	1,660	194	1,850	1,710	198	1,910	15,100

^pPreliminary. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included with "Other." -- Zero.

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

²Includes terne metal.

³Includes secondary pig tin and tin components of tinplating chemical solutions.

⁴Includes britannia metal, collapsible tubes and foil, jewelers' metal, pewter, tin powder, type metal and white metal.