

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN AUGUST 2022

Domestic primary aluminum production in August 2022 was 61,000 metric tons (t). The average daily production in August 2022 was 1,980 t, 4% less than that in July 2022, 16% less than that in August 2021, and 23% less than that in August 2020 (fig. 1, table 1).

Total aluminum recovered from scrap in August 2022 was 295,000 t, 4% more than that in July 2022, 6% more than that in August 2021, and 14% more than that in August 2020. Of this, 162,000 t of aluminum was recovered from new scrap, and 132,000 t was recovered from old scrap (fig. 1, table 1).

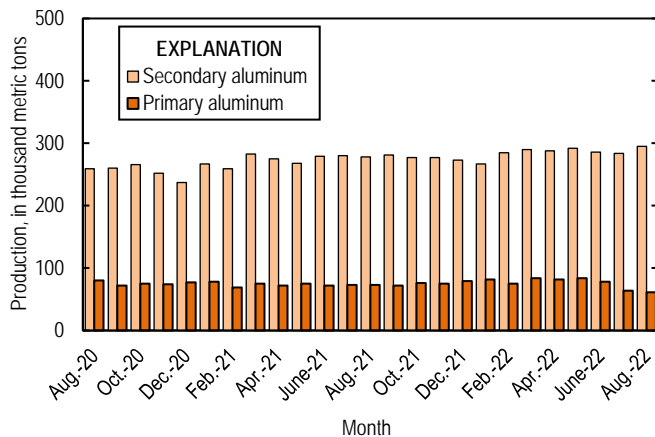


Figure 1. Monthly domestic primary and secondary aluminum production from August 2020 through August 2022.

Prices and Stocks

The August 2022 average U.S. spot market price of primary aluminum ingot was \$1.37 per pound, essentially unchanged from that in July 2022, 10% less than that in August 2021, and 46% more than that in August 2020. The average cash price in July 2022 of primary aluminum ingot on the London Metal Exchange (LME) was \$1.10 per pound, essentially unchanged from that in July 2022, 7% less than that in August 2021, and 40% more than that in August 2020 (fig. 2, table 6).

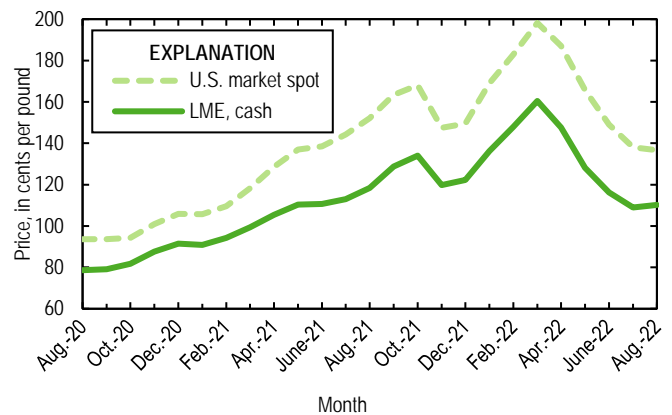


Figure 2. Average monthly prices for primary aluminum from August 2020 through August 2022. Source: S&P Global Platts Metals Week.

Inventories of primary aluminum in LME-approved warehouses, including off-warrant inventories, in the United States decreased to 17,225 t at the end of August 2022 from 20,110 t at the end of July 2022. Inventories of secondary aluminum (North American Secondary Aluminum Alloy Contract) in LME-approved warehouses, including off-warrant inventories, in the United States decreased to 4,996 t at the end of August 2022 from 6,027 t at the end of July 2022 (London Metal Exchange Ltd., 2022a, b, c, d).

Updates

On October 7, Novelis Inc., started construction on a \$2.5 billion aluminum recycling and rolling facility in Bay Minette, AL. The plant capacity is expected to be 600,000 metric tons per year (t/yr) of finished products, which will include beverage cans. The facility is planned to commence operations in 2025 (Novelis Inc., 2022).

On September 27, Norsk Hydro ASA announced that it will decrease primary aluminum production at its Husnes and Karmoy smelters in Norway. By the end of 2022, primary aluminum production will decrease across both facilities by 110,000 to 130,000 t/yr. The company has cited lower demand for aluminum products caused by uncertainties in the European

economy, as reason for curtailment at the plants. The Husnes and Karmoy smelters have primary aluminum production capacities of 197,000 t/yr and 270,000 t/yr, respectively (Norsk Hydro ASA, 2022a, b).

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TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery ⁴			Imports for consumption			Total new supply ²	Stocks, end of period ³
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2021 ^P	889	1,780	1,520	3,300	3,630	1,290	4,920	9,110	1,860
2021:									
August	73	149	129	278	319	126	445	796	1,710
September	72	152	129	281	285	106	391	744	1,710
October	76	149	127	277	339	107	446	799	1,780
November	75	151	126	277	338	119	457	809	1,820
December	79	146	127	273	316	109	425	777	1,860
January–August	586	1,180 ^r	1,010 ^r	2,190 ^r	2,350	852	3,200	5,980 ^r	NA
2022:									
January	82	152	115	267	343	112	455	804	1,880
February	75	159	126	285	262	107	369	729	1,900
March	84	159	132	290	341	129	470	844	1,910
April	82	155	132	288	331	125	456	826	1,910
May	84	162	130	292	404	144	548	924 ^r	1,880
June	78	154	132	286	460	124	583	947	1,910
July	64	150	134	284	345	129	474	822	1,930
August	61	162	132	295	360	130	491	847	NA
January–August	610	1,250	1,030	2,290	2,850	1,000	3,850	6,740	NA

^PPreliminary. ^rRevised. NA Not Available.

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

²Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

³Inventory levels reflect total for U.S. and Canadian producers; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

⁴Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

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
	2021 ^P	2,320	1,750	1,590	1,450	101	93	4	4	4,020
2021:										
August	196	147	136	124	8	8	(2)	(2)	341	278
September	194	146	139	127	8	8	(2)	(2)	341	281
October	195	146	134	122	8	8	(2)	(2)	338	277
November	196	147	133	122	8	8	(2)	(2)	338	277
December	194	146	130	119	8	8	(2)	(2)	333	273
January–August	1,550 ^r	1,160 ^r	1,060	965 ^r	68	62	3	3	2,670 ^r	2,190 ^r
2022:										
January	195	146	123	113	8	8	(2)	(2)	327	267
February	193	145	144	132	8	8	(2)	(2)	346	285
March	200	149	145	133	8	8	(2)	(2)	354	290
April	199	149	143	130	8	8	(2)	(2)	351	288
May	201	150	146	134	8	8	(2)	(2)	356	292
June	202	151	140	127	8	8	(2)	(2)	351	286
July	199	148	141	128	8	8	(2)	(2)	348	284
August	202	152	148	135	8	8	(2)	(2)	358	295
January–August	1,590	1,190	1,130	1,030	68	62	3	3	2,790	2,290

^PPreliminary. ^rRevised.

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 AUGUST 2022¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	168,000	202,000	126,000	152,000
Independent mill fabricators	134,000	148,000	123,000	135,000
Foundries	7,040	8,450	6,440	7,730
Other consumers	273	328	273	328
Total	310,000	358,000	256,000	295,000

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 AUGUST 2022¹

(Metric tons)

	August			January–August ²		
	Stocks, opening ²	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ³	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Extrusion	18,700	46,200	46,200	18,700	334,000	334,000
Can stock clippings	10,500	30,400	30,400	10,500	239,000	239,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	9,710	36,200	37,500	8,400	291,000	291,000
Casting	5,920	7,530	7,530	5,920	65,100	65,100
Borings and turnings	5,270	14,100	14,100	5,270	109,000	109,000
Dross and skimmings ⁴	18,500	44,600	44,600	18,500	358,000	358,000
Total new scrap	68,600	179,000	180,000	67,300	1,400,000	1,400,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	8,160	27,200	27,200	8,160	222,000	222,000
Used extrusion	7,840	16,700	16,700	7,840	139,000	139,000
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	7,850	48,300	48,300	7,850	350,000	350,000
Other wrought products	19,100	25,000	25,000	19,100	205,000	205,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	5,970	12,400	12,400	5,970	97,800	97,800
Total old scrap	48,900	130,000	130,000	48,900	1,010,000	1,010,000
Total all classes	117,000	309,000	310,000	116,000	2,410,000	2,410,000

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.

⁴Gross volume of dross and skimmings. Recoverable aluminum content ranges from 15% to 50% of gross weight.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED
STATES IN AUGUST 2022^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	August				January–August	
	Stocks, opening ³	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,570	2,870	2,870	2,570	23,000	23,000
380 and variations	7,970	18,900	18,900	7,970	152,000	152,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,950	2,830	2,830	1,950	22,700	22,700
No. 319 and variations	2,230	2,000	2,000	2,230	16,000	16,000
F-132 alloy and variations	143	221	221	143	1,770	1,770
Al-Zn alloys	172	85	85	172	680	680
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	101	166	166	101	1,330	1,330
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	405	564	564	405	4,510	4,510
Other ⁴	7,250	8,250	8,250	7,250	66,000	66,000
Wrought alloys, extrusion billets	10,700	54,800	54,800	10,700	447,000	447,000
Total all alloys	33,400	90,700	90,700	33,400	734,000	734,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	16,600	XX	XX	137,000	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	1,680	XX	XX	13,500	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	791	XX	XX	6,390	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot⁵						
	XX	71,600	XX	XX	577,000	XX

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
2021:		
August	152.055	118.417
September	163.420	128.794
October	168.110	134.028
November	147.557	119.796
December	149.417	122.237
January–December	138.511	112.281
2022:		
January	169.020	136.197
February	182.873	147.883
March	198.185	160.448
April	187.079	147.693
May	165.795	128.182
June	149.085	116.235
July	137.994	108.911
August	136.691	110.264
January–August	165.840	131.977

Source: S&P Global 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)
2021:					
August	77.63	73.50	66.00	66.63	66.25
September	83.30	75.70	66.80	67.60	66.20
October	87.50	80.63	72.25	71.25	67.75
November	84.00	78.00	70.50	70.00	68.00
December	85.70	74.60	70.50	70.00	70.40
January–December	76.50	73.03	67.87	68.39	67.16
2022:					
January	99.38	77.75	72.75	72.13	71.75
February	111.63	81.75	78.50	76.13	74.00
March	129.30	86.10	86.20	83.70	79.20
April	122.38	87.50	89.50	85.50	80.75
May	106.25	81.00	76.75	77.63	73.13
June	93.70	74.70	69.60	70.60	66.60
July	76.88	68.50	63.75	65.25	59.38
August	77.50	67.13	61.88	62.63	56.88

Source: Fastmarkets–AMM.

TABLE 8
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN AUGUST 2022¹

(Metric tons)

Country or locality	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	August	January-- August	August	January-- August	August	January-- August	August	January-- August
Argentina	916	101,000	95	177	--	--	1,010	101,000
Australia	19,100	155,000	19	201	--	--	19,200	155,000
Austria	--	25	2,840	23,400	9	45	2,850	23,400
Bahrain	28	190,000	3,470	37,700	--	2	3,490	228,000
Belgium	9	248	1,200	7,410	--	--	1,210	7,650
Brazil	120	21,700	1,910	3,020	18	4,770	2,040	29,500
Canada	227,000	1,730,000	18,400	136,000	34,000	254,000	280,000	2,120,000
Chile	--	--	--	2	102	1,460	102	1,460
China ²	224	1,120	20,000	146,000	1	229	20,200	147,000
Colombia	--	--	217	2,290	495	3,890	712	6,170
Costa Rica	--	--	20	114	146	1,770	166	1,880
France	297	1,800	586	3,760	13	141	896	5,700
Germany	97	1,760	4,370	25,900	184	1,070	4,650	28,800
Greece	--	--	1,990	17,600	--	172	1,990	17,800
Guatemala	--	--	--	--	737	6,030	737	6,030
Honduras	--	--	233	1,990	276	1,510	509	3,500
India	10,200	75,500	1,620	13,000	1	1	11,800	88,600
Indonesia	--	922	980	9,810	--	--	980	10,700
Italy	626	1,330	1,440	9,620	--	4	2,070	10,900
Japan	--	1	3,770	36,200	6	54	3,770	36,300
Korea, Republic of	4,230	19,600	11,500	84,700	--	66	15,700	104,000
Malaysia	--	204	873	9,050	--	--	873	9,260
Mexico	1,630	10,500	7,980	59,500	16,700	149,000	26,300	219,000
Netherlands	48	573	215	1,630	13	869	276	3,070
Norway	1,470	3,450	975	7,470	--	--	2,440	10,900
Oman	--	624	10,300	76,800	--	--	10,300	77,400
Qatar	1,430	53,500	3	3	--	--	1,440	53,500
Romania	--	--	6	796	--	--	6	796
Russia	14,800	165,000	231	6,310	--	--	15,000	171,000
Saudi Arabia	--	--	3,190	21,300	--	--	3,190	21,300
South Africa	40	2,940	4,600	31,100	786	2,170	5,430	36,200
Spain	859	1,700	1,270	7,950	--	1	2,130	9,650
Sweden	3,460	4,970	1,220	6,980	--	--	4,690	11,900
Switzerland	--	89	1,350	3,680	--	99	1,350	3,870
Taiwan	54	162	746	3,870	--	3	800	4,030
Thailand	225	1,700	7,410	73,900	22	118	7,660	75,700
Turkey	1,990	11,300	3,260	35,600	--	(3)	5,250	46,900
United Arab Emirates	70,700	294,000	1,700	6,970	--	97	72,400	301,000
United Kingdom	--	37	1,310	11,900	--	117	1,310	12,100
Vietnam	--	9	3,360	28,100	--	22	3,360	28,100
Other	--	64	5,770	48,400	1,950	15,900	7,720	64,400
Total	360,000	2,850,000	130,000	1,000,000	55,400	443,000	546,000	4,290,000

-- Zero.

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

²Includes Hong Kong.

³Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 9
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN AUGUST 2022¹

(Metric tons)

Country or locality	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	August	January– August	August	January– August	August	January– August	August	January– August
Australia	99	777	14	158	--	--	113	935
Belgium	3	6	18	299	1,360	13,700	1,380	14,000
Brazil	1	30	129	884	72	710	202	1,620
Canada	5,860	45,600	24,700	175,000	9,870	79,100	40,500	300,000
China ²	34	1,460	194	2,330	8,050	115,000	8,280	119,000
Colombia	--	31	1	186	192	1,070	193	1,280
Dominican Republic	2	4	1	164	263	1,930	266	2,100
France	--	147	149	1,700	61	592	210	2,440
Germany	299	381	79	826	249	4,040	627	5,250
Guatemala	--	1	1	57	--	2	1	60
India	29	217	14	239	46,100	314,000	46,200	315,000
Indonesia	--	3	1	36	4,390	41,000	4,400	41,000
Ireland	--	25	3	146	--	--	3	171
Israel	(3)	2	69	580	--	(3)	69	582
Italy	2	8	20	328	1,310	9,270	1,330	9,600
Jamaica	--	20	(3)	7	--	--	(3)	27
Japan	26	480	269	1,520	1,500	18,500	1,800	20,500
Korea, Republic of	24	480	141	1,180	22,200	197,000	22,300	198,000
Malaysia	5,820	25,200	17	481	46,600	249,000	52,500	275,000
Mexico	12,100	93,000	16,300	104,000	16,000	140,000	44,400	337,000
Netherlands	4	41	19	191	723	4,880	746	5,110
New Zealand	--	--	53	260	--	--	53	260
Norway	--	7	--	18	--	--	--	25
Pakistan	--	--	2	24	1,570	11,000	1,570	11,000
Panama	--	2	2	28	40	40	42	70
Philippines	--	4	20	93	523	4,610	543	4,710
Poland	--	14	61	319	--	11	61	344
Romania	--	(3)	3	29	--	--	3	29
Russia	--	--	--	6	--	2,720	--	2,720
Saudi Arabia	--	(3)	1	20	--	--	1	20
Singapore	97	295	12	284	58	721	167	1,300
Spain	--	(3)	7	80	1,030	3,560	1,030	3,640
Taiwan	177	666	164	892	3,560	23,700	3,910	25,200
Thailand	11	29	8	154	8,530	68,400	8,550	68,600
Turkey	--	(3)	97	582	190	11,900	287	12,500
United Arab Emirates	--	45	210	4,030	695	3,720	905	7,800
United Kingdom	6	458	118	971	168	1,860	292	3,280
Vietnam	--	3	3	60	1,320	8,730	1,330	8,800
Other	27	586	167	1,600	1,570	11,500	1,770	13,700
Total	24,600	170,000	43,100	300,000	178,000	1,340,000	246,000	1,810,000

-- Zero.

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

²Includes Hong Kong.

³Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.